THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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Occupational Disease

The pictures from Japan of the occupation forces cavorting around the geisha (it translates juke) joints with the local damsels seem far more shocking, somehow, than the pictures of GIs fraternizing happily with plump frauleins on the other side of the world. It is probably just the strangeness of the scenery, plus the peculiar dress and slant eyes of the Japanese girls, who rarely attain what a Western judge would call beauty, or even attractiveness.

Our soldiers from the beginning have displayed a tendency to domesticate whenever they stopped moving. In Australia and England at this moment there are thousands of GI wives, many with children, waiting impatiently for passage to the United States. The proportion of French, Belgian and Dutch spouses is lower, presumably because the fighting was heavy in those countries and opportunity, not inclination, was lacking.

This willingness to accept whatever companionship the market affords has not abated now that our troops are in enemy country. General Eisenhower, fearing the sweet propaganda that sapped our will in the Rhineland in 1918, made an earnest effort to enforce a ban against fraternization in the early days of the occupation, but had to abandon it as impractical. He was tilting, he knew, with original sin, and prohibition only made it worse. Loneliness and frustration are occupational diseases, beyond the army's curative powers.

Fraternization will prevail, apparently, no matter what remote corner of the earth we may garrison. The problem was stated simply and clearly early in the war by the soldier who wrote his girl from Australia: "These Australian girls haven't got anything you haven't got, but they've got it here."

With A Sigh

General Marshall yesterday issued a strong plea for unification of the Army and Navy, and one of the most important reasons for it, he says, is the need for a world-wide military espionage system. We can no longer rely on the "coffee cup intelligence" acquired by military attaches at diplomatic dinners, the Chief of Staff argues, we must set trained men to poking around in all the dark closets of the world.

The General, we think, made an excellent point, just as he did when he put forward his recommendations for universal military training. War is his business, and the evidence of his lifetime proves that it is inevitable. The sensible and practical thing to do is prepare for it in time of peace, or, properly, truce.

General Marshall recalled, with a smile, that there was a time when Congress discouraged any effort to build up a world-wide network of spies. That time, we think, should be recalled with a sigh. It was a time when we believed in international good will, believed that there was something dishonorable about spying on our neighbors. We didn't believe it hard enough, and it didn't come true. Now, most of us, like General Marshall, don't believe it at all.

Excelsior

There has been considerable confusion over the potentialities of DDT, with one group of earnest citizens, occupying the same general position in the DDT discussion as that held by churchmen in the atom argument, arising to protest that a drug that will kill off all the bugs will also starve off fish and fowl, and should, therefore, be outlawed.

In the early days, when the drug was first taken off the secret list and the sweeping claims of its inventors rang in our ears, we were almost converted to the prohibitionist school. Then we discovered that the hardy old cockroach snickers at DDT. He doesn't get fat on the stuff, true, but he shakes it off as easily as he does that strange, green compound housewives have been spreading around in kitchens for years.

In our disillusionment, we took to sneering at DDT and publicly quoting from the late Arthur Brisbane, who always insisted that man was losing the War of the Insects and probably didn't have more than another ten thousand years or so to go. Surely, we reasoned, if the cockroach can survive DDT, such a seasoned campaigner as the fly (house, stable, horse or blue-bottle) won't even find it a minor annoyance.

Well, we are happy to report, we were wrong. DDT will kill flies. Not only that, it will kill North Carolina flies, beyond question the most virile breed known to man. Over in Wake County a couple of entomologists from the State Board of Health sprayed a milk house with DDT and the flies died off like flies. And eleven days later, when a flight of 200 Kamikazes, doubtless roared in through an open screen door they were struck down by the after-effects of the first spraying. "One hour later," the entomologists reported in the deathless prose of their craft, "approximately 80 per cent of the flies had fallen to the floor and showed symptoms of DDT poisoning."

This is a monumental victory, indeed, and hope flames within us again. Someday, somehow, somebody will find a way to get rid of cockroaches without burning the house down. And if man can turn back the insect hordes, surely he can handle the atom.

Kiss Of Death

The *Chicago Tribune* demonstrates a deceptively simple formula for journalistic success. It long ago adopted a set of rigid, durable principles which have successfully withstood the flood-tide of history: The *Tribune* is for America, or at least it is for the America that existed back in the McKinley administration. It is against foreigners and foreign wars, unless they are frankly imperialistic and designed to garner territory. And, because it regards any sort of liberalism as foreign in origin, it is against liberals.

This credo still serves the *Tribune* well, making it, according to its masthead, the World's Greatest Newspaper. It enables Colonel McCormick, the proprietor, to work out quick and simple solutions, to the world's problems, Lend-lease, and all the complicated financing of World War II, becomes crystal clear under his analysis. What we did, it seems, was "pay the British for keeping the war going until Mr. Roosevelt could manage to get us into it."

Now the *Tribune* has measured General MacArthur against its own standards and found him a giant. He is the only man in power today who can lay claim to the title of statesman, the *Tribune* announces. "That is why every brutal fool in every capital of the world is trying to destroy him and his influence."

The *Tribune* has a great negative influence in America, and we are sorry to see General MacArthur thus clutched to its bosom and identified with its strange philosophy. He is almost certain to come in for a share of the dead cats that are constantly and properly hurled at Colonel McCormick.

Proper Name

It's unimportant, and proves nothing except our ignorance, but we didn't know Dr. Hjalmar Schacht's middle name until yesterday, when the International War Crimes Court listed him in what the Associated Press called the most sweeping indictment in history.

It turns out that the former Nazi Economics Minister and Reichbank president's full handle is Hjalmar Horace Greeley Schacht. It seems peculiarly appropriate now that he is scheduled to go west.

The Merry-Go-Round

By Drew Pearson

WASHINGTON

HERE are the inside reasons why soldier resentment flared last week when Senators Russell and George of Georgia induced a docile Secretary of War to discharge Sgt. Charlie Trippi, ace football player, so he could go back to the University of Georgia.

Sergeant Trippi had exactly 41 points—29 of them for service still of 0 in the USA and 12 points for one child. He had taken a business administration course at the University of Georgia, and typed 35 words a minute at the time he entered the service.

In the Army, a clerk typist only has to write 25 words a minute to qualify, and today the chief bottleneck in discharges is clerical help. Many soldiers with 70 points or more have had to stay on in the Army in order to help speed others through the line.

Despite this, football star Trippi was released on the ground that he was "surplus," under Army Regulation 615-365, paragraph 3B on "Discharge of Surplus Enlisted Personnel." In other words, Trippi was declared "surplus" despite the fact that he was a qualified clerk and despite the fact that clerks are badly needed at Drew Field, Fla., where he was stationed.

Actually, Drew Field has a slow record for the release of men. Men with 70 points were supposed to be discharged beginning Oct. 1, but up until Oct. 13, only one man with 70 points had gotten out. Things moved so slowly that the War Department queried Drew Field as to why they weren't releasing 70-point men, and the one single, solitary 70-point man discharged before Oct. 13 enabled the Field brass hats to reply that they were releasing men in this category.

Meanwhile, men with 50 points are still working in the Drew Field separation line pushing the discharges of others because of the shortage of clerical help, while typist Trippi, with 41 points, goes back to play football—thanks to the Secretary of War and the two Senators from Georgia.

Note—Hundreds of Air Force gunners have been taken off flying status, although gunnery is about all they have been trained for, and are now sweating through close-order drill. They, more than many others, are surplus, but they don't get out to play football. On the other hand, War Department officials say that Secretary Patterson was indignant that a soldier should be kept in the Army just to play football. It happens that other members of the Third Air Force team at Drew Field were star footballers, never sent overseas, but kept in this country. The Navy as well as other Army camps also have built up virtual professional football teams. Secretary Patterson believes this should end.

Summer White House

The Summer White House in Independence, Mo., is going to be empty all Winter, but four Secret Service men have just flown to Independence to guard it. . . . The house belongs to Mrs. Truman's family. . . . It should be noted that the Secret Service also guarded some of Roosevelt's grandchildren even when scattered in various parts of the USA. . . . A Secret Service man also was attached to young Coolidge when he was a student at Yale. . . . Mrs. Roosevelt never wanted nor had Secret Service men on her trips. . . . All last Summer, Secret Service men were housed in a small double garage just east of the Truman home. Now that Winter is setting in, a small building will be constructed, equipped with heating, to protect the four new agents. . . . Departing S.S. men expressed appreciation for hospitality and kindness afforded them by the Trumans, the Wallace-in-laws, and the townsfolk of Independence. However, they frequently referred to the President's home state as the "State of Misery."

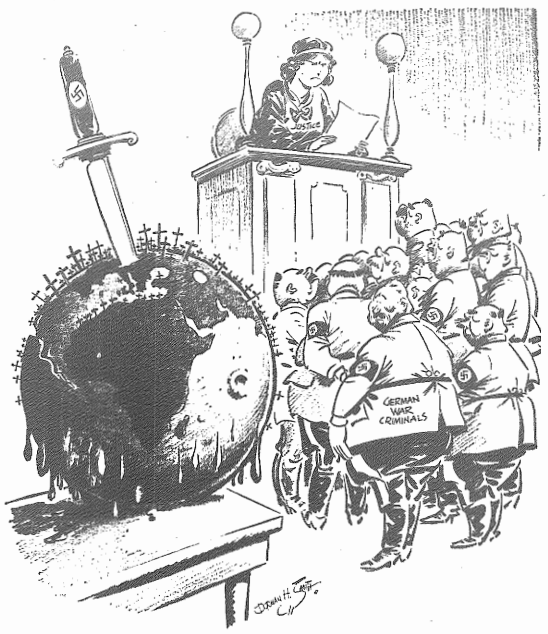
Atom Control

The Atom Control Bill, now before Congress, was shrouded in such strict secrecy that at first the War Department didn't want the provisions of the bill published. Brass hats merely wanted to refer to the bill by number. Finally they got cold feet on such ultra-secrecy and agreed to publicity. . . . The Atom Bill sets up a nine-man committee composed of $1-a-year men drafted from big business, to control future development of the atom. When Truman was in the Senate, he was vigorous in his criticism of $1-a-year men working on important war jobs yet at the same time carrying on private business at home. . . . Friends say, however, that Truman let the Army send the Atom Bill up to Congress without studying it. . . . Many Congressmen don't like the idea of the DuPonts, Union Carbide & Carbon, plus other big business representatives controlling the atom's future. If properly developed, the atom would eventually replace electric power plants, gasoline, coal, etc., in which big business representatives have a great investment.

Capital Chaff

President Truman refused to clear Henry Morgenthau's book, "Germany Is Our Problem," while Morgenthau was still in the Cabinet. It contained too much dynamite. Now Morgenthau is out of the Government and has published the book—with the dynamite. . . . Congratulations to Gen. Arthur Esterbrook of Santa Ana, Calif., for permitting his enlisted men to give him their gripes face to face and for speeding up discharges. If there were more generals like Esterbrook, there would be more men wanting to stay in the Army. . . . Atom-bomb scientists have adopted two grim slogans. They are: "Victory in the Second World War is our last victory," and again, "World War Two is either the last war or the next to the last—After that the lights of the world will go out." . . . President Truman is beginning to lose political support for the first time from Democrats. They want more action on both labor and foreign affairs. . . . Administration leaders believe the best solution to the strike situation is the bill proposed by Senator McMahon of Connecticut making labor unions follow the same formula as the Railway Labor Act—in other words submit their dispute to a mediation board before paralyzing an industry with a strike.

Exhibit A

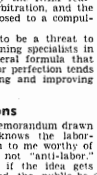


The Question Of Arbitration

By Marquis Childs

WASHINGTON

WHEN it comes to finding a remedy for our defective and deficient collective bargaining machinery, the various pressure groups in the industrial field begin pulling in different directions.



The most drastic proposal before Congress is the Ball-Burton-Hatch Bill, which would put in a system of compulsory arbitration enforceable against both employers and employees. It places primary responsibility on Government for orderly industrial relations.

In its present form, the bill has little or no chance of passage. This is not alone because of the opposition of labor to what has been denounced as a "straight-jacket system" that would virtually end all freedom on both sides of the industrial divide.

Neither the National Association of Manufacturers nor the U. S. Chamber of Commerce has offered any support for the B-B-H Bill. Recently the NAM reaffirmed its opposition to compulsory arbitration, and the Chamber of Commerce is likewise opposed to a compulsory system.

Deeply disturbed by what seems to be a threat to our industrial stability, some well-meaning specialists in the labor field are looking for a general formula that will solve all labor ills. This search for perfection tends to obscure the possibilities for mending and improving what we already have.

Worthy Suggestions

Some suggestions contained in a memorandum drawn up by a Government official who knows the labor-management field inside and out seem to me worthy of serious consideration. This man is not "anti-labor." But he sees the dangers labor faces if the idea gets around, that the unions have adopted the public-be-damned attitude.

He suggests as one simple change an amendment to the organic act creating the Department of Labor, which now empowers the Secretary of Labor to appoint commissioners of conciliation in the interests of industrial peace. The amendment would give the Secretary power in a limited number of industries—transportation, public utilities, communications and certain natural resources industries such as coal, where the union possesses a monopoly—to proclaim the existence of an emergency when a strike is threatened. Under this proclamation, both labor and management would be ordered to refrain from any strike, lockout or changes in terms and conditions of employment until the matter was referred to a special arbitration panel chosen by the Secretary.

In other words, there would be compulsory arbitration for a small segment of industry on which the public welfare is directly dependent. While these powers would be rarely used, the penalties for violating them would be stiff.

Individual Rights

The B-B-H Bill has what seems to be reasonable provisions to protect the rights of the individual in a trade union. The bill provides that any new employee has a right to obtain membership in the union by paying the standard initiation fee and the standard rate of dues, and that a labor union cannot cause a man to be fired unless his expulsion from the union is preceded by written charges and a hearing.

In the opinion of at least one specialist thoroughly familiar with the working of labor laws, the B-B-H Bill attempts to meet evils growing out of the check-off and the closed shop by an unnecessarily drastic step. The bill provides that closed shop agreements will be lawful only where the union has 75 per cent of the employees as members and where the agreement is ratified by 50 per cent of all employees by secret ballot.

A sufficient check could be provided by requiring that the making of any new contract be preceded by an election designating the union as the bargaining agent and specifying that the contract could continue for only one year. This would make it necessary to police the internal affairs of the union.

Mild or Drastic?

Only Congress can take action with regard to abuses growing out of the encroachment of labor on the management field. An amendment to the basic labor act could define supervisory employees who would not be eligible for unionization.

These proposals have a drastic sound today. If public opinion shifts abruptly against organized labor, as it threatens to do, they are likely to seem mild by comparison with what may come two or three years from now.

Statesmen At Work

(Serious facetious and comic excerpts from the Congressional Record)

THE usual practice in the House of permitting members to blow off steam in one-minute speeches on any subject produced both praise and condemnation of the DAR for its stand in the case of Hazel Scott . . .

Mr. RANKIN of Mississippi: Mr. Speaker, before we begin the march into Palestine today, waving a red flag in the face of the British Empire, I desire to say a few words in defense of one of the most patriotic organizations on earth, the Daughters of the American Revolution.

I understand that an hour has been set aside at this time for political speeches on the Palestine question, which, as I said, is like waving a red flag in the face of the British Empire, or hurling an atomic bomb into our international affairs.

The anti-Zionist Jews, who are also anti-Communist, do not want this Palestine question agitated.

However, if the Zionist Jews really want some place to go, and their alleged friends in the House want some place to send them, that can be arranged without creating a war with the Arabs or stirring up friction with the British Empire.

I understand that Stalin has expressed a willingness to have them settle in one of the States of the Soviet Union, possibly east of the Urals.

I believe such an arrangement can be easily worked out, and since practically every Communist among them came from Russia, I am sure they would not protest—especially after they got over there.

But, Mr. Speaker, I resent, and every decent American ought to resent, the communistic attacks that are now being made on the DAR. When a member of the House goes into the Associated Press and refers to Mrs. Truman as the "the first lady" of the land for having taken dinner with the Daughters of the American Revolution, we have come to a terrible pass.

Mrs. Truman is one of the finest women who ever graced the White House; and to all decent patriotic Americans she is the First Lady of the land.

Mr. CELLER of New York. Mr. Speaker, it seems rather unfortunate that the gentleman from Mississippi would again say that we are waving a red flag at the British Empire just because we are going to consider the condition of the helpless, hapless, and tempest-tossed Jews of Europe seeking entrance into Palestine. It is the gentleman's habitual process of red smearing and witch hunting. The one situation has nothing to do with the other—that is, Palestine has nothing to do with the Daughters of the American Revolution, except that Britain has forgotten her pledged justice to the Jew, and the DAR, by its action, has denied justice and equity to the colored people. I deplore the action of the Daughters of the American Revolution denying the use of Constitution Hall to a very celebrated and renowned artist, Miss Hazel Scott. The Daughters of the American Revolution only repeated their very tragic action with reference to Marian Anderson. Certainly there is no monopoly on artistic talents. Surely it cannot be said that only white people can play as beautifully as Miss Hazel Scott or sings as gloriously as Miss Anderson. The certificate of incorporation of the Daughters of the American Revolution, which certificate we adopted in this very Chamber, provides that there shall be equality to all. They deny that certificate and the provisions therein. Refusal of Constitution Hall, the citadel of the DAR, to colored artists is a violation of the certificate of incorporation of the DAR. I shall offer a resolution dissolving that certificate. Congress created the DAR. Congress must now cancel out the DAR because of its outrageous violation of the tenets of decency and fair play.

GRIN AND BEAR IT By Lichty

"Well, he ought to get mad, daughter!—you should have waited a little while before you stuck his war souvenirs up in the attic!"

Signs And Portents

By Samuel Grafton

NEW YORK

IT IS coming clear to Americans generally that we have bogged into some sort of crisis since the war ended; and the first step toward getting out of it is to know we are in it. Washington reporters are beginning to talk about "the situation"; at least we know there is a situation, and that in itself is progress. The observers do not always agree as to what "the situation" is; one Washington columnist ascribes our troubles to "a feeling of relaxation," while another in the same paper, on the same day, it so happens, says we are in "a particularly nervous state," but, never mind, we are beginning to work on the problem.

Perhaps one of the things we have been doing since the war ended has been to feel out a number of ideas, and one of the ideas that we have been testing out is that Government can afford to be an impartial spectator of a free-for-all fight between labor and management.

ECONOMIC BRAWLS

The result of this attitude on the part of the administration has been one of the greatest economic brawls ever seen. We have gone back, for a moment, to an earlier theory; we have regressed, so to speak, to the stage at which it was, at least in principle, a matter of indifference to the National Government which side won a fight over wages and hours, a primitive stage, at which we were content to let those high issues be settled by the accidental circumstance that one side was stronger than the other, or had more stomach for the fight.

Mr. Truman has now decided to set up special boards which will have power over both wages and prices in strike-bound industries, and this is the first crack in the line of official indifference, the first set-back for those who wanted the end of the Roosevelt era to mark the beginning of a period of slightest and showdown. One does not know whether Mr. Truman's remedy will solve the problem, but it is in itself a reassertion of the national interest, and perhaps a sign that the relapse is ending.

UP NATIONALISM

In foreign affairs, also, it might be said that we have slipped back to the ideas of an earlier day, and have been testing out a revival of nationalism. The speed with which we ended gasoline and other forms of rationing in a hungry world; the hurried style in which we cut off Lend-Lease to Britain, our handling of the atomic bomb, all these steps have somehow communicated to the world the feeling that we are not quite so much concerned about the total picture, and more, as we are in the promulgation of our own point of view, and, whatever the intention, the flavor is nationalistic.

Here, too, we have been trying out a retression to see whether it would work, and the result has been a notable addition to the sum of our unhappiness. It has landed us in a curious period of waiting and watching, a moment of frustration so thick that even skilled reporters, looking at it over, cannot quite decide whether we are too calm or too tense.

END OF BACKSLIDING

But in the field of foreign relations, too, a reaction is shaping up, the hope United Nations organization is in danger, but a number of Americans, including Supreme Court Justice Roberts, have put out word in New Hampshire to demand nothing less than a world government, and it is a typical American gesture noble, sweeping, big. It is unthinkable that the pent-up feeling on behalf of a world that makes sense will not soon break forth, and force an end to our little experiments in backsliding. There are those who desperately want to let nature take its course, both at home and abroad, and they have had their hour; but now it begins to grow cold, and men blow on their hands, and remember how not long ago, the sun shone, and they will soon speak, and they will be heard.

People's Platform

Higher Pay For Teachers

By ELMER E. CHRISTENBURY

Charlotte

Would also like to voice my opinion on the feature article which Burke Davis so ably put before the eyes of the people of Charlotte and the state in regards to the pay given the school teachers. This is not the first time that they have been given the run-around in regards to the salary question.

In the beginning let me state, "I am not a school teacher," nor was I confronted by one in regards to writing these few words which I hope will fall on fertile ground. I was just recently discharged from the Naval service after forty months of duty with our armed forces.

Of course a lot of people will say that the school teachers only have eight or nine months of work during the year and can just take it easy the remainder of the time. If I am not mistaken these teachers if they want to raise the rain of their diplomas have to go to Summer school or take post-graduate courses during those few months they are off between one school term and the other.

True, there are thousands of jobs that pay more than the average school teacher, BUT, show me one that does more for the betterment of the nation of tomorrow than the teachers. It is up to them to mould the learning for your children and mine to rule this great nation of ours, and to make it a better place in which to live. If we are to preserve the American way of living with a Government, of, by and for the people of the United States, let's start at the beginning by raising the salary of the teachers to such a level where they can afford to take more and frequent training to better prepare them to teach the children of this nation.

The low pay that our teachers have been paid during the past few years has caused a great number of them to leave the schools and to seek employment where they would receive more money — and you cannot blame them for doing that. People are fools and far between who will not accept a higher paying job than the one they are on.

So in closing why not give the above question a little thought, and ask yourself this question: "With the training that a teacher must have to get a certificate to teach in the schools of the state, are they paid enough for the duties they perform in teaching my child, my state and my nation?"

The First Lady Must Believe What She Says

By MRS. J. D. BIGGERS

Charlotte

The American people do not understand why, if Mrs. Truman disapproves and deplores such an undemocratic and un-Christian organization as the D. A. R., she accepted an invitation to associate herself socially with them.

Mrs. Roosevelt took no part in such undemocratic organizations. And the American people, who believe in the teachings of the Bible and in democratic principles, take no part in or associate with class hatred and greed. Mrs. Truman will have to associate with and stand for what she says she believes in so that the American people can know that she is positive in her beliefs.

Connoisseur Likes Our New Corner

By HAROLD P. FAUST

Charlotte

Having been a carrier subscriber to The News since I moved to Charlotte in 1942, I think the time has come to let you know that we have enjoyed your paper, and we have not failed to notice the recent improvements.

Congratulations are in order for your new Connoisseur's Corner which appeared in Saturday's edition. I have always been interested in your Stamp column, as I have been a collector for many years.