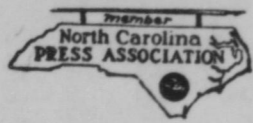


THE ZEBULON RECORD



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SOMETHING MORE TERRIBLE THAN THE TERRIBLE TURK

Only a week ago one of the most unusual men of modern times died in Turkey. At the close of the great war, he proved himself a match to the greatest diplomats of more progressive peoples and won a place for himself and his people among the nations. He instituted reforms previously considered impossible among his own people, such as to attract the attention and move the admiration of the world. He made his nation modern socially and politically. But mastering men, he met a foe more terrible than the most terrible Turk. That foe was drink. It gripped him, held him and mastered him. At the last it bit, it stung it killed.

We have known more than one citizen in this community who was led captive by this seducer to his ruin and death. Yet others will not or cannot learn from these terrible examples and so follow on, perhaps to the same sad end.

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GOD'S CHOSEN PEOPLE

From the days of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob the Jews have been God's chosen people, except when they were not! As they forgot him and went a-whoring after other gods, as the Book tells, God delivered them into the hands of their enemies and they have suffered as no other people since they crucified the Christ.

They claim to be a nation, yet are without a country. In business only do they equalize themselves with the Gentile. In society and religion they hold aloof. They have become a peculiar people in a peculiar way. Their God seems to look on indifferently while Gentile dogs hound them to death. The dictators hate them, the democracies have no love for them. Their state is worse than the man without a country, for they have neither country nor God so far as his mercy or protection reaches. The Jews' condition is extremely desperate.

One thinks of the words of the prophet: "Watchman, what of the night? . . . The morning cometh." The promise of God to restore Israel will never be fulfilled till that people return to Him. Possibly their hopelessness to find relief in man, will compel them to turn to God. And when that day dawns, all the force of men and devils cannot keep the Jew out of Zion, but it will be spiritual kingdom. The gold which he now loves as life will be used for paving the streets on which his feet tread in the other Jerusalem.

And the blessed knowledge is that all the promises to the regenerated Jew are also the Gentile's for the seeking on conditions God proposes. The Jew may be godless and wicked, but perhaps less so than many who profess faith, love and loyalty to the Jew whose life is an inspiration to believers and whose death was for the redemption of both Jew and Gentile, the Christ of God.

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A DEMOCRACY AKIN TO AN AUTOCRACY

The Baptist State Convention is the largest gathering of its kind in North Carolina. Probably 1,000 delegates met in the Tabernacle church in Raleigh this week. A Baptist meeting is the most democratic thing one ever sees. Everybody is supposed to express his opinion if he wishes and then vote as he pleases.

But sometimes the very thing on which they pride themselves most becomes the most dangerous, and may defeat the will of the ma-

majority. To illustrate: One year ago a special committee was appointed to investigate and report on the advisability of the denomination's purchasing the Biblical Recorder from its private owners. This committee gave no previous notice of its findings or recommendations before they offered them to the Convention assembled. There were certain details that many wished to know. A limit of thirty minutes was given to the consideration of the matter. No one had an opportunity to study it in the light of the facts involved. Most of the delegates were forced to act on the findings of the special committee. In this case the will of the majority prevailed so far as the vote showed. However, judging the expression, nearly half the delegates did not vote at all.

Our own opinion is that in matters of importance of this character, there should have been given publicity previous to their consideration by the body so that when the recommendations were offered each delegate might have previous knowledge and time for consideration, so his vote would record his opinion and not the findings of others.

The strength and safety of a democracy, whether it be civil or religious, is found in full access and consideration of all the facts as they pertain to the matter at issue or in question. Then each individual may express his conviction intelligently. We believe if the committee in this particular instance had published their report and recommendations at least thirty days previous to the meeting of the Convention, then from every viewpoint the final action would have been much more satisfactory to all the Baptists of the State.

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THE JOB BIGGER THAN THE MAN

The biggest man in America should be president of these United States. In Mr. Roosevelt we have one of the biggest, but many are beginning to doubt his being the superman. He has accomplished much under great difficulties. Some of the progressive measures of the New Deal will live even if the Republican party comes into power.

But our President has a weakness that shows itself more and more as his administration progresses. We do not believe he wants to be a dictator such as are found in Europe, but he likes power. He is not satisfied with running the government in name but wants to rule it in fact. The job of supervising the whole setup of alphabetical repeating relief departments that employ about one-tenth of the population is too big for even a Roosevelt. The real test of a big executive is his wisdom in selecting proper heads who work under him and are loyal to his policies. Every day one hears of more waste till he expects to see evidence of it wherever one of the government's special departments functions.

For instance: Up in a New England city a chief and a number of assistants are busy counting the light poles and even the bulbs found in the place. The city manager has blue prints that show the location of every pole and light in the city and he says he has a complete list of the exact number. Yet we are told that months will be used and thousands of dollars spent in getting facts that will be wholly useless for any practical purpose. We are told that this sort of thing is going on all over the country. Even in Raleigh a number of both white and colored men are busy making a housing survey that will probably be of little practical value to anybody.

Big business has been lukewarm if not antagonistic to the president for sometime and this opposition is growing with a tide that can be heard all over the land. Unless our president heads up the many spending agencies of the government with men who are more interested in saving the people's money than they are in feathering their own nests, men who will cut out unnecessary expense and make every dollar spent under their direction count for the most possible good to all concerned, then this growing criticism will become a flood that will sweep the president and his party out of power two years hence. We are democrats, but not the sort who believe in wasting the people's money without due returns.



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