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THURSDAY, JULY 18, 1935

Mussolini's attitude toward Africa is that of a boy just before the pie-eating contest begins.—Louisville Times.

A loud-speaker system has been installed for test in the house of representatives. You may choose your own metaphor.—Buffalo Courier-Express.

Courageous Officer

Melvin Purvis, ace of J. Edgar Hoover's "G-Men" in the department of justice, has resigned from his job.

Possibly no other man hunter has received wider publicity than the courageous, mild-mannered, modest Purvis, whose work in bringing to earth John Dillinger, "Baby Face" Nelson and others has won for him universal acclaim.

Although a great officer as fearless as has ever hit the trial of a desperado, the modesty of Purvis has always been striking. On one occasion he had been holding an arch criminal for a week when the news of the arrest would have made him a national hero. He actually shunned publicity but the facts would leak out and America learned what kind of stuff he was made of.

Purvis is probably "public hero number 1" because he caused the demise of two who were classed as "public enemy number 1." Probably it is just as well that he is leaving the service. So much publicity, which he tried diligently to avoid, is not good for the career of a courageous officer because it makes him the target for machine gun bullets. Every master criminal with a twisted mind wants to get him lined up with the sights and gain more notoriety by "bumping off" the famous officer.

Purvis, the wiry southerner seemed to know nothing of fear, is not the only courageous officer among the "G-Men" and no main is so good but that another can take his place. Hoover's force will continue the fight against gangdom until the mention of "G-Men" will cause any ambitious public enemy to tremble in his tracks.

The War Clouds Gather

The war clouds are gathering thickly over Europe, Asia and Africa. All of the efforts in behalf of peace on the part of nations who have already got a satisfactory slice of Mother Earth seem to have no effect upon the nations which are bent upon grabbing off more territory for themselves.

Japan continues its incursions into Chinese territory. Germany is speeding up its rearmament plans. Italy seems determined to make its invasion of Africa as vigorous as any of the campaigns of the old Roman Empire.

England has signally failed as a peace-maker. Mussolini has spurned the British advances, and practically defied the English to do anything about his attempt to seize Abyssinia. By her efforts to bring about a peaceful understanding with Germany, Great Britain seems to have reopened the scars of the ancient enmity of France. Russia's protests against Japan's activities on the continent of Asia go unheeded.

All the instrumentalities set up to insure world peace seem to have failed. The League of Nations seems to be letting Ethiopia, one of its members, go to its doom without more than a feeble protest. The famous Kellogg Pact, America's scheme for insuring world peace, turns out to be just another scrap of paper. When the Emperor of Abyssinia applied to our Government to take some action under that Pact, the only reply he got was a pious hope that the League of Nations might do something about it.

We hope that if a world-wide conflagration, which seems to be impending, gets under way, we may be more successful in saving our country out of it. In it or not, we are bound to feel the effects of any im-

Less Drinking Evident

Despite an increase in population of 26 millions, there was far less drinking in the United States last year than in 1917, the last year before prohibition, according to figures compiled by the revenue department at Washington.

In the fiscal year ending June 30, 1917 people of this nation consumed 85,248,000 gallons of whisky. In the fiscal year just ended a population more than one-fifth larger drank a third less whisky—around 55,000,000.

Revenue statistics, from which those figures are taken, tell a similar story in regard to beer and wine. We drank, the 26 million more of us, 322 million fewer gallons of beer, as compared with 18 years ago, and 15 million fewer gallons of wine.

We have no comment to make at this time on the moral aspects of the repeal of the Prohibition amendment and the law enacted under it, but we do think it pertinent to point out the disproof of the oft heard assertion that the habit of drinking intoxicating liquors was greatly increased under Prohibition. If that were true, then certainly the volume of alcoholic drinks consumed now, by a much larger population, would not show a decline, but an increase.

There probably is a considerable volume of bootleg liquor still being peddled. That would not show, of course, in the Government's revenue tax figures. But it is hardly likely that such illicit traffic can be large enough to account for the wide gap between the figures of 1917 and those of the first full fiscal year since Repeal, the year just ended.

The plain fact seems to us to be that the American people are doing less drinking than they used to do. Moreover, we believe that the use of alcohol will continue to decline, as the younger generation begins to discover for itself that booze and motoring, liquor and athletics, don't mix.

Regardless of one's opinion as to whether or not liquor should be legalized, there are none who can hold up its use as any shining example to young people. Youth of today, giving them credit for the intelligence they should have in this age of advanced civilization, should see no good in drinking liquor. On the other hand they can observe the number of careers that have been ruined by the use of intoxicants.

Liquor takes its toll in careers of all kinds but it is quite possible that more striking examples are to be found among those who depend on physical prowess for a profession and as a means of earning a living. In professional baseball drinking has no part, except to drag down to ruin and oblivion those who otherwise might make great players.

The same holds true in political careers. Many who might otherwise have become great statesmen have wound up in despondency and despair. Education of the people to the evil effects of liquor has had much to do with the decrease in drinking and still stands out as a logical solution to a harassing puzzle.

Sunday School Lesson

By REV. CHARLES E. DUNN

DAVID

Lesson for July 21st. 1 Samuel 26:5-12. Golden Text: Phil. 2:4.

We are impressed by the extraordinary versatility of David. "In his own person," writes Wm. Lyon Phelps, "he represents the athlete, the shepherd, the poet, the musician, the mystic, the man-of-war, the father, the friend, and the statesman."

David is perhaps best known as the resourceful, courageous athlete who dramatically defeated Goliath, the heavyweight champion of the Philistines. This famous tale vindicates the value of long training. The young lad had become so skillful with the sling, through incessant practice, that he was able to fell the giant with but a single shot. The story also illustrates the peril of pride. The bully Goliath was a magnificent embodiment of this distressing vice. We also observe here the truth that great results follow from small forces. David's five stones represent the insignificant but vital weapons placed by God in faithful hands to slay the giants of evil. But the finest lesson of this historic combat is the priceless value of self-reliance. "Trust thyself," wrote Emerson, "every heart vibrates to that iron string."

The friendship of David for Jonathan, the crown prince, his rival for the throne, is exceedingly beautiful. Both men exhibited a fidelity, a loyalty, a devotion beyond all praise.

It is pleasant to recall David's gracious kindness to Mephibosheth, Jonathan's son, who had been crippled for life by the carelessness of his nurse. When called before the king the lame young man appeared with fear. But his anxiety was soon dissipated when he learned that he would receive back his property, and that David would care for him for life by making him a perpetual guest at the royal table. Here we see the humanity of David at its best.



Flaming romance and haunting melodies blend with pulse-stirring tangos in the new Fox Film production, "Under the Pampas Moon", in which WARNER BAXTER and KETTI GALLIAN play the principal parts of a romantic gaucho and a beautiful Periniense.

THIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON

Washington, July 15. (Auto-caster)—How far will the House of Representatives go in its revolt against the President? That is, by all odds, the most widely-discussed question in Washington these days. The lower House of Congress, having overwhelmingly voted down one of the President's "must" orders, the "death-sentence" clause in the Utilities Holding Company bill, is feeling its oats. It may take the bit in the teeth and run wild.

The boys have been taking orders without open protest, though with a good deal of grumbling, for the sake, mainly, of party harmony and their own chances of re-election. Now they are beginning to wonder whether it is good politics to keep on as they have been going. A lot of them, particularly from the South, are getting word from back home that the folks are getting tired of having new projects sprung on them, and wish Washington would slow down for a while.

There was pretty general resentment in Congress of the President's effort to have his new "share the wealth" tax program rushed through on five days' notice, and that resentment was not materially cooled by his concession that they might take all Summer to consider it. Congress may or may not work out a new tax bill that will meet the President's views. Talk of adjourning and letting committees study the tax matter, for report and action at the next session, is heard on many sides. What is more likely is that the boys will stay here until Fall and maybe try to put over some things which the President does not want.

It is more than likely that, instead of a bill to tax only huge incomes, enormous estates and wealthy corporations, such as President Roosevelt asked for, Congress may give him a general revision of income and inheritance tax laws, running all the way down the scale. Also, a few greenback, silver and bonus bills for good measure.

Lobby Investigation

Another thing that has got the boys on Capitol Hill all stirred up is the open charge that the Administration sought to buy votes for the "death-sentence" measure, by promise of patronage and threats of withholding work-relief funds. Representative Ralph Brewster (R.) of Maine made the flat statement that one of the "brain-trusters" who drew up the Holding Company bill, Thomas G. Corcoran of the R. F. C. staff, had warned him that if he voted "wrong" the funds for the Passamaquoddy power project would be held up. The result is a Congressional investigation of lobbying by both outsiders and insiders.

The President's latest bombshell is his letter to Representative Sam B. Hill, of Washington, urging Congress to disregard the Constitution in considering the Fuffey Bituminous Coal Miners' Regulation bill. Mr. Hill is chairman of the sub-committee having the bill in charge. Mr. Roosevelt wrote:

"I hope your committee will not permit doubts as to constitutionality, however reasonable, to block the suggested legislation."

The President explained in his letter that the only way to find out whether coal-mining was subject to Federal regulation

bring the question to the Supreme Court. "A decision by the Supreme Court relative to this measure would be helpful," he said, "as indicating, with increasing clarity, the constitutional limits within which this government must operate."

The Constitution Issue

Now the boys are asking each other whether that would be good politics—for them individually and for the Democratic Party. The Opposition would like nothing better than to fight on the battleground of the Constitution. Indeed, it becomes more nearly a certainty, from week to week, that the question of Constitutional amendment to permit the Federal Government to do a lot of things this Administration has been trying to do, but which the Constitution, as interpreted by the Supreme Court, says it has no power to do, will be a major issue between the two parties next year.

Some of the President's closest friends are wishing that his wise old political strategist, Col. Louis McHenry Howe, were not disabled. Nobody else has the complete confidence of Mr. Roosevelt; from nobody else does he recognize political advice as uncolored by personal ambition.

More than 500 acres of snap beans and tomatoes have been planted in Haywood county this season and both crops are in excellent condition.

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Woman Slain As Escort Refuses Nickel to Negro

New York, July 15.—For a nickel, Leonora Rivera, 23, was killed today.

With Albert Martinez, 35, she was sitting on a bench in Morningside park, resting in the early morning coolness after dancing. "Can you spare a nickel, buddy?"

An overalled negro shuffled up to Martinez with the request. The answer was "no."

Whipping out a long knife, the panhandler threw Martinez

to the sidewalk and slashed him about the head, tearing \$5 from his victim's pocket. Martinez, cut and his skull fractured, staggered to his feet.

A moment later, a passerby on Morningside drive heard a woman screaming:

"Don't kill me. For God's sake don't kill me."

Police, called to the scene, picked Martinez from the ground near 118th street and the park, seriously wounded. Miss Rivera was found—dead—at 116th street, stabbed under the heart.

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