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 INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1934

Monthly Disaster

In the disaster of the Morro Castle, ocean liner which burned with 130 people going to their death, was a piece of big news that startled the nation and caused investigations to follow in short order to determine the cause and with the aim in view of preventing another such tragedy.

During the past month in North Carolina our highways have been the scenes of taking almost as many lives as were wiped up in the burning of the great ocean liner.

No glaring headlines call attention to the fact. There was not the element of news that was in the Morro Castle burning but the fact remains that wholesale slaughter took place. Except for an occasional coroner's inquest, no investigations were made. No great effort is put forth to curb the killings on the highways and nothing new is being tried to eliminate the deaths by automobiles.

Yet hardly a day passes without us being able to read of another life taken as the toll of reckless abandon and we do not realize that in a year's time a number of people equal to a small army of 1,000 die from highway accidents in North Carolina.

We sometimes think of sales levies as "painless extractions." Surely we have not become so brutally minded as to consider an average of three deaths each day on the highways "painless extraction" of part of our citizenship.

May a comparison of the horror of Morro Castle disaster and the toll of our highways and automobiles linger in our minds the next time we are tempted to take a chance on the highways. Often a motorist will gamble the remainder of his life for saving ten seconds when his time is not being used so profitably that a half hour would lose much. Is it worth the risk?

Stingy With Paroles

Regardless of one's personal or political attitude toward the present administration it must be said that Governor Ethinghaus and Parole Commissioner Edwin M. Gill do not hand out paroles as freely as some executives have in North Carolina.

And we truly believe that this practice of going easy in letting prisoners out among society is meeting with the approval of the liberty-loving and law-abiding people of the state.

Out of 52 applications for paroles the governor allowed five and it is presumed that the remainder will have to serve their sentences, or at least the greater part of their allotted time.

From the standpoint of one who has never been closely associated with the situation, we have reached the conclusion that the parole system as it has heretofore been carried on in North Carolina was not inductive to punishment for crime or as a deterrent. It became a popular expression by "the man on the street" that courts were useless anyway because if a man was convicted he would be back in a few months.

It is remembered that on one occasion the local post of the American Legion went on record against paroles on the grounds that convicted criminals were almost invariably treated mercifully by sympathetic juries and lenient judges. We cannot help but concur in this opinion.

Of course, there are some few exceptions which indeed are exceptions because they occur so rarely. Sometimes new circumstances and new evidences becomes known and a parole is excusable. Occasionally a moral and law abiding citizen that is not criminally inclined gets in prison because the laws call for certain penalties. In these rare cases paroles are to be desired.

What Counts In Education

The subject of this article is one to invoke deep thinking. Try answering the question: "What counts in education?"

To the question, if propounded to ten men, there would likely be ten answers. We believe one of the best answers is "the teachers and their ability to inspire the young people who go to school to learn."

Teaching should be a profession and their popular rank as next in importance to ministers of Christianity is not amiss. Just how far their ability goes toward inspiring their pupils will be the extent of their success.

The people of Brown County, Nebraska, are alive to that truth. Unable to send their children to a town high school, several miles away; unable to finance the construction of a modern high school building; they have built with their own hands a sod house of the ancient prairie type to make a place where teachers and students can meet, taxing themselves for the salaries of good teachers.

Even so did the ancient teachers and founders of some of the world's great universities meet the demand of eager youth for learning. The very word "academy" comes from the grove of Academe where Plato taught his disciples in the woods. Abelard, founder of the University of Paris, began in a rude hut, around which students pitched their tents.

There is plenty of hope for the world and education so long as it finds expression in spite of material difficulties. We can picture the survival and progress of religion without material wealth and we like to compare this with education in face of financial handicaps.

Although we favor the best in school facilities and material resources for the schools we like to point out that Gothic temples cannot outdistance the sod schoolhouses unless the students and teachers are inspired to learn and to teach.

The Red Cross is not a legend; it is a reality that takes mercy and medicine, relief and rehabilitation, to the ends of the earth.

Sunday School Lesson

By REV. CHARLES E. DUNN

Lesson for November 4th. Luke 2: 42-52. Golden Text: 2nd Peter 3:18.

The appealing story of the boy Jesus in the temple, asking and answering questions, and astounding his elders by his wisdom, reminds us of the teaching task of the Christian Church. Every parish should provide abundant opportunity for the presentation and discussion of vital issues involved in the Christian vocation.

Protestantism is woefully weak in its exercise of the teaching function. The successful propaganda of the Roman Church puts it to shame. A Protestant can attend his meeting-house for years, and never find out what Protestantism really is.

For this sad state of affairs the clergy are in part to blame. Vast numbers of them are not students. They spend far more on gasoline than on books. Many ministers do not aim to instruct their people at all. They aspire to be promoters, showmen, Chataqua managers.

But the people also are at fault. How much real reading, thinking and praying does the average person in the pew engage in? Not very much. His mind is pretty largely a blank. One is reminded of the complaint of Isaiah: "The ox knoweth his owner, and the ass his master's crib: but Israel doth not know, my people doth not consider."

What is the remedy? First of all we must glorify the teaching function of the ministry. Of course the minister is a prophet as well as a priest, a shepherd, a friend, an administrator. But the minister is also a teacher whose duty it is to systematically instruct the flock committed to his care.

Secondly we must put our energy into religious education rather than revivalism. It used to be said, "When is a school not a school? When is it a Sunday School." May God speed the day when such a taunt will be out of place.

A German has invented a haircutting machine. All he has to do is to attach a phonograph to make it perfect.—Florida Times-Union.

Insurance companies have doubled their rates on private jewels. Why not wrap them in cellophane, where no burglar can get at them?—Jackson (Miss.) Daily News.

There are only two ways for Californians to vote this fall, the issues having been completely sinclairified.—Los Angeles Times.

Peek urges data on foreign trade.—Headline. How about less of the data, and more of the trade?—Portland Morning Oregonian.

Why should we be broad-minded, when the vague runs to stream-lines?—Toledo Blade.

Payroll Tax Considered As Base of Job Insurance Act To Be Offered To Congress

Washington, Oct. 29.—A direct tax on industrial pay rolls lies at the heart of the new unemployment insurance plan now being worked out for presentation to the next Congress.

The amount of the tax the method of application and the channels through which it would be diverted to those who lose their jobs were said today to be still undetermined, but all of the plans being considered by the President's economic security committee were described as hinging upon a payroll tax. One of those familiar with the study said the payroll tax had been regarded as the most equitable manner of obtaining funds for the operation of an unemployment insurance system.

Within two weeks the plan will be put into shape by the committee for presentation to President Roosevelt and subsequent transmission to Congress. Senator Harrison, Democrat, Mississippi, after a talk with the President today, said the finance committee, of which he is chairman, would convene early in December to begin work on the bill.

FUNERAL HELD FOR J. ROY HENRY, 34

Tarboro, Oct. 22.—Funeral services for J. Roy Henry, well known young business man of this city, were held at 4 o'clock this afternoon from the Howard Memorial Presbyterian church with Rev. Chester Alexander, the pastor, in charge. Burial followed at Greenwood cemetery.

Mr. Henry was found by his wife dead in his bed Sunday morning. Death was attributed to a heart attack. He was 34 years old.

Mr. Henry was a prominent young business man of this city, being associated with his father, W. B. Henry, in the management and operation of the Red Gum Veneer company, one of the most active businesses of this city.

He took an active interest in local social and civic matters and had a large number of friends here and in nearby cities.

His death came as a surprise and shock to his family and many friends, although he had not been in good health recently. He went to bed Saturday afternoon and at an early morning hour was apparently getting along well. Mrs. Henry is reported to have said she awoke at 2 o'clock and heard her husband breathing. She went back to sleep and when she awoke and got up Sunday morning, she discovered that he was dead.

Surviving are his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Henry; his widow, the former Miss Martha Ratcliff, of Reidsville; a 17-months-old son, Williams, and two sisters, Mrs. Natalie Hogshead, or Apopka, Fla., and Miss Georgia Henry, of this city.

Mr. Henry was well known in this part of the state. Those from

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