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Tuesday, August 4, 1936

Groping in the Darkness

It does not seem to make any difference what the preacher's text is, nor what he says, any more, since people will not attend church regardless of how eloquently he preaches. It would seem that the preached Word has no more attraction for men.

It seems that there are so many new things to allure our minds and change our thinking that we are unable to hold our thinking to the more important things before us.

The human mind seems to have become overloaded with these new things of life, things that not only tax our thoughts but our time and money, too, until man has no more time to be a Christian, and we are groping our way along through the darkness.

The Approaching Campaign

What gives promise of becoming the hottest campaign in many years is now approaching.

The power that seems to be behind the Republican campaign is the hold they have on the newspapers to put out the material furnished by the Liberty Leaguers, who are, in fact, the foe of true liberty, but who stand out flat-footed and gobble up all the liberties of the common herd. They are using the power of the press to poison and trick the untrained mind into thinking that because the government is spending some money for the common good that the whole nation is going to be ruined.

President Roosevelt, on the other hand, has to his credit the saving of the banking system and giving us—in the place of a chain of broken and dilapidated banks the safest and best system of banking that America has ever had. This is a fact that cannot be disputed. He has taken the banking power out of the hands of a few greedy bankers and placed it in the hands of the government, where it rightfully belongs. And if that power ever gets back into the hands of those greedy individuals, they will call for another squeeze, such as we had in 1920 and in 1930. Then our wheat, corn, cotton and tobacco prices will go down and the value of all our land will follow. Then we will all be suffering from Hoover prosperity again, and we will indeed be sorry that we followed the Republicans off to destruction.

One of the Reasons

President Roosevelt has discovered and headed off many of the tax-dodging tricks of the wealth in this nation, and this displeases the members of that class. But it pleases us very much, and is one of the principal reasons we are anxious to see Mr. Roosevelt reelected.

Death Walks the Highway

Nashville Graphic

The gods of recklessness are devouring thousands of lives each month on American highways—and there is no limit to their appetite.

During the recent Fourth of July week-end, close to 500 people met accidental deaths—the largest number for that period since 1931. Fireworks were responsible for a smaller number of fatalities than usual—but that greatest destroyer of all, the carelessly operated motor car, chalked up a grisly record. And every week-end witnesses similar occurrences. If, in a single disaster such as an earthquake or a fire, as many people were to be killed as have been killed in accidents in the last month, the world would be aghast. But we seem to regard accidents as being inevitable, and look upon them with equanimity.

But the great tragedy is that accidents are not inevitable. Nine out of ten are preventable, and easily preventable. Carelessness, recklessness, ignorance and stupidity are the principal causes of accidental injury and death, and surely they can be cured—through law, through force of public opinion and, perhaps most important of all, through education of the individual.

Death walks the highway. He strides through our homes. He is an unseen visitor at every place of amusement. He is apt to put in his appearance in the happiest hours. The deaths that follow accidents can be eliminated almost 100 per cent if we will only make a small effort, and learn that a foolish act that saves a minute or provides a brief, futile thrill can send us or others into eternity. No graver problem faces the American people than the accident problem—and its solution is entirely up to the people.

Bureau of Investigation

Does North Carolina need a bureau of investigation to handle puzzling cases of crime? That seems to be rather a live question at this time, with most of the state officials inclined to favor it. Only Stanley Winborne, utilities commissioner, is being quoted as against it.

With the big bungle on the Clevenger case staring us in the face, it would seem that we really need some more efficient method of handling such things. At least we need somebody that will not talk quite so much. Perhaps the Buncombe County sheriff did his best. He at least kept the people thinking that something was going to "break" daily. Yet nothing happened. It is undoubtedly true that he needed more cooperation and help from the hotel people than he got.

What we seem to need is a well-trained department with the proper equipment and authority to make inquiry in puzzling cases.

A Republican Theory

New York Times

It is Republican doctrine, restated by Governor Landon in his acceptance speech, that the policies of the Roosevelt Administration "have taken the American farmer out of foreign markets," with disastrous consequences for American agriculture. The logic behind this accusation runs as follows: The Administration has curtailed the production of some of our most important export crops; it has thereby encouraged foreigners to export their own production; the result has been a calamitous loss of business for American producers who might otherwise be selling their goods abroad.

But when did American agriculture actually begin to suffer its heavy losses in the foreign field? Listen to a Republican Secretary of Agriculture (Mr. Hyde) reporting to a Republican President (Mr. Hoover) in the autumn of 1932:

"Exports of the principal agricultural products from the United States in the fiscal year 1931-32 declined in value 28 per cent from those of the preceding year, 50 per cent from those of 1929-30, and 59 per cent from those of 1928-29. * * * The decline during 1931-32 carried the value of the principal agricultural exports down to about the level at the beginning of the century. * * * Great surpluses remained unsold. But for price cuts, the surpluses would have been mountain high. Reduced buying power abroad was not the only cause of the drop in our agricultural exports. Increased farm production in Europe and elsewhere had a great deal to do with it.

All this, be it noted, was before Mr. Roosevelt was elected, before the letters AAA had been put together and before the first crop-curtailment plan was tried. Why were American farm exports already declining drastically, and why was European farm production already increasing rapidly? For one highly important reason: Because American investors were no longer lending abroad the vast sums of money which enabled foreigners to buy our goods. Once that process ceased, the prohibitive American tariff system which the Republican party prides itself on having established in this country effectively prevented foreigners from obtaining (through the sale of their own products in our markets) sufficient dollar exchange with which to maintain purchases of our farm products at their former pace. Inevitably their purchases declined. Inevitably their own production of farm products increased, frequently under the stimulation of Government subsidies. By the time AAA arrived upon the scene the whole process was so far advanced that a large number of American farmers were producing for a foreign market which was no longer in existence. At this point began the experiment with artificial scarcity.

That is the essence of the story of our lost foreign markets—except for the fact that if we wish to recover them we must lower our own tariffs in order to stimulate trade in both directions—a policy which the Republican party strenuously opposes.

Punishment for Gamblers

Chapel Hill Weekly

Let some policeman, who had much better be occupied in the pursuit of thieves and reckless drivers, arrest a group of poor Negroes engaged in a crap game, and the Negroes are brought into court and either fined or sentenced to the roads. And all the while well-to-do white people are gambling to their hearts' content, in absolute safety, in their homes and clubs and on their golf courses.

Commenting on the court proceedings in Durham on Monday of this week, the Greensboro News says: "Sixteen Negro defendants were convicted of week-end gambling; skin, craps, and th like, we suppose. Two were given road sentences; 14 were fined \$5 each and costs. No white man was tried for playing dime or two-bit syndicate golf at Hope Valley or Hillandale, and no warrant was issued for any member of the Thursday Afternoon Bridge Club charging her with indulging in two to ten cent contract . . .

"None, we think, would advise a complete disregard of the North Carolina gambling statutes against gambling; but there is more inequality of enforcement in this connection than in any other of our acquaintance. 'Numbers' flourish, slot machines rattle and clang. Reputable folks bet on anything and everything. But 999 cases out of every 1,000 tried in the police court result in taking money from those who have least. The moral uplift is just about negligible."

The way in which the poor and friendless are punished for private gambling is a shame and a disgrace. For the public authorities to act against professional gambling joints is proper enough; for policemen to snoop around and arrest petty gamblers while not interfering with gamblers in the "best circles" is a rotten business. There is plenty of work for the police to do in protecting life and property, and they had much better occupy themselves with that than with the persecution of the humble.

WOOD FOR SALE: 100 CORDS
pine wood, bedded, for sale at \$1.75 per cord, near highway. P. L. Salisbury, Hamilton, N. C. jy28 4t

NOTICE OF SALE
Under and by virtue of an order made by L. Bruce Wynne, clerk of the superior court, and under the authority contained in that certain deed of trust executed by Isaac Hopkins and wife, Susan Hopkins, on the 19th day of January, 1935, to John Hill Paylor, trustee, and recorded in book M-3, page 346, in the office of the register of deeds for Martin County, default having been made in the payment of notes secured in said deed of trust, the undersigned trustee will, on Friday, August 28th, at 12 o'clock noon, at the courthouse door of Martin County, in Williamston, North Carolina, offer at public sale to the highest bidder, for cash, the following described real estate:

Lying and being in the town of Robersonville, County of Martin, State of North Carolina, being situated on Academy Street (formerly Outerbridge Street, adjoining the lands of Spencer Williams, Lela White James, Outerbridge Street, now Academy Street, and ditch, and being the same house and lot in the said town of Robersonville formerly owned by Lucy Thompson Briley at the time of her death. Being the identical property conveyed December 23, 1929, by Lucy Thompson Briley to Susan Hopkins, deed duly recorded in book A-3, page 298, of Martin County registry. Said tract of land containing one-half acre, more or less.

This 27th day of July, 1936.
JOHN HILL PAYLOR,
Trustee.
jy28 4tw

NOTICE OF SALE
Under and by virtue of a deed of trust executed to the undersigned Trustee by W. Eli Roberson, dated 20th January, 1931, and of record in the Register of Deeds Office in Book G-3, page 10, to secure certain notes of even date therewith, and the stipulations not having been complied with, and at the request of the holder of said notes, the undersigned Trustee, will, on the 24th day of August, 1936, at 12 o'clock, noon, in front of the courthouse door Martin County, offer for sale to the highest bidder, for cash, the following described land:

1st. Beginning at gum, corner W. N. Roberson's corner, thence a southerly course along W. N. Roberson's line to W. N. Roberson's corner, a gum, thence a southerly course down the run of a branch to a gum, a corner in Bee Tree Branch, thence a northerly course up said branch to a gum, a corner, thence a northeast course along a ditch to the corner of the ditch, a corner, thence a westwardly course along said ditch, and thence a northerly course to the beginning. Containing Ninety acres, more or less, same being part of the Wiley Gurganus land.

2nd. Beginning at W. N. Roberson's corner on the Bowen Road, thence an easterly course down said road to a stob, Courtney Bowen corner, thence a southerly course along Courtney Bowen's line to a stob, a corner in R. H. Rogerson's line, thence a southwestwardly course along said Rogerson's line to a corner, a gum, in Bee Tree Branch in W. N. Roberson's line, thence up said Branch a northerly course along W. N. Roberson's line to the beginning. Containing Forty acres, more or less.

This 23rd day of July, 1936.
CALVIN AYERS,
Trustee.
jy-28 4t-w
B. A. Critcher, Attorney.

NOTICE OF SALE
Under and by virtue of authority contained in that certain deed of trust executed to the undersigned trustee on the 4th day of May, 1934, by W. K. Parker and wife, Frances Parker, said deed of trust being of record in the public registry of Martin County in book H-3, page 294, same being given to secure a cer-

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tain note of even date and tenor therewith, and the stipulations there in contained not having been complied with, and at the request of the holder of said note, the undersigned trustee will, on the 10th day of August, 1936, at 12 o'clock noon, in front of the courthouse door Martin County, offer for sale to the highest bidder, for cash, the following described real estate:

That tract of land, beginning at James Rhodes corner on the Hamilton road; thence S. 1 degree W. 132 1-2 poles to the corner of James Rhodes in Mill Branch; thence up Mill Branch S. 79 1-2 degrees W. 48 poles; S. 60 degrees W. 76 poles to the corner of James Rhodes land in Mill Branch; thence N. 156 poles to Hamilton Road; thence along Hamilton Road N. 79 1-2 degrees E. 123 poles to the beginning. Containing 46 1-2 acres. This land lies in Williamston Township, Martin County, North Carolina, and is bounded on the north by the land of W. J. Whit-

aker; on the east by the lands of James Rhodes; on the south by Mill Branch and Sitterson land and on the west by the land of James Rhodes. This land was conveyed to the applicant by James G. Staton and wife by deed dated 25th Sep-

tember, 1912, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds of Martin County, in book T-1, page 623.
This 9th day of July, 1936.
WHEELER MARTIN,
Trustee.
jy14 4tw

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