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INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

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THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 1937

A Baseball Team

North Wilkesboro, being one of the most progressive small cities in the state, should have a baseball club in keeping with the interest of the people of Wilkes county in the national pastime.

This city is a perfect location for a good baseball club and there may yet be possibilities of entering some semi-professional league.

There are but few people who do not know the game and this accounts for its wide popularity. People reared in the rural parts of the country started playing the game in clearings, creek bottoms, roadways and other places when they were six years old or less. Usually a thread ball without a leather cover was used by the children. In towns and cities the less frequented streets are the scene of children's play with about the same equipment.

These are the places where the great men of the great game have their beginning. It is there they learned to swat the ball with mighty force and learn to throw it with revolving motion which makes it curve. It is also there where the young should learn to win and what is more important, how to take a defeat. It is there the child should learn that not everything goes his way all the time and while he may win today he may lose tomorrow to the same opponent. It is there the best of them learn that the best way to play a game is on the up-and-up and that a victory gained anyway except on the level is an ultimate defeat.

In Wilkes county are many youths who have just as much power as a Ferrell, who went from Guilford county to the heights in organized baseball. There are those who can be molded into pitchers like Alvin Crowder, of Winston-Salem, who won the world championship in 1935 for the Detroit Tigers. There are those who can do as well as Monte Weaver, the Ashe county man who will be back in the limelight this year with the Washington Senators.

We need a good baseball team here to entertain the local followers of the sport and to put the city on the baseball map. Those interested in the game should leave no stone unturned in forming a good baseball organization. North Carolina has furnished many great stars to the greatest game of the land. The people of this section have the physical prowess to play the game superbly and can furnish the canny mind that goes with physical powers in making up a well-balanced player.

Baseball, however, is an expensive game and one that is not self-liquidating or profitable unless given wholehearted backing by the fans. If we have a team this year—and a good team is a necessity—baseball fans should attend the games and support the team in a material way and for the encouragement their presence signifies.

Revolutions Are Not Bloodless

A phrase which is often heard but which does not mean anything is "bloodless revolution." There is no instance in history of a revolutionary change in a nation's system of government without bloodshed. Nations have changed their systems by popular mandate, but such changes are not revolutions. The word "revolution" implies a revolt against the existing government. When the people change it by a majority vote, that can hardly be called a revolt.

Revolutions do not succeed unless the revolutionists have control of the armed forces of the nation. The Bolshevik revolution in Russia succeeded because it began in the army, with the organization of the Soldiers and Workers Union. The Fascist movement in Italy would have been no more than an ineffective rebel-

lion had not the army been behind Mussolini. So, too, Hitler could never have won and held power in Germany without the army behind him. The present Civil War in Spain began with a revolt of a large part of the Spanish army.

There is no way that a minority can impose its will upon a majority without killing people. Armed force and terrorism are the means whereby usurpers and dictators seize and hold power. Once the killing begins, it has to be kept up whenever opposition shows its head. Only by making an example of those who try to go contrary to the will of the dictator can the people be kept in proper subjection. Stalin, the Russian dictator, is now engaged in a "purge," killing off active and suspected enemies of the Communist regime, as a warning to the rest of the Russian people that they had better walk the chalk-line and obey orders.

Any talk of revolution in this country is absurd. Alarmists and irresponsible persons who enjoy scaring folks have indulged in a lot of loose talk about revolution, based upon nothing but sharp differences of opinion on public questions. That sort of talk, if long continued, might possibly lead to bloodshed, but we are not in danger of a revolution until the revolutionists are able to back up their threats with superior force, which seems a very remote possibility.

Good Intentions

The world is full of people whose intentions are good but whose acts do not have the benevolent results which those who perform them intend. Indeed, it is probable that more harm is done by well-intentioned people who think they are doing the right thing, than is ever done by others with deliberate intent to do harm. It is no excuse that a person's intentions are good, when the consequences of his actions are evil.

As Dr. Samuel Johnson said, 150 years ago, "Hell is paved with good intentions." He was paraphrasing the words of George Herbert, the great English preacher and poet of the 17th Century. Thoughtful men of all time have recognized the danger of giving men whose major equipment is good intent, power over the affairs and lives of others.

That is particularly true in government. Example of the effects of good intentions are to be found in the troubles which beset the whole world today. In the effort to restore order and to improve the conditions of their people, well-intentioned men have taken control of the affairs of nations, with the result that instead of making things better they have become worse. So much worse, indeed, that the whole world seems on the verge of another frightful war.

Mussolini, Hitler and Stalin beyond doubt were full of good intentions when they set up their respective experiments in government. The result has been to deprive their people of their inborn human rights and liberties and reduce them to complete servility.

Wise men in all ages have learned to be wary of the man who prates too much about his good intentions. He is always a good man to keep a watchful eye on.

Sunday School Lesson

By REV. CHARLES E. DUNN

LIFE HERE AND HEREAFTER

Lesson for March 7th, John 14:1-15.

Golden Text: John 14:6.

The Christian hope is more than a mere assurance of continuing life. It includes the conviction that the believer preserves his personal identity under very changed conditions. The Master, after death in his resurrection appearances, was the same Christ even though Mary and the disciples did not know him at first. But soon they did recognize him. And how happy was the reunion! In like manner you and I will retain our personal selves, though much changed, and will know one another in larger life to come. "Christians," says Father Clement, in Reade's great novel, "The Cloister and the Hearth," "do not part forever. They part as part the earth and sun, to meet more brightly in a little while."

Lovers meet again in what the Scotch beautifully call "The Land of the Leal." This is a truth gloriously portrayed by Dante in his Divine Comedy, where we read of his meeting with his beloved Beatrice in Paradise. Mrs. Browning in one of her greatest sonnets, anticipates a blessed reunion with her beloved husband. "I love thee" she cries, "and, if God choose, I shall but love thee better after death."

And friends meet again in the glory of the new life. Tennyson's long poem, "In Memoriam," written in memory of the poet's dear friend, Arthur Hallam, is a profoundly moving study of the reunion of true souls.

Parents too, will see their children in heaven. Dr. Benson, Archbishop of Canterbury over 40 years ago, wrote to his wife a year after the death of Martin, their eldest son. "How strange and how beautiful it will be to see him again." And children will see their parents. The thought of a reunion with his dear father and mother was very precious to Carlyle.

And so we can gratefully repeat, with a full heart, the opening words of our glorious lesson text, "Let not your heart be troubled."

This Week In Washington

Washington, March 2.—The Senate Foreign Relations Committee has drafted a permanent Neutrality bill, which is quit likely to be adopted without material change. The objective is, of course, to keep the United States out of the European War which seems to be imminent.

The major provisions of the bill are a mandatory embargo on arms and on lending Government money to powers at war, with broad power granted to the President to forbid Americans to travel on vessels of belligerents or to ship any goods other than arms, upon which he may declare an embargo, on any American vessel.

Also, in time of peace the President could declare certain commodities "implements of war" and forbid their export without a Federal license.

That this or any other possible Act of Congress would effectively keep this country out of a war involving the great nations of the world is seriously questioned by some of the senators, for whom Senator Johnson of California is spokesman. He declares that it cannot possibly work.

The attitude of Congress, however, is one of political isolation for the United States, an attitude which those who hold it do not regard as contradictory to the Secretary of State's policy of economic internationalism, nor inconsistent with the participation in the international armament race in which all of the great powers are now engaged.

Preparing For War

It is pointed out by some shrewd observers that the frantic efforts of England, Germany, Japan, Italy, France and Russia to prepare for another great war before they have finished paying for the last one, have been stimulated rather than checked by the extension of the American policy of neutrality.

In the last war the belligerent nations relied upon the United States not only for war materials, but for foodstuffs, cotton and other commodities which they do not produce themselves. Now they are afraid that they will not be able to get such supplies from this side of the ocean so they have started to prepare themselves for war on their own resources.

With the other great powers enlarging their navies, it seems essential for us to do the same as a matter of national defense. Now we are committed to building two new great warships of 35,000 tons, to match the two of similar size for which England has already laid the keels.

The immediate stimulus to Britain's naval enlargement was Germany's action in building a fleet of "pocket" battleships and in other ways giving evidence of belligerent intent. Britain's activity stirred Japan to launch its own big navy program, which gave a further fillip to American big navy propaganda.

Italy's growing ambition for domination of the Mediterranean is behind that nation's naval expansion, and that, in turn, has intensified Britain's resolve to be prepared to defend its route to the Orient by way of the Suez canal.

France, with its perpetual fear of Germany, felt obliged to meet the challenge from Berlin.

Thus Washington sees the major nations of the world concentrating their efforts on preparations for war and piling up their bonded indebtedness to a point where the burden of taxation is likely to become intolerable.

Besides navies, all of the nations are building competitive military air fleets as fast as they can, and in that, too, the United States is following their leadership—and at the same time enacting neutrality laws as evidence that we do not intend to get into another war.

To make the paradox more complicated, our State Department is hard at work, negotiating trade agreements with all the world designed to make it easier for other nations, not only to buy our products but to sell us theirs and so raise more money with which to go to war.

It is a situation which is giving many members of the Administration and of Congress greater concern than they are willing publicly to admit. The demands of the other nations for products of the United States which they can use in their war preparations is already being felt, but under our present neutrality policy much of the demand cannot be supplied.

Problems in Steel

One of the big demands from abroad for American goods, and one which will grow as the naval race becomes more intense, is for steel.

We need steel, also, for our new battleships, but so far the Navy Department has been unable to get bids from the steel makers, who claim they cannot supply the requirements because of the Walsh-Healey Act, which prohibits Government purchases in quantities above \$10,000 except from manufacturers who observe the six-hour day and the five-hour week in their plants.

This brings organized labor into the international and armament picture with another complication close at hand. John L. Lewis has declared the purpose of the C. I. O. to proceed aggressively to organize the workers in the steel industry, as he began to do in the automobile industry. The result may easily be a widespread labor war which will prevent anybody from getting steel from American mills for any purpose for a long time.

It is all a very complex situation to which no little attention is being paid by the President's advisers and the leaders in Congress.

Nobody has talked much about the international outlook in public, because nobody has so far been able to put forward a single comprehensive program. The belief is growing, however, that the whole subject of international relations will have to be brought out into the open for re-examination before long.

Kilauea (altitude 4,090 feet) with its "pit of eternal fire," is the largest active volcano in the world.

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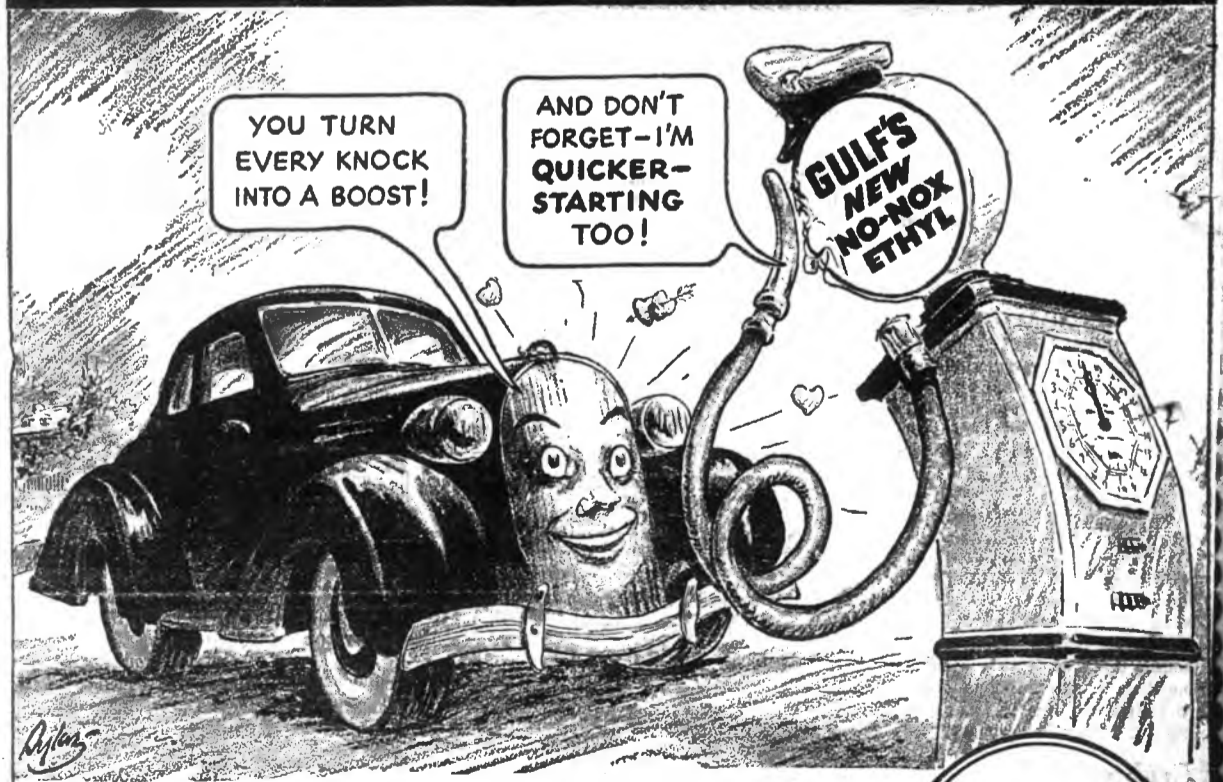


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