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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1935

Dirigibles' Doom

The recent disaster to the U. S. S. Macon, largest airship in the world, has dealt a mighty blow toward abandoning lighter-than-air craft in the United States.

We can very well remember the ill fate of the Shenandoah, the Akron and lastly the Macon. It is generally agreed that faulty construction caused the wreck of the Macon a few weeks ago and put the lives of near 200 people in grave danger.

The American people have become somewhat disgusted with out navy's airships and think it is time to call a halt in building lighter-than-air craft to be wrecked.

Not being aviation experts and not having a first or second hand scientific knowledge of the facts concerning the matter we do not know whether we ought to have any more airships or not. But, we do not understand why Germany's Graf Zeppelin and the Los Angeles, constructed in Germany, can continue to give good service while the Akron and the Macon, representing what is supposed to be our best efforts, have been hopelessly wrecked. Perhaps the airships are not practical but why do the ships made in Germany stand the test while ours collapse?

The only helium gas deposits in the world are in the United States and other nations must use hydrogen, which is highly inflammable. This is pointed out as one reason why this nation should not abandon the practice of building dirigibles.

As we stated before we do not know so much about the subject but it seems that if this country is to build other dirigibles that some things need to be learned about such construction. It is a poor joke to spend millions on an airship and leave some item in such a condition that the entire ship will be wrecked and lives of a large crew placed in jeopardy.

"To Err Is Human"

Nothing could impress upon our minds the truth of the above heading more than a study of the decision rendered by the Supreme Court on the gold question when five of the nine justices voted one way and four the opposite.

The decision of the court is regarded as final and as nearly right as is humanly possible. The Supreme Court is made up of men selected for their knowledge and integrity to safeguard the interests of the nation and its people.

No better way of settling disputes has ever been propounded but it is interesting to note that this great and august body, shrouded in dignity and with a sense of puritanical justice under the law, was so closely divided that one more vote among the ten members could have changed matters so much.

When we have our small matters to consider it is no wonder that we sometimes disagree and that it is hard to ferret out the most nearly right conclusion. When nine of the nation's most learned men split five to four on a momentous question we know that we cannot be blamed too harshly for our small differences.

To err is human in every respect and our form of living prescribes that we must accept the will of the majority and lend a helping hand, although our views may differ. That is in substance the basic law on which everything operates. By this we do not mean that a member of a minority crowd should bow in humble submission to everything proposed by leaders. Sometimes time will prove that a majority was wrong and what was once the minority forges ahead. This nation of democracy has ever moved forward on the basis of the majority sentiment being the ruling power. It is the greatest cooperative effort in the history of the world.

War Clouds Again

Ever so often news comes out of Europe to the effect that war is on the horizon between some of the continental nations. If it were not for what we remember concerning the beginning of the World War it is quite possible that we would not consider the news so important.

In this modern age when the nations of the earth are so closely interwoven in myriads of ways, including business and economic interests, a conflict of apparently little significance may hurl the world into a holocaust of chaos and war. It is because of this reason that the news of war attracts such widespread attention, even though it may be between two small nations.

The latest war news comes out of Italy, to the effect that a conflict between Italy and Abyssinia is pending and apt to burst loose at almost any time. Abyssinia is a country in Africa, not civilized very highly by rich in natural resources, particularly oil and minerals. It has been suggested that Italy needs more room for a now crowded population and that Abyssinia, with its good climate and natural riches, looks enticing to Mussolini, Italy's dictator. This reason for the war is only suggested in comparison with Japan's ravages for territory into China.

Italy and Abyssinia are both members of the League of Nations, which, we have been in the past told about, is supposed to look after its members and settle disputes without arms. The League of Nations, regardless of what our personal opinion may be, has fallen far short of its purposes on a number of occasions until it does not have the influence an organization of such magnitude is supposed to wield in international matters.

Sunday School Lesson

By REV. CHARLES E. DUNN

PETER UNMASKS FALSEHOOD AND HYPOCRISY

Lesson for March 3rd. Acts 5:1-11. Golden Text: Ephesians 4:25.

St. John Ervine, the brilliant Irish dramatist, argues that an injustice has been done to Ananias and Sapphira. They are too hastily condemned, he thinks, as liars and embezzlers. After all, the experiment of the first disciples with communism was a failure. Apparently Ananias and his wife doubted its success, and so personally appropriated a part of the price received for the sale of their property as a reserve fund to help them meet their obligations in lean days ahead. Why should they not be praised for their farsighted prudence rather than condemned as contemptible hypocrites? Much can be said for this contention. We can agree that the attempt of the disciples to pool their resources in a common store was a noble experiment in Christian brotherhood. But we know what a dismal miscarriage it proved to be in the end. It was all very ideal, but the practical difficulties hastened its collapse. Human nature reflected too much of its seamy side. Ananias and his wife were doubtless sceptical even as Americans today are distrustful of the soviet regime.

Note further that the decision of Ananias to keep a part of the price was not at all a sin. Peter makes this clear in his reply. "Even after the sale, was the money not yours to do as you pleased about it?" (vs. 4) It was perfectly proper for the couple, after disposing of their property, to retain a portion of the proceeds for their own uses. They were not miserly for they might have refused to co-operate at all. This Utopian scheme, we must remember, was voluntary. Ananias was a righteous man who unselfishly sold what he had for the general good.

His great mistake was that he failed to candidly admit his reservation of funds for his own use. This was deceit, and it deserved Peter's rebuke, although the apostle was harsh in administering such a severe public scolding. Here his impetuosity again got the better of him.

Fashion journal asks what will the men wear next spring? Easy. The same clothes they wore last spring.—Florida Times-Union.

Railroads are planning a half-billion-dollar program. Who do they think they are, the government?—Charleston (W. Va.) Mail.

With Sweden's budget balanced and her workers 99 per cent employed, Uncle Sam might not object to being called a big Swede.—Louisville Times.

A scientist believes that the next war will be fought by wireless. Sometimes the static you hear on your radio makes you think it has started.—Duluth News-Tribune.

A burglar in London takes nothing but wedding presents. A very little discrimination could establish this fellow as a benefactor of mankind.—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

"Townsend insists That Utopia Is on the Way." That certainly is an improvement—before Mohammed had to go to the mountain.—Boston Evening Transcript.

THIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON

GOLD DECISION CLEARS FIELD FOR ACTION

Washington, Feb. 25. (Auto-caster)—While Congress had a clear right to devalue the dollar in terms of gold, it had no right to revoke the promise of the Government to pay holders of "gold clause" bonds in gold or its equivalent. That is a summary of the unanimous opinion of the Supreme Court of the United States in the so-called "gold clause" suits.

But the majority opinion, from which Justices McReynolds, Van Devanter, Sutherland and Butler dissented, held that the claimants who had sued for payment of gold bonds, interest coupons on gold certificates at the old gold value had suffered no damages because of the depreciation of the dollar, and therefore could not recover.

This decision has given the Administration a clear field in which to operate in monetary matters, at least for the time being. If later on through inflation of the currency or some other means, the value of the paper dollar should sink far below that of the gold dollar, a claimant holding gold-clause bonds might be able to prove damages, but he could only recover damages against the Government by suing in the Court of Claims, and nobody can sue the Government without the Government's permission.

Atmosphere Clears

In effect, therefore, the decision was a practical victory for the Administration, though it was coupled with a rebuke to Congress. It clears the way for the operation of the "managed currency" without fear of any further advise Supreme Court action. More important, from the Administration's point of view, it removes from the business world the fear that the devaluation of the dollar might be revoked, although that never was actually an issue before the Court.

By assuring reasonable stability of the currency for the present, at least, the decision removes much of the ground for timidity on the part of private capital, and there is considerable jubilation over the prospects of a great deal of American money coming back from its refuges abroad, and out of its hiding places in this country, to take part in the rebuilding of our industrial, financial and business structure.

That is the situation as seen through Administration eyes, and at the moment the voices of everybody who thinks differently are drowned in the chorus of congratulations.

Work Relief and Pensions

Congress is still struggling over the \$4,880,000,000 "work relief" bill. It will pass, eventually, in pretty much the form the President wants it. He will not be bound to particular projects by any act of Congress, nor to the payment of the "prevailing rate" or any other rate of wages.

The fears of business men that there will be interference with private business by the spending of this huge sum of money for public works are expected to be allayed by the drafting of Gen. Robert E. Wood, president of Sears, Roebuck & Co., Chicago mail-order house, as advisor to the Administrator, whoever that may be. The outlook now is that it will be Harry Hopkins, not Secretary Ickes, who will manage the spending of the money, but Dan Roper's advisory council of business men may also function in an advisory capacity.

The work of redrafting the Old Age Pension and Unemployment Compensation bill is progressing.

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Each tablet brings you all the vitamins in one teaspoonful of U.S.P.X. (revised 1934) Cod Liver Oil. In addition it provides the needed minerals, calcium and phosphorus. Take six tablets daily and get the jump on colds this year. At all good drug stores. One dollar per bottle of 100 tablets. Begin fighting colds the vitamin way today with McKESSON'S VITAMIN CONCENTRATE TABLETS.

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ing a tough task for the committees of Congress who have this in hand. The indications are that the bill, as it finally gets to the floor of the House of Representatives and the Senate, will put a considerably higher tax on employers' payrolls than in the original draft, and that the minimum old-age pension will be lifted somewhat above the \$30 originally provided for. A tariff flight is going on to bring this old age pension allotment up to somewhere near what the Townsend Plan people advocate. Swinging "Right"

There are many indications that the Administration's swing to the "right" is not merely a gesture. There seems to be a genuine effort being made to get business and industry to go along toward recovery, by persuasion instead of by force. To this end, reform schemes are being shelved, labor agitators are getting a colder shoulder in Administration circles than they have encountered in a couple of years, and the muzzle has been clamped on numerous of the earnest young radicals who have been clamoring that the Capitalist system has failed and must be discarded.

There is more radical talk in Congress than in the Executive departments right now, and not all of it by Huey Long, either. In addition to the Administration's attacks on holding companies—which may be dismissed as talk for political effect—there are more or less open threats to make "bigness" in business institutions a crime in itself. That, too, is more or less "talking buncombe," and much of it is intended to offset the genuine and growing fear of a third-party radical movement in 1936. If the party in power can talk wildly enough it may keep a lot of voters from going over to the promises of the impossible to the gullible.

Insist He's Human

Budapest, Hungary, Feb. 22.—The Prince of Wales got chummy with a cloakroom attendant when leaving a cabaret at 3 a. m. today. "Quit calling me 'Your Royal Highness,'" the Prince said. "I'm just a mortal like you."

The great rush of water over Niagara Falls is calculated to produce 16,000,000 horsepower.

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we want you to notify us immediately as we are in position to give you a quick wrecker service.

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YADKIN COUNTY NEGRO DIES FROM EXPOSURE

Elkin, Feb. 25.—Bob Parks, one of the oldest men among the negro population of Jonesville, and an octogenarian, who was committed to the county home in Yadkin just a month ago after he had lost his mental faculties, died from hunger and exposure a few days ago after leaving the home.

The negro had been kept in a locked room until he asked for warmer quarters last week. He forced the bars from his window on a bleak rainy evening, wandering aimlessly around until he was overtaken by the keeper of the institution.

Watauga Soon To Employ Farm Agent

(Watauga Democrat)
After long months of discussion and agitation on the part of

local citizens, Watauga county is going to have a farm demonstration agent. This action was assured by the County Commissioners in special meeting last Friday, after it had been conclusively shown to the governing body that the overwhelming number of the county's farmers favored the proposal.

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Need Not Suffer monthly pain and delay due to colds, nervous strain, exposure or similar causes. Chichester's Diamond Brand Pills are effective, reliable and give Quick Relief. Sold by all druggists for over 45 years. Ask for

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Just think, a beautiful KITCHEN QUEEN Cabinet and a 5-piece Cabinet set for such a low price . . . and be sure to read about the special introductory offer to the left.

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