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BAPTISTS ACT WISELY

Since the favorite pastime nowadays is devising schemes of getting money from the Federal government for individual or institutional uses, it is quite encouraging to find a group which not only turns thumbs down against treasury handouts but urges similar groups to do likewise.

At their convention in St. Louis, Southern Baptists adopted resolutions opposing the acceptance by church schools and institutions of funds from the Federal government. Grants were opposed on grounds that the separation of church and state is threatened by such subsidies.

While aimed primarily at a Supreme Court decision which ruled, in effect, that New Jersey must provide transportation for students attending Catholic schools in lieu of public institutions, the Baptist resolution deserves the endorsement of other sectarian groups; Congressmen and Senators should sit up and take notice. Also deserving of note and endorsement was the resolution opposing the practice of sending an envoy from the United States government to the Vatican in Rome.

Harold E. Stassen, former governor of Minnesota and a candidate for the Republican nomination for the presidency in 1948, appeared before the convention and opposed the stand the Baptists had taken.

Governor Stassen has been branded as the most progressive—if any Republican in national life can be classed as such—of the GOP candidates and, if the next president must come from that party, his election would come nearer gaining approval of Democrats than would the selection of Senator Taft or Governor Dewey. Like all the other avowed candidates, however, Governor Stassen speaks a language unknown in the Southland, judging from his remarks at the Baptist convention.

GRADUATION PROBLEM

Commencement season is here. North Carolina schools are winding up another session and are releasing thousands of students, some of whom will return to their books at the end of the summer vacation while others are permanently closing classroom doors behind them this spring.

The release of this band of boys and girls increases the responsibility of parents who must guide the energies of these young people into channels which will benefit the individual, the family and the community. The little tots will have their play; the boys and girls in the upper-age brackets can do much toward relieving the work load around the home or can obtain gainful employment. The most harmful thing parents can do is to allow these boys and girls to aimlessly spend the summer without contributing in some manner to the improvement of the home.

Bernard Baruch, who served as

economic advisor to presidents during and after two World Wars, believes that work and the increased production which results therefrom, is the surest and quickest way for the United States to regain its balance and normalcy. Parents and school children would do well to consider the advice of the esteemed Mr. Baruch in mapping plans for the summer months.

"BEG TO REMAIN"

(St. Louis Globe-Democrat)

The trouble with good ideas is that they usually are run into the ground. A while back there was born a Society for Abolishing Dear in Business Letters, an innovation for which we plunked on all fours. But now comes an incipient Write as You Speak campaign, which we'll take on tiptoe.

It is well and good to shear off such saws as "beg to remain," "hoping to hear from you, we are," and "yours of the 12th inst. at hand." But there'll always be smarties ready to stretch the limits of logic, and one shudders to anticipate the result.

For example, you write a breezy business note, dutifully deloused of cliches and in the best write-as-you-speak-you-hope manner. Correspondent, being allegedly busy at the moment, passes missive to female assistant for reply, to wit: "Guess what, I got your letter and it was scrumptious. But I don't get the point. Y'know what the boss said? He said he didn't either. But he said brush you off easy on account of you're a good customer. That's all for now. And please don't wait so long to write next time."

If that's coming, we beg to remain.

WE'LL TAKE PEPPERMINT

(The Denver Post)

We see by the news columns that three Denver barbershop quartets are flying to Scottsbluff, Neb., today to compete in a two-State sing. The winner will go to Milwaukee in June, seeking the international barbershop quartet championship.

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Junior, in his hepatic ignorance, may ask us, "What is a barbershop quartet?" What shall we tell him? Son, we shall say, barbershop harmonies are the peppermint drops of American song. They last and last. You roll them on your tongue and they are sweet but not sticky-sweet. Their flavor has a pungent power that brings mist to the eyes. That's the peppermint in them.

You boogie-woogie bumpkins are song savages, Junior. You gulp your melodies whole, never pausing to savor them. Be they sweet or sour, after two weeks on the radio they are gone, consumed, and you are sick of them.

We, your fuddy-duddy elders, prefer peppermint to hotcha-cha. In the evening by the moonlight, we still love strolling down Melody Lane with Sweet Adeline. Shine on, harvest moon.

We don't care if Richard never opens the door. Does he plead for five minutes more with Sioux City Sue? We can't hear him, for Caroline is calling down by the old mill stream. Dear old gal, she's got peppermint drops. Some day you'll understand.

ARMY WANTS NURSES

If you were a nurse in the Armed Services—Army, Navy, Marine Corps or Coast Guard—during World War II, there is a commission waiting for you as a nurse in the Regular Army. That's the word from Lt. Colonel Agnes A. Maley, chief of the nursing division, Medical Section, Headquarters, Third Army, who explains that the need for nurses is so great that the opportunity to become a Regular Army nurse has been thrown open, with Congressional approval, to ex-service nurses who can qualify.

It will be necessary, Colonel Maley explains, for applicants to write her direct or call on her in person, as the Army Recruiting offices do not carry the necessary application blanks. Her headquarters are in

Atlanta, Ga.

The successful applicants, Colonel Maley says, will win commissions entitling them to all privileges of pay, allowances and promotions accorded any officer in the Regular Army. Also, there may be a trip abroad for those who are successful, as Army nurses are subject to overseas duty.

DANGER SPOTS REMOVED DURING FARM CLEAN-UP

"A place for everything and everything in its place" is a prime safety rule, states Professor David S. Weaver, head of the Agriculture Engineering Department, State College, who emphasized the importance of a thorough clean-up on the farm to promote efficiency and safety.

Disorder is responsible for putting one out of every five victims in the hospital, according to a study conducted a few years ago by the National Safety Council, Professor Weaver says, explaining that the largest single cause of injuries, other than the personal factor of poor judgment, is disorder.

The time spent now to eliminate farm danger spots through clean-up efforts may result in the saving of many days lost through accidents during the rush season, or later on, Professor Weaver pointed out. No farmer can afford to lose the services of farm help through accidents.

Now is the time to mend broken steps, remove cluttered accumulations from barn, alleyways and work areas; repair harness and tools, and provide racks and other suitable places for forks, scrapers, brooms, rakes, and other equipment. Floors should be repaired and kept free from obstructions. Ramps may prove desirable to overcome the hazards of different floor levels. Loft doors, feed chutes, broken ladders or stairways may need repairing or protection.

With summer "just around the corner," now is a good time to get the farm shop in order and to repair

Paratroopers Stage Tactical Exercises For Egyptian Group

Pope Field, May 15—Lt. General Ibrahim Atalla Pasha, chief of staff of the Egyptian Army, and his party of 13 officers, accompanied by two "guide" officers of the U. S. Army, observed an air-ground tactical training exercise by air crews of the 36th Troop Carrier squadron and paratroopers of the 82nd Airborne division at Pope Field, Fort Bragg, Saturday, May 10.

Later this month West Point cadets will see these maneuvers that started May 9 to be staged over a 15-day period. In these operations, 13 C-52 "Flying Boxcars" of the 36th squadron, flying in formation, drop approximately 400 paratroopers in a drop zone four miles north of Pope Field. After they jump the infantrymen assemble into combat units and push off on an attack problem to surround and take Pope Field, which is an "enemy airhead" in the simulated tactical situation.

To support the ground troops with mechanized equipment four gliders are brought in on a small landing strip in the area. After this cargo has been unloaded "wounded" troops are then picked up by a C-47 towplane.

Glider pick-up is a war-developed technique, and it is used when gliders must be taken out of areas which are too small for the towplane to land in and pull motorless craft out by the conventional takeoff method. The glider towplane is stretched between two tall poles 14 feet apart and about 200 feet in front of the glider. Then the towplane, passing low over this ground station, takes the rope with a special hook arrangement.

Saturday General Pasha and members of his party were flown in two of the 36th squadron gliders. These gliders were flown in formation, both being pulled on "double tow" by a C-52. The gliders took off from Pope Field and were flown over the Fort Bragg reservation, and then the towplanes were released and came back into the airfield for the landing.

The North Carolina Association of Colored Elks will meet in Tarboro, May 20, 21 and 22.

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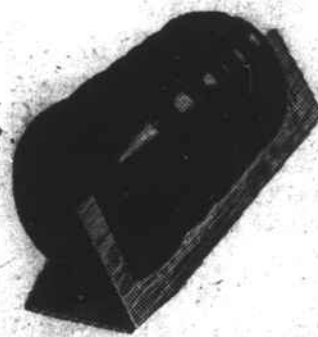
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