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THE INDEPENDENT

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HERE, NOW AND HEREAFTER

By VANCE HAVNER

A Little Vision of Kingdom Come.

One day I dreamed a dream. I dreamed that, in the course of my wanderings, I passed into the country of Kingdom Come, that place land so idealized in poem, song and song where God's will is supposed to done on earth as in heaven and where things are as they ought to be.

It was not long realizing the change. The glorious landscape was hidden by bill-boards advertising Dr. Specknoodles Asthma Remedy and showing pictures of Contentment Valley, the new resort at Spoopuck Mountain.

I also noticed that every automobile stayed on the proper side of the road and there were no mangled bodies of pedestrains scattered along the way.

Pretty soon I came to the first road crossing I had ever seen where a Ford had never yet tried to knock a freight-train off the track.

I stopped at a lunch-counter and was startled at what happened. There was actually a new table-cloth and when I ordered eggs the waiter did not understand me to say fried chickens. I was dumfounded at the low price of my feed. I told him if he hadn't made a mistake.

"Oh, no," he replied, "we live for service here, not merely for profit."

"But you make profit, don't you?" I queried.

"Of course," he said. "You always make more profit when you don't think about it than when you do."

* * *

Out on the road again. I met a wonderful man. He was carrying apples to this cafe. The wonderful thing was the apples at the bottom of the basket were as good as the ones at the top.

I stopped to watch a baseball game. There was no gambling and nobody knew who would win until it was over. I thought that was one of the most remarkable things I saw.

Someone pointed out to me a big man and said: "He's a politician but when he ran for office he promised that if elected he would work for the best interests of the folks who elected him."

"What's remarkable about that?" I inquired.

"Remarkable! Why, he kept his promise!"

* * *

I came to a school building. They told me on rainy days. The rest of the time, the students and teachers are outdoors studying how to live where the living is done. They have no regular text-books, only the great literature and wisdom of the ages. The students are graded according to character, not how much they know of axioms and synonyms. The valedictorian is the best all-round man or woman, not the most successful bookworm. They study but one subject, How To Live.

* * *

I dropped into a young crowd out for a picnic. They weren't afraid of daylight for their behaviour wasn't the sort that can't stand the sun. They had no booze and nobody told a dirty joke.

"Do you go in for petting?" I asked a boy.

"Well, kissing is rather delightful, of course," he replied, "but we are more than bodies."

"True," I admitted, "but you're going to forget it."

"We don't forget it," he answered simply.

Then I knew I was in heaven.

* * *

I came to a great central church where they were preaching no particular program but where everybody came to talk about God and Life and how to live it. I had found the source and center of Kingdom Come.

I broke with a newspaper in my hand. Headlines: Two Killed In Auto Wreck. Prices Going Up. Baseball Scandal. Another Political Scandal Opened. Wild Party Raided. Church Row.

I threw it down and shouted: "I don't believe it! There are plenty of drivers who keep to the right, plenty of cafes that serve good food, plenty of honest farmers and there politicians, plenty of teachers that teach living and young people who keep clean and preachers who long for a more harmonious church. We've got the stuff for Kingdom Come if we could just put it together. It isn't an impossible dream."

FAIR AT GATES

Friday, October 28 is to be a great day in Gates when the fair at the school will be held, and a full day's program is announced for that day. Much progress is reported from the school. The junior class have recently received their class rings. New shades have been purchased for some of the rooms and everybody is happy.

VIRGINIA DARE HOTEL IN DEVIL OF A MESS

But Still There is a Likelihood of It Opening November 7th. Under Somebody's Management

Elizabeth City's new Virginia Dare Hotel will open on Monday, Nov. 7th, in the opinion of C. O. Robinson, president of the Board of Directors of the Hotel Company.

But under whose management the hotel will open is a question to be fought out in the United States Court in this city the week of Oct. 31st. And it will be a real fight.

Warren L. Tiller, attorney for the Associated Hotels, Inc., of Richmond, came to Elizabeth City Wednesday of this week and posted a bond of $5,000 to guarantee the fight. Or the posting of the bond amounts to the same thing.

Elizabeth City's new community hotel is in a very devil of a mess. Before work was started on the hotel a long time lease was made to the Wm. Foor Hotels Operating Co., now known as Associated Hotels, Inc. Misunderstandings between the hotel directors and the lessees developed as the construction of the hotel proceeded, and the hotel company went to court, claiming that the lessees had violated the terms of their contract and should be restrained from taking over the management of the hotel when completed.

Without waiting upon the outcome of their case at law, the hotel owners proceeded to take over the management themselves. They employed their own manager J. P. Johnson and put him in charge of the hotel. Mr. Johnson gave up the management of the Hotel Suburban, a 200 room hotel in East Orange, N. J., to come to Elizabeth City and proceeded to perfect an organization and prepare for the opening of the hotel on Oct. 27th.

Mr. Johnson was proceeding nicely with his plans when the Associated Hotels, Inc., walked into the U. S. Court in Greensboro last week and got an order restraining the hotel owners from opening or operating the hotel until the Court could hear and pass upon the issues involved, conditional upon the lessees posting a bond in the sum of $5,000. The week of Oct. 31 was designated for a special term of the U. S. Court in this city for the trial of the hotel cases; the hearing to be conducted by Judge Johnson J. Hayes of the Middle District of North Carolina. And so there we are—wherever we may be.

The Associated Hotels is going to make a determined fight to oust manager Johnson and install their own manager and organization. They claim that they have their organization already to put in the new hotel on 36 hours notice. In answer to the contention of the hotel owners that the lessees had failed to put up a bond of $50,000 stipulated in their lease, the lessees contend that nothing in their contract required them to give bond until the hotel was in operation and they point to a provision in the contract that the cost of the bond should come out of the operating expense of the hotel. The contract was drawn by attorney J. C. B. Ehringhaus of this city and the lessees insist that if they are wrong in their interpretation of the contract, that Mr. Ehringhaus should have been more explicit in the wording of the lease.

In reply to the allegations of the hotel owners that the lessees have tried to hinder the construction of the hotel, the lessees contend that their only interference has been in the nature of trying to persuade the hotel company to build a less costly hotel.

The lessees contend that it was their understanding that they were to lease a hotel to cost $250,000 to $300,000 and that their terms were figured upon such a hotel. But contrary to their representations to the lessees and to the stockholders as well, the hotel company had built a hotel costing more than $600,000 and that it will be impossible for the lessees to make any money, either for themselves or for the hotel stockholders, on such a heavy investment.

As a matter of fact the hotel, including its site, the hotel annex, the garage and hotel furnishings stand to cost considerably more than $600,000. To date $310,000 or more has been collected from subscribers to hotel stock; a first mortgage of $200,000 has been placed on the property and a second mortgage for $120,000 is being negotiated.

But Elizabeth City has a beautiful hotel and there appears to be but few regrets as to the cost of it, if we can but get it open and going.

Now Commander of Coast Guards

O. A. LITTLEFIELD

HE'S the youngest head of the Seventh Coast Guard District, comprising 31 stations between Cape Henry and Key West, headquarters of which are in Elizabeth City. He entered the service 20 years ago at the age of 17. He succeeds Commander Jas. A. Price who has been transferred to the Fourth District with headquarters at Lewes, Del.

NEW COAST GUARD HEAD HAS MUCH EXPERIENCE

New Commander of Seventh District Has Seen 20 Years of Service. The Only 37 Years Old

Commander O. A. Littlefield, who comes to this city from Green Bay, Wisconsin to take charge of the Seventh Coast Guard District, is only 37 years old, but he's had lots of service. Commander Littlefield entered the Life Saving Service Sept. 1, 1907 when only 17 years of age. He was born at Block Island, Rhode Island, June 1, 1890, the son of Capt. and Mrs. A. M. Littlefield, his father being a veteran seafaring man.

Surfman Littlefield served at Sandy Point, Green Hill, and Watch Hill Stations in the third Coast Guard District for a period of 12 years. He served as officer in charge of Sandy Point and Green Hill Stations. During 1913 he was absent from the service for six months to take up a special course of study at Providence, Rhode Island.

He was commended during the World War by Naval Commanders Vanderbilt and Merriman for duty performed in connection with the operation of Naval craft during the period of submarine activity off the North Atlantic Coast. He participated in the usual wreck duty incident to 12 years of service at stations guarding important steamship lanes.

He was assistant to the District Commander of the First District for four years, and has been in charge of the Eleventh District extending from Chicago, Illinois to Duluth Minnesota, with headquarters at Green Bay, Wis., since November, 1924.

FOR ONE TIME A SOLDIER TALKS BACK TO MAJOR

Becton E. Hopkins, late of the A. E. F. rises up this week and has his say in reply to the scratching denunciation of him of Major Andrew L. Pendleton published in this newspaper last week. For once the soldier talks back to the officer to his heart's content without fear of the guardhouse or hard labor to punish him for his insubordination, and he serves notice that this ends it so far as he is concerned.

Ex-service men will get a big kick out of the run in between Mr. Hopkins and Major Pendleton, and perhaps more will be coming in

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WANTED TO GO TO ATLANTA, SONS OBJECTED

And So Poor Old Man Tom Pritchard Will Have To Pine in Jail

Thomas Pritchard, Sr., aged Pasquotank bootlegger convicted in the Federal Court in this city last week and sentenced to twelve months in jail, told Judge Meekins that he didn't think he could stay in the Pasquotank County jail a year.

The old man, said to be 70 years old, and just a simple old man looked quite pitiful as he appealed wistfully to Judge Meekins.

"All right," said Judge Meekins, "I think I can fix you up in good shape; instead of sending you to jail for twelve months, I'll send you to Atlanta for a year and a day. Down in Atlanta you will have a clean, comfortable bed, a warm room in winter, plenty of exercise in the open air, good company, good meals, baths, a reading room, library, chapel to go to on Sundays. You will fare better than you ever fared in your life.

"And what's even better," continued the Judge, "when you have served one third of your term in Atlanta you will be paroled on your good behavior for the rest of your term. You will be back home in four months; whereas if you go to jail you can't get but two months off your twelve months sentence."

"Send me to Atlanta," beamed old man Pritchard.

Judge Meekins ordered the Clerk to change the records and commit the old man to Atlanta. Thos. Pritchard, Sr. left the court room lookink happy.

But in a few minutes the old man returned. Hat in hand he stood before Judge Meekins to plead again.

"I hate to trouble you Judge, but you'll have to send me to jail; them danged boys o' mine won't let me go to Atlanta."

The Pritchard boys, two of them, Paul and Tom, Jr. were convicted in the same court and had drawn four months jail sentences. They didn't want to see the family broken up and so the old man will not enjoy all the comforts of the Federal prison in Atlanta; he'll have to stick it out in the cramped quarters of a cell in the local jail.

Thos. Pritchard, Sr. has an interesting record as a bootlegger, according to all reports. For a time he ran a small dairy and delivered milk to customers in town. It is said that he delivered more corn whiskey than milk. They say he painted his milk bottles white and delivered the liquor in milk bottles, pints or quarts, leaving it on his customers' door steps just like milk.

Auto Filling Stations Sell Much Liquor

That most of the operators of automobile filling stations on rural highways are engaged in the illicit sale of liquor is the expressed opinion of Federal Judge Isaac M. Meekins of this city. Judge Meekins voiced his opinion in the U. S. Court at Washington, N. C. this week..

Judge Meekins made no bones about saying that he looked with suspicion upon any roadside filling station man who was brought into his court on a charge of selling liquor. He said he was confident that most of the operators of filling stations were selling liquor on the side. He was quoted by the News & Observer as follows:

"I do not mean that all of them are doing it," he said, "but it is very evident to me that most of them are. They could not possibly make a living out of the small profit they get from the sale of gasoline. When a man comes up in court, charged with violating the prohibition law, and when I find out that he is operating a filling station appearances are very, very much against him."

GRADES OF MILK USED IN CAFES ARE POSTED

Meanwhile Dairymen Continue to Bring Up Equipment to Meet Standard Milk Ordinance

The posting this week of certificates in Elizabeth City restaurants, hotels and drug stores showing the grades of milk used by these places is another step in the enforcement of Elizabeth City's standard milk ordinances which is calculated to be of immense value to the public. A customer may know what kind of milk he is drinking by looking for the sign on the wall.

The grade of milk used by a public place has much to do with their rating by the state board of health, as those places failing to use grade A milk may lose ten points from their rating, and any place that hasn't a grade of seventy, may be closed up by the state sanitary inspectors.

Meanwhile a number of dairymen who failed to make Grade A, last week are bringing up their equipment to meet the requirements of the standard milk ordinance. Two who had lower grades, E. Coppersmith and E. W. Gregory have met the Grade A standards this week. A complete resume of the results obtained will be given next week. City inspector L. L. Hedgepeth will appreciate any information concerning dairymen who are not complying with the requirements, as this is his only means of keeping tab on their operations.

The BANK CLERK AND THE SODA JERKER

THEY DISCUSS THE NEW COMMUNITY HOTEL

"They tell me Mack Morrisette is sore on the directors of the New Virginia Dare Hotel because they didn't give local furniture dealers a deal on the furniture," said the Soda Jerker to the Bank Clerk.

"Well, Mack hasn't got any kick coming to him," said the Bank Clerk; "when a furniture dealer advertises that he'll stand behind every bed he sells, he's the last man to expect to sell furniture to a modern hotel."

"When do you suppose the hotel will open?" asked the Soda Jerker.

"Ask me when Jimmie Whitehurst is going to get married?" retorted the Bank Clerk.

"Well, what's going to become of Tom Nelson and his Southern Hotel when this new hotel opens?"

"Nothing at all calamitous," replied the Bank Clerk. "It is a funny thing, but it seems to have been the history of hotel operations in every town where a good hotel is built, the old hotel does more business than ever. Tom Nelson will continue to do business at the Southern and probably will do a bigger business tha nhe is doing now. Take Suffolk, for instance. Suffolk was a wretched hotel town before the new Hotel Elliott was built. Traveling men fought shy of Suffolk to keep from stopping at the old Nansemond. But as soon as the new hotel was built the traveling public began to flock into Suffolk and patronize the Nansemond Hotel. With a new hotel to accommodate them, they went around the corner to the old dump that they had been cussing for years."

"How do you explain that," said the Soda Jerker.

"I don't explain it," replied the Bank Clerk, "but I have a traveling salesman friend who makes a quite plausible explanation.

"This drummer friend of mine tells me that where there is only a bum hotel in a town most traveling men will pass on to the next town to spend the night. But if you put a first class hotel with good stiff prices in the same town with the bum hotel with lower prices, every traveling man will go to the town where he has a choice of two kinds of hotels. A small and select class of traveling men will patronize the new and modern hotel and pay the rates. The others will go to the old hotel, get the lower rates and then pad their expense accounts with the higher rates of the new hotel.

"And so Tom Nelson and his ancient Southern will continue to prosper. The new hotel will draw the traveling public to town, but most of the little birds will flock to the old roost where they can get a room for a dollar a night."

(Why not get the book of the Bank Clerk and the Soda Jerker, a choice collection of their rich and racy arguments? 50 cents by mail.)

Eye strains are the greatest source of nerve waste of the body. Have your eye's examined by DRS. J. D. HATHAWAY, Eye Sight Specialists.

JUDGE SAWYER PLAYS HAVOC WITH HIMSELF

His Own Faux Pas May Cause Him Loss of Solicitorship To Which He Aspires

Has Judge P. G. Sawyer, judge of the County Court of Pasquotank County, destroyed his chances for succession to the Solicitorship of the First Judicial District by a faux pas in the practice of law?

Many of Judge Sawyer's friends think so and those who are not his friends, thruout the district, are chortling.

The retirement or demise of Judge Wm. M. Bond of the Superior Court is imminent. Walter L. Small, solicitor of the First Judicial District, is popularly regarded as the logical successor to Judge Bond on the bench and the elevation of Solicitor Small to the judgeship is confidently predicted in high political circles.

Judge Sawyer of Elizabeth City, keenly alive to the possibilities, aspires to succeed Walter Small and has been pulling wires to this end for several months. Judge Sawyer might have slipped into the solicitorship without popular opposition if he had watched his step.

But when the Judge of the County Court of Pasquotank hired himself out to notorious hootch sellers in the United States Court in this city last week, holding a State Court at 9 o'clock in the morning to enforce the prohibition laws, and hiring himself out to the law offenders in the Federal Court at 10 o'clock in the morning, public indignation was aroused.

Judge Sawyer thinks this newspaper did him a grave injustice in exposing and criticising his double dealings in this newspaper last week, but Judge Sawyer does not know that hundreds have expressed themselves to this newspaper within the past few days, commending this newspaper for its attitude and condemning Judge Sawyer's conduct in no uncertain terms.

Judge Sawyer will have to do a lot of shrewd work to undo the damage he has done his own cause. In his zeal for fees Judge Sawyer has played squarely into the hands of Herbert Leary of Edenton who is also an aspirant for the solicitorship.

Local Traders Lose Heavily In Cobb Crash

Elizabeth City dabblers in cotton futures, industrial stocks, etc. are said to have lost $60,000 to $75,000 in the crash of the Norfolk brokerage firm of Cobb Bros. & Co. this week.

Cobb Bros. & Co. had done business in Norfolk for nearly a third of a century and had a reputation for honesty and solvency that had won for them the confidence of investors in Eastern North Carolina as well as in Virginia.

Elizabeth City has a lot of boys who play the markets and most of them carried their accounts with Cobb Bros. & Co. But somebody in the Cobb Bros. organization got to playing with the company's reputation and assets and before anybody suspected what was going on the company was wrecked. Its filing of a petition in bankruptcy in the U. S. Court in Norfolk Monday morning had the effect of an explosion in many quarters. One Elizabeth City trader in stocks thru Cobb Bros. is said to have lost $39,000 in the crash.

CRIPPLE CLINIC POSTPONED UNTIL SATURDAY THE 29TH

Just before going to press this newspaper received word that the Orthopedic clinic which was to have been held at the Elizabeth City Hospital and sponsored by the Kiwanis and Rotary Clubs of Elizabeth City and the Rotary Clubs of Hertford and Edenton has been postponed from Saturday, October 22nd, until the following Saturday, October 29th.

Those who are interested in this clinic are urged to bear this in mind, and to disregard the date as announced elsewhere in this paper.

If you suffer from headaches let us examine your eyes. DRS. J. D. HATHAWAY, Eye Sight Specialists. adv.

ROMAN CATHOLICS PLAN TO HAVE EDIFICE HERE

To Build on Site With a West Main St. Frontage of 150 Feet and Depth of 253 Feet Recently Acquired by Bishop Hafey

The Roman Catholic Church is going to build in Elizabeth City on property acquired within the last few days by the Bishop of North Carolina, the Rt. Rev. William J. Hafey D. D. of Raleigh.

The site of the proposed Catholic church is at West Main and Ash Streets and Colonial Ave., fronting 150 feet on Main Street and Colonial Ave. and 253 feet on Ash St.

The Bishop purchased six lots in all, four from M. L. Clark and two from A. M. Midgett. The Clark lots with a frontage of 100 feet on Main Street and extending 253 feet on Ash St. to Colonial Ave. $9,000 was paid for the Clark lots.. The Midgett lots, adjoining the Clark property, fronting 50 feet on Main St and extending the full length of the block, 253 feet, to Colonial Ave were purchased for $3,000, making a total of $12,000 paid for the church site.

Mons. Q. P. Doherty, the resident priest, says that the church will build but will make no statement in detail in the absence of the bishop.

It is generally understood however that only a small church and priest's residence will be built at first and that even this modest start is in anticipation of future needs rather than of present requirements. There are but a few Catholics in Elizabeth City and most of them are transients. It is largely to supply the religious needs of the city's floating Catholic population that a priest is maintained here.

Funds for the purchase of the West Main Street property are said to have come from donations made by wealthy Catholics in the North and funds for the proposed building are expected from the same source. It is also said that a number of Catholic families in other cities and other States would be interested in locating in Elizabeth City and participating in business and industry here when a house of worship is provided for them. Catholics take their religion seriously and are reluctant to locate in a town that does not provide them with an established church, the mass and the confessional.

The site acquired by the Catholic church is one that is used repeatedly by commercial evangelists who conduct tent meetings. Such an evangelistic outfit has occupied the site since the Catholic acquired it and Father Doherty says his church will not disturb them. "I suppose they are doing good in their own way," said the aged Father.

Why Al Smith Smiles

HERE is the famous Al Smith smile. Why does he smile? He probably smiles at the cussedness of human nature in America. We are forever raising hob because politicians are anything but forthright and honest. Governor Smith has been honest, fearless and efficient in his administration of public affairs. Nobody questions his ability, his fearlessness, his honesty, his wisdom or his worth. But because he happened to be born a Catholic and because he refuses to conceal the fact that he likes his liquor out of business hours, millions of folks who call themselves religious say they will not vote for him for president. They will vote for some sly fellow who has no religion at all, but who belongs to a Protestant church and takes his liquor like he takes his women—under cover.. No wonder the Governor smiles.

TUESDAY WEEK IS A BAD DAY FOR WILDFOWL

But There Will Be Only Three Hunting Days To Shoot Them During First Week

Next Tuesday week, November 1 will be a bad day for geese and ducks in Currituck and Dare Counties, for a three months open season begins on that day, and from hundreds of blinds and batteries and points of vantage along the shores, slaughter will be waged a plenty.

But luckily for the geese and ducks this year, the second day of the month is a lay day as well as the 5th. For no hunting is allowed on Wednesday or Saturday, the dates of these days and there will be only three remaining days in which to slaughter geese and ducks during the opening week of the sason.

There will be plenty for the ducks to eat this year, and geese are coming south in great numbers already. Wild geese made their appearance in many localities several days ago, the colder weather in the north driving them south in great numbers.

That Currituck is blessed this season with duck food in plenty and can well expect as good shooting as it has ever known is the opinion of Jasper B. White of Waterlily who is well known to American sportsmen. Mr. White says that "Currituck has had a long siege of south and west winds during the past few months, bringing fresh water from Roanoke and other rivers into the sounds. This has made the water fresh and sweet to an unusual degree, causing the wild duck foods to grow unhampered by the salt water that flows into Currituck Sound from Hampton Roads when the wind is north. The three best kinds of all duck foods are Wild Celery, Sago Pond Weed, and

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Our service is unexcelled in examining eye's and fitting glasses. DRS. J. D. HATHAWAY, Eye Sight Specialists. adv.

WANTS WOMEN TO SPONSOR DUKE HOSPITAL

Elizabeth City Hospital Owner Puts Hospital Problem Up To Woman's Club

Hospitals should not be private institutions conducted by private individuals for private profit; the public health is a matter of public concern and the Duke Endowment and centralized expert supervision of hospitalization is the better way, declared Dr. John Saliba in an address to the Sixteenth District Woman's Club at Currituck Tuesday.

Nearly five hundred club women of the Albemarle region gathered at Currituck Tuesday, perhaps the greatest gathering of representative women held in Currituck County. It was a business like gathering that listened to able speeches by the president, Mrs. Thos. O'Berry, of Goldsboro and others.

And then, not to let mere man feel altogether slighted, Dr. Saliba, owner of the Elizabeth City Hospital was asked to speak. He spoke eloquently of woman's present place in the political life of America, indicated many of the spheres of activity open to them and, among other things, stressed the need of a livelier woman interest in public health. He indicated that the ideal hospital would be one sponsored by woman's clubs, endowed by the city and counties which it served and operated

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