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THE NEW SECRETARY

Americans have reason to feel disturbed over the sudden resignations of two leading figures in the political scene, Bernard Baruch and now Secretary Byrnes.

There is, however, no reason to feel that the administration's ship is sinking, and with the appointment of General Marshall as secretary of state, it may well be that it's most important department will receive that firm over-all direction for which many have been praying.

What the general will bring to the international scene is any man's guess. In his dealings with the Chinese situation he has shown moderation and a willingness to hear both sides; his efforts, however, seem to have accomplished nothing.

In General Marshall's favor, however, is the outstanding fact that he was President Roosevelt's constant companion at all the important conferences which the president attended.

General Marshall's splendid character, his wisdom, his modesty, his untiring devotion to duty have, ever since his entry into the public eye, received almost extravagant praise.

As opposed to this is the average citizen's distrust of the military mind. Will one who has been brought up to prepare for war be able to change his whole point of view to preparing for peace?

OF THE PEOPLE

January is the month when taxes are assessed. One might say therefore, that in January the citizens of the country take the most active part in their government.

People act toward taxes as if they were a kind of robbery to which they were being subjected by the government.

anyone who does succeed in getting out of some of his payments is apt to go around boasting of his cleverness. People envy him and congratulate him: It never occurs to his friends that what he has done is to cheat them.

If it does suffer, the tax begrudger will be the first to know it and to complain, loudly. The highways are not being kept up, the schools have deteriorated, the health of the state is a disgrace.

It all goes back to the strange way Americans look upon their government, as a combination Santa Claus and Bogyman. On the one hand they talk about the government, "giving away free" all sorts of things; on the other, they accuse the Bogyman of every sort of crime, from highway robbery on up, and preach that it is not only legitimate but the duty of every citizen to cheat the orge to the best of his ability.

In the first place, the government does not give away anything free. Whatever we get from the government is paid for in taxes or in service rendered. Conversely, taxes represent the investment a man has in the government. Supposing a man has a hundred dollars to invest. He might buy some stock with it. In that case, if he was lucky he would get perhaps five dollars back in interest.

As for the government being a criminal, if a man says that he is, in effect, putting himself in the dock, for both the Bogyman and Santa Claus are the citizen himself.

This adolescent form of schizophrenia in Americans accounts for much of our political irresponsibility which is liable to persist until the people of our country accept the fact that our government is not only for the people but also by and of them. When our highways and our schools run down, when Congress behaves irresponsibly, quarreling like fish-wives or lolling about the business of governing, we may think we have elected the wrong men, but it is more likely that our fundamental attitude is responsible.

Every time we pay our taxes grudgingly, every time we carp and criticize destructively we are failing in our duty as citizens. What is more, in this critical time when all forms of government are on trial, we are sabotaging the cause of democracy.

A GOOD CAUSE

In an adjoining column is an article by the late Dr. Paul P. McCain, beloved physician, who lost his life in an automobile accident early in December. As head of the State Sanatorium at Sanatorium, and a nation-wide authority on the disease, he directed the battle against TB in this section. Dr. McCain's article was published in the State Health Bulletin for November. It sums up concisely, yet with the detail that makes this a compelling picture, the situation in North Carolina today.

The Pilot is privileged to reprint this, the last work of Dr. Paul P. McCain, and in doing so calls the attention of all readers particularly to the closing sentence. Here is a call to action issued by one who has always led the way. May his words continue to call the people whom he loved and who loved him to action in this good cause.

Sand Box

BY WALLACE IRWIN

This morn a nightingale woke me, singing out a rapture of praise for O'Sullivan, America's Number One Heel. Then her gracious contralto burred into a well remembered song: "Nothing could be finer than to be in Carolina

Some things could be a lot worse, I reflected, shutting off the radio and turning my thoughts to real, unlovely things.

"Nothing could be dippier as to wake in Mississippi In the maw'nin'!"

The farce-tragedy with its catchy title, "Bilbo," has played a long season, but it doesn't seem to be played out yet. It has merely gone into a month's rehearsal so that its collaborators can think of something louder, funnier and more disgusting to do and say.

It is rather futile to try and add anything to the Bilbo discussion. Every editor, with the exception of a few Bilbo-owned hacks, are now so busy throwing tomatoes at the Bad Man of the Gulf that our little pinch of sand would be lost in the whirlwind. Also, before this goes to press the nearly ex-Senator may die and be worshipped in every hill where the hookworm has crowded out the public schools.

Bilboism isn't so much Bilbo as a symbol—or a symptom. It seems to be a symptom of the disease that has wormed its way deep into the Democratic Party; which, perhaps, has remained too long planted in one spot and has begun to rot in unplowed soil. It has infected the U. S. Senate, brought on violent attacks of filibuster's throat, twisted morale, and raving delirium. Gentlemen who have hitherto devoted their lives to honest public service have been reaching into the grab bag for every shabby trick known to ward politics. No use wasting a filibuster's breath denying that the gent from Mississippi hasn't been a very ripe egg in the cookoo's nest. Perhaps, though, he hasn't been investigated long enough. Look at the Nuremberg trial, for instance. That took months and months, whereas Bilbo was only given time to deny a dozen or so slightly criminal charges, to which the Government's witnesses testified.

Ha, the Government! snarls Senator Phil I. Buster hoarsely. So the Federalists are tampering with States' Rights again! How dare Washington tamper with Mississippi's sovereign right to send anything she pleases to the U. S. Senate, whether it be a stuffed cucumber, a lame hippopotamus or an electric eel? This is a test of States' Rights, by golly, again confronting a wily foe who plans a dictatorship like Hitler's, but with improvements. And so on, into the pale gray dawn.

The Senators who support Bilboism along these lines are doing as much harm to States' Rights as Unionism is doing to labor through the portal-to-portal grab. Most of us who have kept our reason throughout this brawl will agree that States' Rights should be supported in every legitimate way. But not by hoisting a rotten figurehead as the standard of a cause. Yes, the Senate should be strong with representatives of every state. That's what it's for. But a senator must become a law-giver for every state in the Union; more than that, today he must be an active partner in the welfare of a whole suffering world. It is every state's right, as I see it, to elect senators who will be Senators, and not chair-warming boosters for the local corruption and self-debasement they have gone to Washington to support.

So the mess has fallen into the lap of Senator Taft and his pals. It would be good old party lines. If you are a Republican, condemn Bilbo for what he is; if you're a Democrat defend him for what he isn't. Are we adolescents, as some pundits say we are? Are we just naughty school boys, putting nails in snowballs to maim the Third Avenue gang, merely because its members don't live on Avenue A?

Whoa. I'm getting riled up, too. I'm in such a temper this morning that, should I meet that second class vampire, W. Anonymus Irwin, I'd pull up a long leaf pine and poke him with it, severely.

The Need Of Additional Beds For Tuberculosis In North Carolina

by Paul P. McCain, M. D. (Reprinted from The Health Bulletin.)

"The U. S. Public Health Service and the National Tuberculosis Association agree that in order to control tuberculosis in any community it is necessary to have two beds for each resident death from tuberculosis. In North Carolina during 1945 there were 1198 deaths from tuberculosis. There should be, therefore, 3000 beds for tuberculosis patients.

At this time there are in North Carolina only 2205 beds for tuberculosis divided as follows: In the three State Sanatoria 1080 beds, 690 for white and 390 for colored. In the three State mental hospitals and Caswell Training School there are 212 beds for tuberculosis patients, 100 for white and 112 for colored. In 16 county sanatoria there are 825 beds, 447 for white and 378 for colored. In the three private sanatoria around Asheville there are 88 beds for white private patients. Altogether there are 1325 beds for white and 880 for colored.

On account of their inability to secure nurses two of the sanatoria with a total of 52 beds have recently had to close. On account of the shortage of nurses and of other help also some of the other county institutions have not been able to run at full capacity during the last year or two.

Fortunately the Hill-Burton Bill, recently passed by Congress, which calls for the appropriation of \$75,000,000 a year for five years for hospital construction, specifies that beds for tuberculosis are to be provided as well as general hospital beds. The bill also specifies that one-third of the construction cost shall be paid by this Federal appropriation.

The North Carolina Good Health Association and the Executive Committee of the State Medical Society have approved a program which calls for the expenditure of four and a half million dollars for 700 additional beds for tuberculosis in the State within the next five years. This number will not bring our bed capacity up altogether to the two and a half beds per death recommended, but we are in hopes that by the end of the five year period the death rate will have fallen to such an extent that we will have this proportion of beds per death as recommended.

We have already presented requests to the Advisory Budget Commission for approximately two and a quarter million dollars for additions and improvements to the three State Sanatoria which will increase their bed capacity by 360. Since the counties as well as the State can get Federal aid for construction we are in hopes that some of the other counties will be interested in establishing their own sanatoria, either alone or in conjunction with one or more of the surrounding counties. If a State or Federal subsidy maintenance fund could be had, counties would be all the more likely to establish their own institution so that their patients could have the advantage of taking the cure at home. If counties do not provide the additional 350 beds it is probable that the State will be asked to provide a sanatorium for Negroes somewhere near the central portion of the western half of the State, and also a 50 bed unit at the medical school for teaching purposes.

"Unfortunately, tuberculosis is largely a disease of the poor—of those who are poorly fed, poorly housed and poorly educated, and it is impossible ever to control the disease so long as those with ad-

vanced disease in the communicable form continue to live in crowded and unsanitary homes and have to be waited on by members of the family who are untrained in sanitation. A great majority of people under such conditions who develop tuberculosis have the disease in the far advanced stage before it is discovered, and even before the diagnosis is made they have likely already so badly infected the members of their households that many of them will develop the disease, and if they have to continue to live at home not only the patient but the whole family are likely to become county charges.

"If diagnosed early tuberculosis is a curable disease. Early diagnosis can also prevent the spread of the infection to the other members of the family. Early diagnosis and the provision of a sufficient number of beds for the isolation and treatment of those with active disease will eradicate tuberculosis in human beings as Dr. William Moore, our State Veterinarian, and his assistants have already eradicated the disease in cattle.

By means of mass X-ray surveys it is now possible to detect practically all cases of tuberculosis in the minimal stage. When large groups of apparently well people are X-rayed approximately one out of every two to three hundred is found to have active tuberculosis and at least 65 percent to 85 percent of those discovered in this way have the disease in the early and curable form, whereas of those who are not diagnosed until they begin to feel sick or have definite symptoms of tuberculosis 65 percent to 75 percent are in the advanced and communicable stage. Everyone really ought to have an X-ray of his chest. The Tuberculosis Control Division of the State Board of Health, in which Dr. T. F. Vestal is the Director, has six miniature X-ray film equipments and the Extension Department of the Sanatorium has one such unit. Five hundred or more persons can be X-rayed each day with each of these units. A number of the county health departments are planning to install units for mass X-ray surveys and three of the counties have already purchased machines.

"Tuberculosis is such a tricky disease that it does not cause one to feel sick until the disease is well developed. It is estimated that there are approximately 10,000 citizens of this State who have clinical tuberculosis and approximately half of this number are not conscious of having the disease. They could find out the disease early before they infect the other members of their families and in time for them to get well if they would have an X-ray of their chest made.

"Aside from the benefits derived through the relief of human suffering the investment of sufficient funds by the State and counties to eradicate tuberculosis yields the best possible financial return. In 1915 the death rate from tuberculosis in North Carolina was 156.4 per 100,000 and in 1945 it was 31.7. A low estimate of the cost to the community of each individual who dies from tuberculosis is \$3,000. The reduction in the death rate as the result of the efforts already made to control the disease have resulted in an annual saving of more than 4,000 lives and of more than \$14,000,000.

Won't each of you who reads this article speak to your Legislators and urge that the necessary funds for the eradication of tuberculosis be provided?

December Without Snow, Ice or Hail Gave The Sandhills Bright Sunshine

MONTHLY SUMMARY NO. 258 by Charles Macauley

December, without snow, ice, sleet or hail, a scanty rainfall, warm with an average temperature 2.5 degrees above the normal expectation; Camelia Japonicas in bloom, a coat of gleaming greensward everywhere a delight to the eye; all this made a gracious and enjoyable month in the Sandhills for residents and visitors. The advent of winter with its more often than not "Christmas Snow" left that gay holiday untroubled. Seventeen days of the month were clear and bright, nine days

partly cloudy, five days cloudy and four days with rain. Total rainfall for the month was 1.41 inches of which the heaviest fall, 1.05 inches, was on the 20th. This was 2.04 inches less than normal, marking an excess of somewhat less than one inch over the long time normal expectation of 49.65 inches. Charlotte reports a deficiency of 5.30 inches of rainfall for the year. Raleigh an excess of 3.46 inches. Nine days recorded high temperatures ranging from 70 to 76 degrees, the high on the 1st. Twelve days had lows of 18 to 30 degrees, the low on the 3rd. Average temperature was 47.3 de-

grees, a gain of 2.5 degrees above the norm of 44.3. The temperature range from 18 to 76 degrees included the freakish drop from the high of 76 on the 1st to the lows of 28 and 18 on the 2nd and 3rd.

Winter entered on the 22nd, average temperature 45 degrees. Christmas Day was partly cloudy with an average temperature of 42.5 degrees.

Table with 4 columns: Long time average, Aver., Max, Min. Rows for 1945 and 1946.

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JANUARY CLEARANCE SALE Thursday, January 9th Through Tuesday, January 14th Mrs. Hayes Shop Southern Pines, N. C.

Close Pursuit Katherine Newlin Burt's New Book WILL BE PUBLISHED JANUARY 13th '47 WE WILL HAVE ONLY 50 COPIES OF THE FIRST EDITION OF THIS BOOK A FEW OF THEM Will Be Autographed By Mrs. Burt First come, first served. All advance orders will be filled with autographed copies. This is Mrs. Burt's best book since The Branding Iron which was an outstanding bestseller. The scene of this book is Colonial Virginia in its most interesting era. The time is the 1770's when injustice to Colonies had fanned to a peak the flame which burst into 8 years of war. This book has the color and atmosphere of Colonial Virginia at its best. Filled with adventure, romance, and the bitterness of political controversy, it is one of the most entertaining books recently published. I am asking you to buy it and read it, you will like it. CLAUDE L. HAYES