

The Franklin Press

and

The Highlands Maconian

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BIBLE THOUGHT

That we may be fellow-workers for the truth.—III John: 8.

This potential plenty in our world has its price, a price only dimly recognized among us. That price is intelligent cooperation resting on a whole-hearted recognition of our mutual interdependence.
Norman Thomas in "America's Way Out."

Four Thousand Dollars Under the Fence

LAST summer a WPA project, sponsored by the county, spent approximately four thousand dollars to provide a suitable athletic field on which the youth of the county could find recreation. Three hundred and fifty dollars of this sum was furnished by the county.

Now, less than a year after the field was completed, the entire four thousand dollar investment is being seriously threatened through neglect. Large gullies have appeared in the playing field around home plate, and every rain sends more of the park's topsoil washing under the fences.

A retaining wall and suitable drainage for the park could be easily provided at a fraction of the cost of the original investment. Unless this is done soon, the field is liable to become completely worthless.

Sniping Columnists

DURING the last decade American journalism has grown a prolific crop of commentators on national and foreign affairs known as columnists. While some of these are among the most brilliant and able of our journalists, there are others who have used their superior opportunities to influence public opinion far in excess of their wisdom and reliability.

Some of these professional scribblers who enjoy syndicated press freedom began their careers nobly, but lapsed into an intermittent sniping of the great and prominent to keep up reader interest in their columns. Indeed, some have developed a propaganda technique peculiarly their own. We may expect this to be used by some during the coming months without regard to patriotic considerations or respect for those carrying the burden of the nation's welfare. We particularly deplore this phase of the coming political campaign, not only for the fuel it furnishes partisan politics, but for the bad effect abroad at this critical time.

Many listeners to Winston Churchill's recent radio speech must have relished his rebuke to some of our editors and columnists. This master of electrified utterance paused long enough in his crackling defiance of all dictators to lapse into a gentle mockery. In answer to United States disapproval of the closing of the Burma route into China by Japan, the Prime Minister explained that the Empire was, at that moment, not only fighting a war on many fronts, but seriously engaged on the home front. He added, "Those who are yet unwilling to fight anybody anywhere, should not expect us to fight everybody everywhere." In the same speech he reminded us, "We are fighting by ourselves alone, but not for ourselves alone."

The same sort of careless advice and ill-advised criticism from small men adds an additional burden to those who are seriously engaged on our own home front. These are the kind of snipers who not only hurt those individuals in high places whose downfall they seek, but the high causes that they serve.

Discipline

THE gulf that is fixed between Nazi and democratic methods perhaps cannot be better illustrated than by something that happened in the House of Commons recently. When the British government proposed unlimited power over all persons and all property to meet a deadly foe, the request was greeted with shouts of applause.

The sort of regulation of individual lives that is imposed by totalitarian states is in no sense a parallel to the special discipline that a free people impose upon themselves in times of grave national danger.

In other words, all that Hitler has exacted through years of cruel discipline, Gestapo tyranny, and wholesale murder and imprisonment of his own people is different from a discipline voluntarily imposed upon themselves by free people when that freedom is threatened. True, this discipline may have come too late to save Britain, but the sacrifice is voluntary and spares none. While the lives of Hitler's legions are sacrificed by their leaders on the altars of Moloch, those of Britain are offered under no tyrant's coercion in defense of their own homes and for free men everywhere.

While the British people unflinchingly await the death and destruction that Hitler threatens, it is

well for us—in present safety—to remember at least two things; first, that our brave neighbors across the pond are at least delaying the conqueror's advance in our direction; and second, that unified and voluntary action on our part should be immediate and complete. Acceptance of defense measures requiring discipline and sacrifice appears to be the only intelligent course indicated.

What we do and how soon we do it is very carefully noted by friends and potential enemies.

Press Comment

LIVE OR DIE FOR IT

(Rock Hill, S. C., Herald)
The United States of America is what it is today because the founders of this great nation loved liberty more than anything else—including their own lives.

In an effort to obtain independence, they staked their puny strength in what must have seemed to them a hopeless struggle against one of the world's mightiest powers.

And they were successful only because they were willing to make any sacrifice for the principles for which they were fighting—and every one of them was ready to lay down his life, if that was necessary.

The United States of America—the only remaining stronghold of liberty in this war-torn world—will survive only if its people remain true to the traditions of their forefathers and continue to consider liberty their most valuable possession.

It may not be necessary for any of us to die to preserve Americanism but it is absolutely essential that all of us live for that purpose.

Americans must be willing to live for Americanism—as well as willing to die for it—if democracy is to be preserved on this earth.

DOCTRINES HAVE NO SIMILARITY

(Thomasville Tribune)

Have the American republics learned the lesson of Europe? Has the spectacle of Europe's small countries, jealous and fearful, unwilling to unite, and then falling one after another into the hands of conquerors, brought home anything to the Americas?

We are going to find out. The Havana conferences will tell, by the end of July, to what extent the American republics have learned the lesson of cooperation.

The United States has taken the lead, patiently and painstakingly, for 10 years in fomenting a united western hemisphere—in creating a new Pan Americanism in which the Monroe Doctrine should be not a mere policy of the United States, but a joint policy of all the Americas.

What fruit this has borne will be apparent in the Havana meeting.

On the record, it is conclusively clear that United States policy in regard to the Americas has nothing to do with continental hegemony—in simpler language, we do not want to run the two Americas as a set of "branch offices" controlled from Washington.

Japanese and German action in Asia and Europe have no similarity to the Monroe Doctrine of 1823 or of today. Did the Japanese hold conferences with China, Siberia, Manchuria, Indo-China, Austria, and the Dutch East Indies in an effort by joint and equal action to avert infiltration from abroad to devise better means of trading and living together? To ask the question answers it.

Did Germany hold similar conferences in Europe for the same reasons? We heard of none. Pan Americanism of today is something duplicated nowhere else in the world.

The specific questions to be discussed at Havana include activities of alien groups endangering common American democratic ideals, joint defense measures, and united action to meet a foreign trade situation which may bring with it a threat of foreign political domination.

The American nations are all free. They can unite freely on these matters or not.

If they do not wish this, they are within their rights, and the United States will not question them. It has for 10 years been offering and urging cooperation on equal terms, and living up to that ideal in its own foreign relations.

Specifically, it believes that all the American nations should act jointly to prevent European possessions in this hemisphere from changing hands as the result of mere military conquest. But if other American nations do not care to assume their end of this responsibility, let no one say that it is "imperialism" for the United States to protect its own safety and interests by whatever means remains available.

MONEY IN TREES

(The Waynesville Mountaineer)
J. M. Broughton, Democratic nominee for governor, made an address before the North Carolina Press Association at Hendersonville recently. He spoke of the "vital problems" concerning the state and especially of the development of a wise timber program in North Carolina as a "source of wealth." This should make an appeal to the people over the state, but has

a special message to the people of Haywood county. During the past thirty years many of the great forest areas have been cut, and some have been left in undesirable state for further revenue of timber, but could be cared for in such a manner that they would produce not only again, but have a continued commercial return.

The Greensboro Daily News in commenting on Mr. Broughton's timely remarks, stated that such a program would serve to balance the recent loss of markets for the state's leading farm products, cotton and tobacco.

"Certainly when North Carolina forests offer an offset to these losses a balance where other crops are failing, it is imperative that no short-sighted policy be followed but that the best possible usage of the new opportunity be advised and applied," says the Daily News.

Now since the Scandinavian countries of Norway, Sweden and Finland, which served as a main source of supply, have been eliminated, at least temporarily from trade with the United States because of war, the possibility of this industry in North Carolina and the south seems better than ever before.

The establishment of the newsprint industry in the South has been urged for years as one of the remedies to aid economic progress; and now seems the opportune time to start.

In Haywood county we have learned the value of a market for our timber, and here would seem an opportunity for the development of an industry, that the county form agents have been urging for years.

To develop the industry along permanent lines, there would have to be a continuous supply of timber, and the program of reforestation and cutting would have to be developed along far reaching lines to serve the purpose.

LOANS FOR THE AMERICAS

(Asheville Citizen)
Congress and public opinion in the United States should not permit Secretary Hull to labor in vain

at the Havana conference of the twenty-one American republics. A clear purpose of the deliberations is to evolve a system of economic cooperation among the Americas which can effectively counter totalitarian methods. Hence, the President has requested an additional expansion of the Export-Import Bank's capitalization which will make available \$500,000,000 in loans to Latin America. Since the United States must assume the economic leadership of the Americas, if for no other than defensive reasons, this measure should, win speedy approval. It is but one of many concrete methods whereby this government can give practical expression to the ambitious undertaking of hemisphere solidarity.

Communications

BIG FISH STORY

Mrs. John Carpenter, formerly of Macon county, now living in Lyman, Washington, had the privilege of seeing the second largest Sturgeon fish ever landed in Skagit river.

(Mt. Vernon, Wash., Daily Herald)
Skagit fishermen were ready to turn in their hook and lines for dynamite today when they viewed the 144 pound sturgeon landed this morning in the Skagit river near Sterling by the U. S. Preston, government snag boat.

Those aboard the boat were using dynamite to blast snags out of the river and, at the moment, were not even interested in fishing. The sturgeon came to the surface following a blast that was meant to bring up at least four or five logs.

The huge fish, measuring 7 feet, 3 inches, is on display at Clyde Lux's tavern in this city.

Although it is against the law to catch a sturgeon by hook and line in the state of Washington there is believed to be nothing against an "accidental" catch by blasting, Lux said today. He added that he is awaiting word from the government as to what to do with the fish. Since sturgeon meat is considered a delicacy, many have put in requests for steaks, he declared.

According to Lux, this is the second sturgeon ever landed in the Skagit river, as far as it is known. Another, believed to have weighed about 350 pounds, was caught at almost the same place in a gill net several years ago.

Orville Fox, local fisherman, declared that many sportsmen have complained of losing tackle to a large fish in the Sterling vicinity. "As far as we know, this was the fish causing all the trouble," Fox stated.

KIND WORDS

The editorial and mechanical staff are cheered and hereby express their thanks for the kind words of the following letter from the manager of the Palm Beach Post-Times. Mr. and Mrs. Giovannoli paid us a visit during their stay in Franklin.

We heartily return your wishes of "Good Luck" Mr. Giovannoli.

Dear Mrs. Johnson:

As a summer visitor to your lovely vacation land, and as a quill-driver of many years' experience, may I volunteer a few words of praise for The Franklin Press and Highlands Maconian.

Editorially, mechanically, and from a business standpoint, you and your sons and your staff members generally, are doing a nice job. The paper is well edited, the various news departments nicely balanced, with due consideration to the local, suburban and "mail" subscription list, and the typographical and mechanical talent employed displays skill not always to be found in "country newspapers."

And let us not forget that the term "country" press covers a vast volume of "grass roots" public opinion and common sense which nation and empire builders endowed with patriotic wisdom and statesmanship wisely esteem as the backbone of national progress and well-being.

I envy you this place in the world's work, and trust your business community, as is rather plainly indicated, gives you hearty and merited support. Good luck!

HARRY GIOVANNOLI
Franklin, N. C.
July 23, 1940

About 700 deaths occurred last year in collisions between bicycles and motor vehicles.

THE COST

of a service depends upon the furnishings selected.

HE SERVES BEST WHO SERVES MOST

D. C. BRYANT

Funeral Home

PHONE 106-NIGHT PHONE 20

REASONS WHY

More and More Home Owners
Are Constantly Changing To

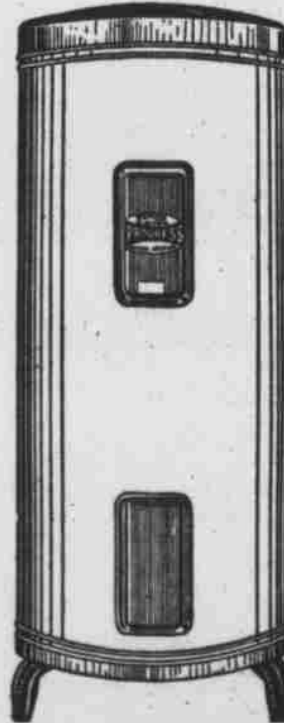
AUTOMATIC

Electric Water Heaters

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"I may go away for the week-end and when I return have plenty of hot water ready for the bath, or any other purpose. All this is as cheap as the use of coal or oil stoves or any of the primitive ways of heating water. I wouldn't be without it."



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