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INDEPENDENT IN POLITICAL

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THURSDAY, MAY 16, 1935

If meat goes much higher it'll have to be delivered in an armored truck.—Ohio State Journal.

The way the Versailles treaty is disappearing, you'd think it was written on ice.—Boston Transcript.

It seems to be Senator Borah's idea that he can so organize the Republican party that it will not be necessary for him to desert it.—St. Joseph News-Press.

On Sharing Wealth

Smart politicians who amass a large following among simple minded people pop up every few years with some scheme to share the wealth of the country equally among all the inhabitants and to eliminate what they call "big business" in favor of the little man.

But let us look into the matter and try to ferret out an accurate picture of what kind of economic chaos would result if the wealth were shared.

Let us consider the use of a billion dollar concern, and there are some in this country worth well over that figure. Let us suppose that these great companies were divided up and that we each received a considerable sum of ownership in each one. The entire system would collapse; there would be no great head to the company who would have a big share of stock and who would share greatly in the earnings. There would not be the desire to expand and to serve for profit. As a result our proportionate share of the companies would soon be worth less than nothing when industry plunged into lethargy.

Should all the currency in this country be evenly divided today it would be only a question of so many days until wealth would flow back to those who have initiative and ability to carry on and prosper.

Americanism Defined

During the past five years we have heard much talk about Americanism, rugged individualism and liberty. All of which leads us to start a discussion on the subject of "Americanism."

In order to get a foundation for our subject we must consider the foundation of America and why the country was settled.

At the time settlers sought America as a new country European nations were in a turmoil of political and church animosity. The first explorers set out to find gold and these excursions met with disappointment. They returned to their native countries to tell of limitless lands that were almost unhabitated.

Hence the more daring people of Europe set out to America for the purpose of colonization in a land where they might set up their own government according to their own religious, political and economic beliefs. Naturally it can be supposed that only the courageous, brave and fearless people migrated to a land inhabited only by savages and wild beasts.

As a result of the migration America was colonized and out of the colonies sprang a nation that has progressed more in 200 years than the remainder of the world did in 5,000.

And when we think of Americanism we think of a country where freedom is the watchword and where people are free to govern their own lives in a democratic manner. There has never been a more resourceful people than Americans because this country had its start from many classes of people who were characterized by individual initiative. Regardless of how far industry and commerce may be regulated it will still be the initiative on the part of each of the 120 million people that will write the destiny of the country. And the significant part is that each American still writes his own.

The Price of Progress

The price of human progress is human lives. There is no escaping that conclusion. Every step forward in mankind's efforts to conquer his environment has been at the cost of countless toll of life. But are we, then, to cease all effort to go forward because in the attempt men have died and many of those who follow in their footsteps will also die?

Our thought turns in that direction because of the two accidents in which folk prominent in the public eye were killed last week. The automobile crash in which "Junior" Durkin, one of the best-beloved of the younger screen stars, was killed along with "Jackie" Coogan's father, while Jackie himself had a narrow escape from death. Also the airplane crash in which Senator Bronson Cutting, of New Mexico, lost his life. These accidents will doubtless start timid souls to demanding absurd restrictions upon motoring and flying.

Just so, in the early days of steam navigation and of railroading, sentimental movements were launched against those "newfangled" methods of transportation. In the first issue of the New York Herald, published 100 years ago, on May 6, 1835, the explosion of a boiler in a Hudson river steamboat, killing and injuring many passengers, was front page news. In a hundred years the safeguards placed about travel by ship and railroad have reduced the risk to a minimum, in spite of occasional tragic wrecks on land and sea.

So, in time, will safeguards be devised to make motor travel and air travel just as safe. That is all that can ever be expected; absolute safety, either in travel or sitting still at home, has never been achieved by humanity.

The great majority of human beings recognize the hazards of life as risks to be accepted, discounted as far as possible but not to be avoided from senseless fear of possible danger. We do not think that the price we have paid for progress has been too high. Modern life is, at least, free from most of the hazards and terrors which surrounded primitive man on every hand. We think most folk would prefer to trust their lives to the inventions today than to live under the shadow of death by the claws of the cave-bear or the fangs of the saber-toothed tiger, as mankind lived in what was only yesterday, as time is measured by the great chronograph of God.

Sunday School Lesson

By REV. CHARLES E. DUNN

BAPTISM

Lesson For May 19th. Acts 8:26-39. Golden Text, Matt. 28:19

The first point to bear in mind about baptism is that it is a sacrament, a word derived from the Latin "sacramentum," meaning "oath." Baptism is therefore an oath or pledge of allegiance. When an adult is baptized he thereby registers his personal dedication to Christ and the Christian church. When an infant is presented for baptism his parents record this dedication for him, with the full expectation that the child himself will ratify it when he reaches the age of discretion.

Secondly, baptism signifies entrance into the church. It is the rite of initiation into the Beloved Community. When an adult receives baptism he at once, by this symbolic act, enrolls himself as a full member of the Christian society. When a little child is christened through the placing of water on its head, it is immediately taken under the care of the church.

Now there are many who feel that little ones should not be baptized, but only those old enough to understand the meaning of the sacrament. The various Baptist churches hold this view.

There is something to be said for this position. On the other hand it is plain that we do not act this way with respect to either the family or the nation. We do not wait until the child is grown up before acknowledging him as a full member of the family. Nor do we wait until manhood before he is recognized as a citizen. Even though the child is neither a bread-winner nor a voter, yet he is, by right of birth, a precious, integral part of both the family and the nation.

Even so, every baby enjoys, as a spiritual birthright, the privileges of membership in God's family. Infant baptism is the recognition that the child, as well as the parent, is heir to the covenantal mercies of God dispensed through His church.

It's been almost a couple of weeks now since Jim Farley has invented a new stamp.—Grand Rapids Press.

A new treaty in Europe is like a new toy for the children, and lasts about as long.—Nashville Tennessean.

If you don't believe there is human gratitude, listen to the way a radio-studio audience applauds a poor performance because it's free.—Toledo Blade.

The Democrats are foxy. If their schemes don't work, Republicans will come back and have the mess to clean up.—Richmond News-Leader.

THIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON

OUT IN THE OPEN

Washington, May 15. (Auto-caster)—The great game of politics, which is always going on behind the scenes in Washington, is being played more and more in the open now, as the lines begin to form for the election battle of 1936. There is a great deal more frankness on the part of the players, more open admission that they are concerned with their own reelection as much as they are with solving the perplexing problems of the nation in the most effective way.

This is especially notable in the Senate, one-third of whose members come up for re-election next year, and another third in 1938. It is not yet so marked among members of the House of Representatives, all of whose terms expire next year; but in the lower house, also, many members who have been counted as loyal supporters of the Administration are beginning to echo the remark of one eminent Senator, who expressed a growing feeling when he said: "Roosevelt is going to need us next year quite as much as we need him. We don't have to cling so tight to his coat-tails as in the past."

Every Fellow For Himself
The reason for this state of affairs is that Senators and Representatives are hearing from back home, and the message they get is that there is a growing coolness among the people toward some of the New Deal measures. How extensive and how serious this is, none of them is quite sure. There are a good many Congress districts and several states in which a switch of only a few thousand votes from one side to the other would make a decided difference in the political complexion of the next Congress.

There is not much doubt in Washington, so far, that President Roosevelt will be re-elected. All the odds are in his favor. But it would be entirely possible for the President to be re-elected by the power of the electoral votes of the larger states, even though he carried each of them by a narrow margin, and still leave a large batch of Congressmen and Senators of his own party out on a limb.

That is what is worrying the boys on Capitol Hill. They want to save their own skins, and so they are showing their independence by balking at such parts of the President's program as they think might not set well with the folks back home. It is not quite fair to regard this as a cowardly and selfish attitude. Some of the orders from the White House, they have never relished taking having independent ideas of their own and feeling that it is their function, rather than that of the Executive, to draft and enact legislation. They went along with the President, not only for the sake of party harmony but because there didn't seem to be any other way to get started toward the goal of economic recovery. As long as there was a practically unanimous sentiment throughout the nation, that was the sound and politic thing for them to do. Now, however, they feel that public sentiment is not so one-sided.

The Chamber's Objections
The attitude of some members of the President's own party in opposition to some parts of his program was strengthened by the representations made by the delegates to the annual convention of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States.

This organization is composed of practically all of the chambers of commerce and boards of trade in the United States. It is, therefore, a representative cross-section of the average business men of the nation. Therefore, when its convention adopted resolutions asking for the postponement of the Social Security plan, the ending of NRA, opposing the President's plan for regulation of public utilities and suppression of holding companies, against the plan for Federal control of bank credit, the proposed strengthening of AAA and the Wagner industrial relations bill, the Chamber's utterances were taken seriously.

Administration supporters publicly tried to "laugh them off." The President himself expressed disbelief that business men generally felt the way the convention did; but there is no denying that this first important organized expression of disagreement with the New Deal has had a serious effect, although naturally it does not represent unanimity on the part of business interests.

Another Meeting

Almost at the same time that the Chamber of Commerce was meeting, there was another meeting of even greater significance being held in the White House. This was between the President and a group of Democratic Senators, who served notice on the Executive that they would not go along with him on all of the legislation which he has earmarked as "must." Those who

profess to know what took place at this meeting report that the attitude of these recalcitrant Senators was very definite.

Therefore, because of all that has just been set down, what may fairly be expected between now and the adjournment of Congress is a few compromise measures, which will not suit anybody, much, and the shelving of several items which the Administration earnestly wants.

Congress is definitely much less interested in social reforms than is the White House. It is definitely much more inflation-minded than the President. Mr. Roosevelt is bent upon checking the movement toward currency inflation, but to avert it he will have to accept the verdict of Congress on some of his reform plans.

It's anybody's guess, this week, when Congress will adjourn.

Standard Oil Company To Furnish Road Maps

A monthly publication for motor tourists, highway maps and a special service which will give motorists a variety of touring information, are the outstanding features of this year's campaign to aid motor tourists, the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey announced yesterday. More than four and one half million road maps will be distributed this year and millions of copies of Esso Tours and Detours will be given away to motorists, company officials said.

The initial issue of Esso Tours and Detours will appear in May and will show motorists attractive trips they can make and will point out detours and provide pertinent information regarding roads, highway construction and points of scenic and historical interest.

The Esso Touring Service, with offices in New York, Washington and New Orleans, will answer touring requests, provide motor routes and answer a variety of inquiries on various phases of motor touring. Last year these bureaus answered upwards of 120,000 inquiries.

This year the Esso Touring Service will provide postage prepaid touring request cards, obtainable at all Esso stations and dealers, which the motorist has only to fill out and mail to receive complete touring information gratis.

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WEBB CRITICIZES LEGALIZED LIQUOR

Asheville, May 13.—Federal District Judge E. Yates Webb, co-author of the Eighteenth Amendment to the federal Constitution cannot see legalized control as the best plan for stamping out bootleggers, he told a grand jury here today.

Yates, in his opening charge before the May term of district criminal court, urged stricter enforcement of both federal and state laws against illicit liquor traffic.

"I am opposed to our state selling liquor, just because a bootlegger sells it," he said. "I am not willing for my state to enter into competition with bootleggers."

Quito is the capital of Ecuador, is situated on a very high plateau and is surrounded by volcanoes.

RUSSIA ENTERS 18TH YEAR OF SOVIET RULE

Moscow, Russia, May 2.—Russia in her 18th year of Soviet rule and socialist domination is still a problematical paradox to the world. Eminent sociologists and ethnologists proclaim the fact that the Utopian epic still an infinite dream and chaos reigns supreme as the counter czar of all Russians.

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We have received a fine response from the cards recently mailed subscribers whose subscriptions had expired, but some yet remain past due.

The postal regulations require all newspaper subscriptions to be paid in advance, and this is the reason why we are now making an effort to get our mailing list in condition to meet this government requirement.

To those who have overlooked sending in their renewal, may we add this earnest request for you to do so at once. We sincerely wish you to continue to be a regular reader of our semi-weekly newspaper, the subscription price of which is the lowest of any semi-weekly newspaper in the state, we believe.

Right now while you are reading this issue, won't you look at the label which carries the date your subscription expired, then sit down and send us a check or a dollar bill.

We will greatly appreciate your renewal at this time, which will enable you to continue to receive our newspaper twice a week.

Yours very truly,

The Journal-Patriot

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