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Peace Through Weakness?

FOR nearly three months now the United States government has been vainly negotiating with the Chinese Communists for permission to evacuate some 2,000 Americans and other foreigners from Shanghai. The state department has spent nearly half a million dollars in setting up the latest evacuation arrangement. At the last moment, that plan has fallen through, and the government of this country will go back to the Chinese Reds with a previously rejected plea that these stranded foreigners in Shanghai be permitted to go by rail to other ports in China, so that ships can be sent for them there.

Just 24 hours before this information was made public, the American government was receiving a slap in the face in another quarter: Russian fliers fired on an American plane. The plane has not been heard from since, and apparently was shot down and sank with the 10 men aboard.

The incident was announced by the Russian government, which promptly filed a protest with the U. S. government alleging that the American bomber was flying over Russian-held Latvia. Forty-eight hours later, the Soviet government decorated four Russian airmen for "excellent fulfillment of their service duty".

To shocked American newspaper readers, the question inevitably arose: What will our government do? and the subsidiary question: What does our President say?

The answer to the second question was found in an adjoining column:

"Truman Wants Credit for Prosperity", read the headline.

Mr. Truman, of course, wants peace. So do we all. And most Americans would agree that it is better to overlook the murder of 10 U. S. airmen than to sacrifice millions of American lives in a war.

Nor is the main question: How much are we willing to take?

The real question is: Is it possible, in the world as it is now constituted, to attain peace through weakness? Can a nation live in peace with its neighbors, in the world of 1950, unless it is willing to fight, if need be?

The alternative—the only alternative—is abject surrender.

Great Possibilities

The repeat attendance of so many persons, and the way visitors are impressed, are proof of the popularity and the possibilities of the Easter sunrise services on Wayah Bald, an annual event now three years old. It is the kind of thing that will grow, in beauty as well as in size.

Few places that are easily accessible offer a scene of such breath-taking beauty. On Wayah, Nature presents a spectacular setting for the spectacular story of the Resurrection. There it is possible for a congregation to enjoy the message of hope that animates all Easter religious services and at the same time reverently drink in beauty that is another of the Creator's miracles.

Use of a public address system makes it possible to hold the service, almost regardless of the weather; worshippers can stand or sit on the mountain-side in good weather, or remain in their automobiles when the weather is bad. That would make it possible to give over the entire "High Haven" camp to those participating in the service; that, in turn, means that a large number could participate, even in bad weather.

It easily might become a big community event; big, certainly, in the number taking part, and in the pride that might be generated by such a unique event. As a single example, the girls' chorus of the Franklin high school could add immeasurably both to the beauty of the service, and to the community's pride in it. In some communities, groups taking part in similar events, practice for a whole year; that easily might become a custom here.

The possibilities are almost limitless.

That being true, wouldn't it be a good idea to form a permanent community-wide, interdenominational organization to make plans and handle details?

Needs Doing Now

The automobile junk yard, just inside the town limits in East Franklin, is the particular problem that has been in the news; it became news not because it necessarily is the worst thing of its kind in Franklin, but because it was brought before an official body—the board of aldermen—in an official protest.

Let nobody think, however, that if we can do something about that particular junk yard, we shall have solved all our problems, and can comfortably relax again. It merely happens to be the problem that was so conspicuous as to provoke a protest to the town board.

There are other things in Franklin that need attention—things that are in the nature of nuisances to neighboring property owners, things that are detrimental to the entire community because they are so unsightly, and things that endanger the health of the community because they are insidious.

The Franklin Garden club is right, of course, in saying something should be done about a junk yard at one of the approaches to the town.

But if we zone merely to rid ourselves of that one problem, we shall have accomplished little.

It is up to this community to do some long-time planning, and then zone in accordance with those plans. The easiest time to do that, and the time when it will be least expensive, is NOW. And the community, of course, must look to its duly elected officials, the mayor and members of the board of aldermen, for leadership.

A Good Sign

When the filing deadline arrived Saturday, 29 candidates had filed for the Democratic nominations for the 14 strictly county offices to be filled this year. (The Republicans, as a rule, select their nominees in party caucus, and have no primary contest.) Every Democratic nomination except three—chairman of the board of commissioners, register of deeds and surveyor—will be contested in the primary election May 27.

While all of those seeking the nominations for the better paying offices may be not wholly disinterested, it is hard to believe that the five persons who are running for the two places on the board of county commissioners and the 11 who are running for the five places on the county board of education are seeking office because of the money. The responsibility and difficulties and worries of those offices are too great, and the remuneration too small, for that to be true. They must be animated, in part at least, by a desire to serve their county.

The time was when these offices frequently went begging. The change is a healthy one. It shows a new and growing interest in public affairs. And every one of the candidates for these and other offices are doing the county a service in running; those who are defeated for the nominations can take comfort in reflecting that they have done a community service by giving the voters an opportunity for choice.

"Christopher Columbus"

It was a fine civic gesture for the management of the Macon Theatre to give the Franklin school band one-third of the gross receipts from last week's motion picture, "Christopher Columbus". That kind of community-mindedness always is commendable—though fortunately it is not uncommon here.

The theatre management, however, is due a double-bouquet in this instance, since it not only was generous with the band, but also brought a top-notch picture to Franklin. The life story of the "admiral of the ocean sea" probably is the best thing of its kind that has been here in many moons. And so much that is mediocre, or worse, comes out of Hollywood these days, movie-goers feel like standing up and cheering when a picture of the high quality of this one is shown.

A simple way that this community could double its efficiency, eliminate a lot of worry and frustration, and thus increase the happiness and serenity of all of us, would be for everybody to do what they have promised to do, and when they promised to have it done.

And a simple way to redouble this blessing would be for everybody who has a job to do, to do it right the first time.

Others' Opinions

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2000 A. D.

The wise men who look into the future and tell us what to expect come up with some predictions that look far-fetched although, occasionally, some of the unexpected things actually occur.

Recently Dr. Gerald Wendt, who was science director of the New York World's Fair, predicted that, by 2000 A. D., interplanetary travel will be available, electronic thinking machines will work for people and there will be plenty of free time for everybody to fill with culture, recreation and sports.

So far, we can follow the doctor within measurable distances but when he assures us of an era of easy money, average incomes of \$12,000 yearly and a life span of 85 to 90 years, we just pause long enough to wonder what difference it will make to us, in the year 2000 A. D.—Canton Enterprise.

He is happiest, be he king or peasant, who finds peace in his home.—Goethe.

—Benjamin Franklin.

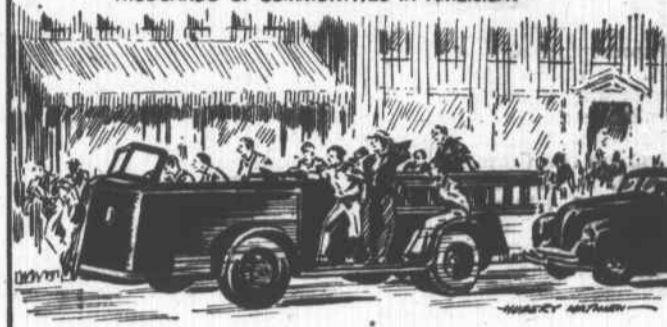
OUR DEMOCRACY—by Mat

—ALL TOGETHER, NOW—

THE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT DEVELOPED IN THE EARLY DAYS OF OUR COUNTRY BECAUSE, IN CASE OF FIRE, ONE MAN ALONE STOOD SMALL CHANCE OF SAVING HIS PROPERTY — BUT A GROUP OF TOWNSMEN WORKING TOGETHER, MADE AN EFFICIENT FIRE-FIGHTING TEAM...



TODAY, VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANIES STILL SERVE THOUSANDS OF COMMUNITIES IN AMERICA.



OUR HISTORY IS RICH IN EXAMPLES OF ACHIEVEMENT THROUGH VOLUNTARY COOPERATIVE EFFORT, OF THE AMERICAN "DO IT FOR YOURSELF" SPIRIT. ONE OF THE GREATEST OF THESE IS THE PROTECTION WE HAVE BUILT UP FOR OUR FAMILIES THROUGH LIFE INSURANCE — PROTECTION MADE POSSIBLE ONLY BECAUSE MILLIONS OF US ARE SHARING OUR RISKS AND POOLING OUR FUNDS.

FIVE ACRES AND A JOB

This year the Farmers Federation is putting on a campaign to promote five acres and a job. A man who has a job only is never quite sure of his future. His job may peter out. The concern he is working for may fold up or sickness may knock him out for a while, but if he has five acres and a well-developed plan to make the best use of those five acres, he is sitting pretty. It may be more than five acres, but if he has a piece of land on which he can make most of his living, he will be able to take care of his family. On a piece of land perhaps a man might have one real good farm project. That is, he might have a laying flock of four or five hundred hens or raise 1,000 head of turkeys or three batches of broilers each year. Perhaps he would have some berries and freeze them and supply his customers the year 'round. Anyway, he should raise a steer so that he has plenty of meat all through the year. He could raise a hog and have plenty of ham and bacon through the year, raise himself 50 or 100 broilers, freeze them and have them to eat through the year, then have a good big garden and freeze or can corn and beans, tomatoes, asparagus, strawberries and other vegetables. Boy, does it sound good! And this will make the finest kind of place on which to bring up children. Every one of the children can have some kind of a job, either taking care of the chickens, feeding the steer or some responsibility. There is no better character builder in bringing up children than a few chores. A job and a five-acre farm. How does that sound to you?—Farmers Federation News.

N. C. PRODUCTS PREFERRED

"My Virginia friends laugh at me for advertising Virginia hams and western beef. I wish I could put a slogan on my menus: 'We Serve North Carolina Beef, Ham and Lamb.'"

This comment by a Durham restaurant proprietor epitomized the first batch of reports received by the State Department of Agriculture in a survey it is conducting to determine the advisability of establishing standard grades for beef slaughtered within the state.

H. W. Myrick, meat marketing specialist in charge of the survey, reported that the proposal was well received in Durham, where the survey was started. He said he would visit all the major cities of the state before completing the study, which is aimed at obtaining the reactions of butchers, restaurant operators, housewives and managers of public institutions.

The restaurateur who wanted to advertise North Carolina products complained that he was tired of being kidded about his home state by Virginia visitors passing through Durham on their way to or from athletic events in Chapel Hill.

One of the questions asked by Myrick in interviewing meat dealers and cafe proprietors is: "Would you switch to North Carolina beef if it were available in comparable grades and prices?"

The answer, he said, is usually "yes."

If dealers and the public generally take the idea of branding North Carolina meat, Myrick said, the Department of Agriculture contemplates the establishment of standard grades corresponding to the federal grades: Prime, Choice, Good, Commercial and Utility.

Such a move, he added, should have the effect of encouraging North Carolina farmers to grow more and better beef.

—Agricultural Review.

CHURCH RESPONSIBILITY FOR PEACE

It is not surprising that in this day of fearful preparation for war, a mountain chorus of voices should call for redoubled efforts toward peace.

The chorus is not limited to any one group, political party or class. It includes scientists, churchmen, lawmakers, educators, newsmen, industrialists, labor leaders and people from every walk of life. It arises out of a growing realization that modern warfare, regardless of the winner, is a threat to all we hold dear and, indeed, to civilization itself.

Circulated prominently in the press recently was a petition signed by well over a hundred well known North Carolinians calling for the development of the United Nations into a limited world government with adequate powers for maintaining peace. A perusal of the names signed to this petition furnishes convincing evidence of the widespread concern which is felt in regard to the matter.

What is the responsibility of the churches in the present crisis? Dr. Francis C. Anscombe of the faculty of Salem College recently petitioned the ministers of North Carolina: "First, by prayer to renew their dedication and seek Divine guidance; to present the matter to their boards; to meet in prayer and conference with the brethren of their own bodies; to present the situation to their congregations, urging repentance and continued prayer."

All of us, he continued, should purify our own lives and be forced from hate, suspicion and fear. "Our only hope is in God. Let us pray for, and prepare our minds for, a new spirit in the minds of world leaders."

We heartily commend these suggestions with their emphasis on prayer and repentance. Out of such prayer will come the spiritual power and moral strength that are necessary if the world is to be saved from the horror of another war.—Charity and Children.

Johnson Appointed To Help Wage 'Corn War' With Virginia

Blackburn W. Johnson, formerly of Franklin, is one of 29 North Carolina men named by Governor Scott on committees to wage the 1950 "corn war" with Virginia. This state will seek to avenge its defeat at the hands of Virginia last year, when the Old Dominion showed greater improvements in corn yield than North Carolina.

Mr. Johnson, one-time publisher and editor of The Press, is now editor of N. C. Department Agriculture publications.

LEGAL ADVERTISING

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT BEFORE THE CLERK NOTICE OF EXECUTION SALE NORTH CAROLINA MACON COUNTY T. W. PORTER

vs. C. R. LEWIS and E. S. LEWIS

By virtue of an execution directed to the undersigned from the Superior Court of Macon County in the above entitled action, I will, on Monday, the 1st day of May, 1950, at 12:00 o'clock noon, at the Courthouse door of said county, sell to the highest bidder for cash to satisfy said execution, all the right, title and interest which the said C. R. Lewis and E. S. Lewis, the defendants, have in the following described real estate, to-wit:

Lots 1, 11 and 17 of the property of C. R. and E. S. Lewis, known as Wayah Crest on the Wayah Bald Mountain, as fully shown and described in a plat of said Wayah Crest made by W. N. Sloan, Surveyor, dated August, 1926, and duly recorded in the office of Register of Deeds for Macon County, N. C., in Plat Book No. 1, page 42. This, the 28th day of March, 1950.

J. P. BRADLEY, Sheriff A6-4tc-A27

NOTICE OF SALE NORTH CAROLINA MACON COUNTY

Under and by virtue of the power of sale vested in the undersigned trustee by deed of trust executed by O. W. DILLS and wife BELLE DILLS, dated April 26, 1949, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for Macon County, North Carolina, in Book of Mortgages and Deeds of Trust No. 43, Page 31, said deed of trust having been executed to secure certain indebtedness therein set forth, and default in the payment of said indebtedness having been made, I will on Monday, the 1st day of May, 1950, at 12:00 noon, at the Courthouse door in Franklin, North Carolina, sell to the highest bidder for cash the following described land:

All the land described in a deed from L. L. Shook and wife Ollie Shook to O. W. Dills and wife Belle Dills, said deed bearing date of March 10, 1948, and registered in the office of the Register of Deeds for Macon County, North Carolina, in Book V-5 of Deeds, at Page 86. This 27th day of March, 1950.

R. S. JONES, Trustee. A6-4tc-A27

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE

Having qualified as executor of Betty Mozeley, deceased, late of Macon County, N. C., this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 9 day of March, 1951, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate settlement.

This 9 day of March, 1950. WILBUR TEAGUE, Executor. M16-6tp-A20

EXECUTRIX' NOTICE

Having qualified as executrix of J. L. Hunnicutt, deceased, late of Macon County, N. C., this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 21 day of March, 1951, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate settlement.

This 21 day of March, 1950. ADDIE HUNNICUTT, Executrix. M23-6tp-A27

EXECUTRIX' NOTICE

Having qualified as executrix of J. E. S. Thorpe, deceased, late of Macon County, N. C., this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 7 day of April, 1951, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate settlement.

This 7 day of April, 1950. OLIVIA B. THORPE, Executrix. A13-6tc-M18