

Editorial and Opinion

Government Unlimited

Our generation is witnessing a struggle which in its far-reaching consequences possibly outstrips any other struggle this nation, our forefathers and ourselves have yet encountered. None of us knows all there is to know about anything. Those who talk loudest and most vociferously on one side or the other of truly controversial issue are least likely the ones with the real formula or best solution.

One of the best arguments against the "menace" of big government has come from the pen of the distinguished Dr. Malcolm McDermott of Duke Law School and a Democratic Presidential Elector in 1928. From here out the words are Dr. McDermott's:

"Our libraries, our laboratories, our factories are veritable monuments to man's achievements in the mastery of the forces of nature. Yet there is something vital, something basic that man has failed to learn. The one force man has never learned effectively to control is government, and therein lies the great secret of human ills.

"You understand, of course, that government is a force. Such is the very nature of government. It is the most potent force known to us human beings. It controls and determines the lives, the happiness, the destinies of every one of us. It can command even the forces of nature and direct them against its enemies or against its subjects who may dare oppose it. Within its control are life and death, happiness and misery, freedom and servitude, for every man, woman and child.

"We in America have long forgotten this basic concept of government, for, happily for us, we have hitherto lived under a government that was placed under restraint. But even in this so-called enlightened day well-nigh half the world is controlled by just such governmental power. That is *government unlimited*. It is at once the most diabolical, the most treacherous, and the most uncontrollable force known to man.

"Herein lie strange paradoxes. This force called government is a man-made force. Man creates it. It is a necessary force, for it forms the very basis of organized society. It is the foundation of human civilization. And yet, once it is set in motion, it can enslave man, it can destroy man. While man has learned to cope with the forces of nature, he has never yet learned effectively to cope with this force he himself creates.

"This war is being fought because a group of nations turned loose, first upon themselves and then upon the rest of the world, this terrible force of government unlimited. It is the same force that has spelled misery for mankind from the very dawn of history. It is the force that has launched wars of aggression, and used men as senseless pawns.

"While a student at Princeton I heard Woodrow Wilson make one of those profound observations for which he was noted, one that was later embodied in a great public utterance. He said, *"The history of liberty is the history of limitations upon the powers of government."* That is true. It is eternally true. Man's long, hard, slow climb up to liberty and freedom is found written in the limitations he has been able from time to time to place upon this dangerous power called government. The tragedy is that by one device and another, ambitious men, self-seeking men, ruthless men have succeeded in writing off those restrictions. If you want to know what then happens you have but to look to the Germany and Japan of today and to the Italy of yesterday. The double tragedy is that not only does the force of government unlimited enslave its own people, but in time it jumps boundaries and seeks to enslave other peoples as well, and then chaos sets in. I am not talking theory. I am dealing with facts demonstrated before our very eyes.

"Today we are engaged in a great conflict wherein freedom-loving men are grappling with that force in mortal combat, determined to crush it and bring it under control. In doing this we shall be simple-minded, indeed, if we at the same time shall unloose the same force within our own country.

"There is a school of thought even here in America that is impatient of limitations upon the powers of government. Such limitations, these men insist, spell inefficiency and delay in accomplishing through the processes of government the great reforms for which they stand. They resent any imputation that the chosen leaders would abuse the power of government unlimited committed to them.

"Let all of this be freely conceded, and still the questions remain, do we dare remove the limitations on government won for us by our forefathers at great price; what manner of men will come hereafter to be our leaders; and what will they do with this dangerous power?

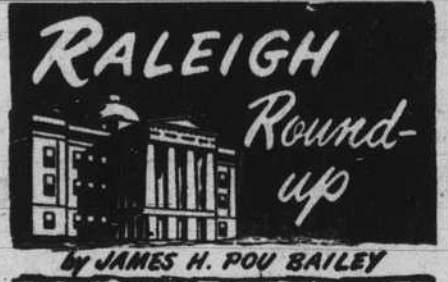
"You may recall an illustration used by Lincoln Steffens when discussing corruption in American cities. Someone asked what was the basic cause of such corruption. Steffens replied that in the sad story of the Garden of Eden the real cause of man's downfall was not the curiosity of the woman, nor the weakness of the man, nor yet the guile of the serpent.

THE CHRISTIAN VIEWPOINT

Prepared by Department of Bible, Presbyterian Junior College, Maxton, North Carolina

"In the East only about twenty per cent of the students go to publicly supported colleges. In the South it is about fifty per cent. In the West most students attend tax-supported colleges. In the West there is little interest in religion in colleges. In the East and South it is an important element in college life." These were the words of an official in the General Education Board in New York last week. He went on: "In recent months there has been a great wave of interest in religion all over the country. I've been reading all the best books on how to emphasize religion in colleges because I'm making a study of the subject."

Let us hope his diagnosis is correct and that there is a realization abroad in the land that science alone is not enough to live by, that the deep need of the American people as well as of the Russian people is deliverance from the power of evil within themselves, and that men are turning to Him who alone can answer the soul's deep need and lift us above the level of the animal into the full flowering of our highest human possibilities. A long while ago Jesus said, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."—Matthew 4:4.



BREAKDOWN? . . . Reports we have received since State employees were placed on a five-day week is that the system has worked well, with some minor exceptions.

Now, some of the school personnel out over the State are complaining that it is extremely difficult to get their problems settled by letter or telephone. They say conferences and conversation are needed—Saturday conferences—with officials of the State Department of Education. School people want the offices kept open on Saturday from September through May.

Of course, school teachers are the original Saturday-off people. Our understanding, however, is that they have a good case.

The 40-hour week is nice, but it doesn't always work out in practical application. Nevertheless, it is to be hoped that the school brethren and sisters can work out their troubles without resorting to the beginning of a breakdown of the five-day work week begun only two years ago.

TO RUSSELL . . . Decision of President Truman not to permit himself to be a candidate for reelection will throw North Carolina's Democrats solidly in the lap of Senator Richard Russell. Even before Truman made his announcement last Saturday night, a majority of the Democrats was in Russell's camp. Since 1945 it has been HST . . . or preferably HT . . . and before that, FDR. Now if Robert A. Taft were to become the next President, wonder if the newspapermen would continue to deal in initials.

It was the apple! That shining, glittering epitome of power attracted all the forces of evil. Today we call it a plum. *Plums incite corruption.*

"The most attractive, potent plum that can hang on any tree of life is that plum I have called government unlimited. To get it, selfish, corrupt and ambitious men will stake everything. It is a continuing incitement to evil. It is a prize to be gambled for at any cost. Once it is won, an entire people may be held in bondage.

"There is one way to eliminate this evil and this danger, and that is by having no such plum. Our forefathers knew this simple truth, and that is why in their wisdom they resolved that the plum of government unlimited should not hang on the tree of the American body politic. The risk was too great.

"Some months ago in a talk entitled 'While Free Men Slept' I submitted to a group of lawyers what I had observed in Germany as to how in that unhappy land this dreadful power of government unlimited was there unleashed. By every subtle means known to seductive demagogues it was laid hold upon, and when finally in their grasp it was used not only to lash the German people into complete submission but also to throw the entire world into conflict.

"As patriotic Americans we do well to ponder our present plight in the light of the lessons of the past. Those lessons are written large in the blood of men and women who yearned to be free, men and women who in their folly entrusted themselves to government unlimited.

"We are going to win this war, but we are naive, indeed, if we think that will mark an end of our perils. It can be that in the winning we shall lose the most precious heritage a people ever knew. To paraphrase a scriptural passage, what shall it profit a nation, if it shall gain the whole world and lose its own soul? America can lose her soul. She will lose her very soul when government unlimited is set up in the land."

THE AMERICAN WAY



Pigs Will Be Pigs



GARDEN TIME
ROBERT SCHMIDT
N.C. STATE COLLEGE

Although the season is somewhat more advanced in the extreme eastern portion of the State, there is still time to prune your fruit trees and roses and other summer flowering shrubs, if you haven't already done so. Do not prune spring flowering shrubs until after they bloom. I recently noticed some spiraeas in a yard here in Raleigh that had been severely pruned back during the winter. There will be very few blooms on those spiraeas this spring because most of the flowering wood has been removed. Don't make that mistake on your shrubs.

Boysenberries and dewberries should now be tied up to stakes or wires. Leave only about six strong canes; prune out the rest. Grapes may be pruned until the buds begin to swell. They will probably "bleed" a little but that is not considered harmful. When the buds swell, there is danger of rubbing them off when removing the runnings.

Mulch strawberries with pine straw or other short material. Work the straw in between the plants with a stick and cover the area between the rows. The straw put down at this time of year is not used as a protection against frost and cold weather but rather as a means of keeping sand from splashing on the berries and also as a means of keeping the berries up off the ground so that there is not so much danger of disease infection. Do not fertilize straw-

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