

An article written by Frank Leslie Chelf about "My Trip to the Chicago Convention and My Interview with Governor Roosevelt" in the Marion Falcon July 13, 1932

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United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 79<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

## Mobilization of Civilian Manpower

SPEECH  
OF

**HON. FRANK L. CHELF**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 30, 1945

Mr. CHELF. Mr. Chairman, I realize this bill is not perfect in every respect, yet the Commander in Chief states that its passage is urgent and imperative. General Marshall and Admiral King both have informed Members of the Congress that they must get action immediately in order to complete their assignment in the winning of this war.

During the recent campaign, I promised my people that if they would send me here to become a Member of this august body—to raise me from the minor to the major leagues, as it were—I would support and help the President upon all measures necessary toward winning the war and writing a just and lasting peace. On November 7 my people of the Fourth Congressional District of Kentucky kept their part of the bargain, and when this and other bills which affect the proper conduct and hasty conclusion of the war are up for passage, I shall keep my word to them—my obligation to and my faith in my buddies now serving overseas.

Mr. Chairman, it was my honor to serve in this present war for a period of 2 years. I would be in uniform today were it not for the fact that I was retired due to physical disability. While a member of the armed forces of this country I respected my Commander in Chief's orders. As a Member of Congress I respect his requests.

A vast number of our fighting men who are in fox holes overseas feel that we here on the home front are letting them down. I want to read to you excerpts from a letter which has just been received from the son of a very dear friend of mine who resides in Kentucky.

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I quote:

Maybe you think the war is over, but it is far from that. There are shortages in ammunition and supplies over here and we can't fight without them. We are beginning to feel like we are being let down. We know you have been making good money while we get a measly \$50 a month, not much more than enough to keep us in cigarettes; while you live in luxury, in good, warm houses, we live in foxholes and shiver from cold and hunger; and our shelter is the bullets flying over our heads while we expect to get one any minute.

But we stick it out in any kind of weather and never quit until we have won our battles, so why should you quit? If we risk our lives all of you could stick to your jobs and furnish us with what we need to win the war.

Probably you think the news you hear from over here is so much propaganda, but I can assure you it isn't. I am sure none of you realize what the score is, but I wish each and every one of you could spend 1 hour on the front line, then you really would be glad to work. If the people back home don't want to back us up, then I don't see any use of us fighting. It seems some of you think only of yourselves and don't care whether any of the boys come home again or not. The Germans have landed troops behind our lines and are pushing our men back some, but this wouldn't have happened if we had had the ammunition.

So folks, think this over a while and leave the peace time jobs go and go back to defense work, for we need your help. I know what I am talking about. I am a soldier over here and I am telling you straight. Go back to work and don't lose 1 minute.

Pvt. CHARLES W. LIVERS,  
Somewhere in France.

Some of you Members may be worrying about domestic complaints, but I am sure that you will agree with me that it is far better to hear the local hue and cry of sore toes trampled upon here at home than to hear the mournful wail of one of our brave lads stricken in mortal combat and lying in the throes of death, all because his supplies were too little or too late.

I urge you G. I. Members of this Congress, who served in this war—I urge you Legionnaires and veterans of other

wars—I urge you new and old Members, Democrats and Republicans alike, to join with me in supporting our Commander in Chief. Let us fire the shot today in these Halls of Congress that will be heard around the world, and which will give comfort, courage, fortitude, and confidence to our fighting men, and at the same time toll the death knell for all of our enemies.

Unconstitutional, they say. I am just a country lawyer and I do not believe in custome opinions, but if we can draft a man to leave his family to train, to fight, bleed, and even to die, and that is constitutional, then I submit to you that it should be a relatively simple matter for us to draft a man to work, to fashion the tools for him to use in his fighting.

I know not what opinion the rest of you may have insofar as this bill is concerned, nor how you may vote, but as for me—I am going to vote "aye" so that my returning buddies will know that I did not desert my Commander in Chief under fire; and that I did not let them down when victory was within their grasp.

If bad news should reach the President concerning the war—God grant that it shall not come from the Congress of these United States, in that it turned a deaf ear to his request for the manpower necessary to achieve an early victory. In Heaven's name I urge you not to gut or emasculate this bill with too many amendments.

Now is the time, and this is the place to strengthen the President's hand as he formulates plans to sit with de Gaulle, Churchill, Stalin, and Chiang Kai-shek. Let us give him the tools to win this war, to get the job done. Let us stop this bloody slaughter as soon as humanly possible, so that we can write a just and lasting peace—yes, peace—"Forever and a day, till these walls shall crumble in ruins and moulder in dust away."

## *Rash-Chelf*

The wedding of Miss Margaret Louise Rash, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mangus Earl Rash of North Middletown, and Frank Leslie Chelf of this city was solemnized at Willow Vale Farm, the home of the bride's parents near North Middletown, Wednesday afternoon at 5:00 o'clock. The Rev. Frank M. Tinder, pastor of the North Middletown Christian Church, was the officiating minister. The home was prettily decorated in summer flowers, roses and honeysuckle predominating.

Miss Wilhelmina Rash, sister of the bride, was the maid of honor, and Everett Burdette of this city was the groom's best man.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was gowned in white satin and her veil over the long train was caught to her head with orange blossoms. She carried an arm bouquet of bride's roses.

Following the ceremony Mr. and Mrs. Chelf left on a trip to Washington. They will return here June 17 and will be with Mrs. Ora L. Chelf until Mr. Chelf's home which is under construction is completed.

Mr. Chelf, who is a native of Hardin County, is a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Weed S. Chelf. He came here in 1918, entering the preparatory department of St. Mary's College, and later attending Centre College, Danville. After receiving his legal degree at Cumberland University, Lebanon, Tenn., he returned to this city and practiced law. In November, 1933, he was elected County Attorney, a position he now holds. He is a member of the Phi Delta Theta social fraternity.

## **Dunbar-Chelf**

A wedding that came as a surprise to the friends of both the bride and groom here was that of Miss Mary Dunbar of Campbellsville and Ralph Chelf of Chicago, Ill., which took place at 4 o'clock Saturday afternoon in Louisville at the Broadway Christian church, the Rev. Dr. W. N. Briney officiating.

Mr. and Mrs. Chelf came to Lebanon Sunday and have since been visiting his mother, Mrs. Ora L. Chelf, and her parents, Dr. and Mrs. O. S. Dunbar, at Campbellsville. They expect to leave shortly for Chicago where they will make their home.

The bride formerly made her home in Lebanon where she is well known and popular. She moved to Campbellsville with her parents several years ago where she has since lived. She is a talented musician, having graduated from the Louisville Conservatory of Music last year. During the past school year she taught music in North Carolina.

Mr. Chelf, who is a splendid young business man, has been making his home in Chicago for the past year, having been connected with the Brunswick Recording Company. Before going to Chicago he operated the Stoll filling station for about a year and before that was manager of the Marion Lumber Co. for some time. He is a graduate of the Lebanon High School and is a gifted pianist.

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*Chelf*

# Margaret Louise Chelf, 71

Mrs. Margaret Louise Chelf, 71, of 216 East Main St. Lebanon, died at 7 a.m. Feb. 2 at her residence.

Mrs. Chelf was a member of the Lebanon United Presbyterian Church and a native of Bourbon Co. She was preceded in death by her husband, U.S. Congressman Frank Leslie Chelf, Sr., and her parents, Earl and Myrtle

Alford Rash.

Survivors include: her son, Frank Chelf, Jr. of Lebanon; two daughters, Mrs. John "Caroline" Polk and Mrs. Tommy "Bonnie" Simpson of Lebanon; one sister, Mrs. Willie Harmon of Lebanon; seven grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted at 1 p.m. Feb. 4 at

Bosley Funeral Home with burial in Ryder Cemetery. Rev. Gary Pennington officiated.

Pallbearers were Billy Harmon, Everett Burdette, Tommy Harmon, Collins Polk, Todd Simpson and Sam May.

Bosley Funeral Home, Lebanon, was in charge of the arrangements.

## MALE.

Date of Marriage 2<sup>d</sup> day of March 1881  
Name of Groom Isaac Steele  
Residence of Groom Carey Co Ky  
Age of Groom 23  
Number of Marriage of Groom first  
Occupation Merchant  
Birthplace Carey Co Ky  
Birthplace of Groom's Father " " "  
Birthplace of Groom's Mother " " "

## FEMALE.

Name of Bride Alice W. Cheef  
Residence of Bride Marion Co Ky  
Age of Bride 23  
Number of Marriage of Bride first  
Birthplace of Bride Marion Co Ky  
Birthplace of Bride's Father " " "  
Birthplace of Bride's Mother " " "

Remarks A

N. B.—At Nos. 5 and 13 state whether first, second, etc., Marriage of each or either party.

To be married at Bradfordville Ky  
e 2<sup>d</sup> day of March 1881

I Certify that the above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Witness my hand, this 21<sup>st</sup> day of Feb 1881

Isaac Steele

EST: \_\_\_\_\_

# MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE.