

THE EAGLE

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DON'T DRIVE ON THE FOURTH

We Americans have a bad habit of celebrating Independence day by running up a record number of accidents. It used to be that the casualties from fireworks headlined in newspapers the nation on the 4th of July. In recent years with fireworks out of the picture, our accident record has been kept in through automobile accidents.

But this year is different. This year, with the war with Japan going at a full tilt, it is of vital importance that everyone of us be on the job, and not in a hospital on the 4th of July. None of us feel personal danger about traveling on a busy road, but statistics year after year make it clear that the busy 4th is the most dangerous day of the year on a busy road, but the statistics year after year, make year for motorists.

That's why 130 organizations have joined with the National Safety Council to urge us to stay home on the Fourth of July. As the Council points out, "A Fourth of July holiday that would pile up a big accident toll and thus slow down our war effort would be a better holiday for the Japs."

BIBLE IN THE SCHOOLS

The move to place the Bible in the public schools of Gaston county should have the backing of the citizenship of the county. We believe that it will.

It is the belief of a strong committee of men in Gaston county that the absence of the Bible from the public schools is the main reason for juvenile delinquency.

As we all know, juvenile delinquency is growing fast all over America. The FBI attributes this to the breakdown of one restraint and the neglect of child training by parents. Parallel to the breakdown of the home are divorces, decline of Sunday School attendance, which in some cases appears to reach 30 per cent compared to 20 years ago. And down at the bottom of all lies the neglect of moral and religious instruction in the schools. We have raised two or three generations who know not the Lord, and the accumulative effects are being felt in a marked way.

America was not always thus. The pioneers of the United States were religious people, who believed in the Bible and sought it in their homes, their churches and in their schools, even after the adoption of the Bill of Rights, which provided that Congress should make no law respecting the establishment of the free exercise of religion. It is only in the last 75 years that the Bible has disappeared from the curriculum of the public school and college. The churches have offset this by their own colleges, which have given training in the Bible, but the public school has gradually departed from its old custom of teaching the Bible.

The above facts were presented on the church page of The Charlotte Observer a few weeks ago by Rev. J. G. Garth, church editor of that paper. He goes on to quote some figures from Dr. J. Elwin Wright, managing editor of United Evangelical Action of Boston, from an investigation he had made with respect to the past and present conditions of one state with reference to the Bible in the public schools. Dr. Wright selected the State of Vermont as an example. He investigated the text books of the state schools as in vogue in the 19th century, and the books of the present curricula. Let us note his observations:

Dr. Wright secured copies of reading books used in Vermont from 1800 to 1850. He found that without exception the religious material of these books ran from 23 per cent to 100 per cent. A New England Primer, published in 1822, was 62 per cent religious. Scripture passages were freely quoted, as, except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God; Grieve not the Holy Spirit of God; Now is the accepted time, now is the day of salvation.

In another book published in 1816, the book was 100 per cent religious matter, quoting the Lord's Prayer, the Apostles Creed, Watts' Hymns, the Shorter Catechism. Emerson's reader of 1834 was 48 per cent religious material. Some of its chapters were, "The Pleasures of Religion," "Christian Benevolences." A Goodrich reader with 307 pages had 67 per cent religious matter.

Dr. Wright then turned to books used in Vermont schools today, and found a striking contrast. We quote his findings: In the primer, no reference to God. In the First Reader, 70 pages of mythology, fairy tales, and other fanciful stories. Not a reference to God or Christ. Fifth reader, 485 pages, nearly three pages of selections from Psalms and Proverbs, 20 pages of mythology, two and a half about Buddha. Sixth reader, 460 pages. God mentioned six times, 42 pages of mythology.

Dr. Wright quotes a passage from a history textbook in first year of high school: "If we go back far enough in the history of man, we reach a time when he must have been without speech, and unable to build even a fire. There was no one to teach him anything." From another history, "The first men were more helpless and brute-like than the lowest savages in the world today. Their only covering was the coarse hair that covered their bodies." "The stone age man lived more than 100,000 years ago.

What Dr. Wright found in Vermont could be repeated in every state in the Union, for they all get their textbooks from the same sources. As our informant says, "It is very apparent that in the opinion of educators today it is highly dangerous to give our children any information about God, Christ, or the Bible, although information about Buddha, Mohammed, Confucius, Jupiter, Mars and other heathen deities is considered desirable and essential."—Gastonia Gazette.

Candidate for the 'Distinguished Service Medal'



This Week in WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, April 23.—The Allies tonight sternly warned the Nazis against mistreatment of prisoners, and the United States took Germany up on an offer to leave American prisoners of war in camps as Allied forces overtake areas where they are held.

Prime Minister Churchill and Premier Stalin joined with President Truman in the warning that any person guilty of mistreating any Allied prisoner of war, interned or deported citizen will be ruthlessly pursued and brought to punishment.

The stiffly worded statement was an obvious outgrowth of mounting indignation over horrible conditions found in a number of German prison camps as American armies drive the Nazis behind them.

This anger also reflected itself in this way here:

A demand was voiced in the House by Rep. Flood, Democrat of Pennsylvania, that the captured German diplomat Franz von Papen be tried "as one of the chief agents of the Nazi hierarchy" behind atrocities.

Another Congressman, Rep. Gossett, Democrat of Texas, said every German prisoner of war held in this country should be compelled to see movies of the murder camps uncovered by the Allies in Europe.

Elmer Davis of the office of war information promised that the Germans would be told plenty about the wholesale horrors as a part of their reeducation.

Creation of an official American agency to investigate and to record war crimes was proposed in Congress.

The Truman - Churchill - Stalin warning was addressed to any German who has charge of prisoners anywhere. It was made carefully explicit that there can be no reliance on the excuse of orders from higher authorities or on alibis that the acts were carried out by subordinates without actual authorization.

Every available means of communication including broadcasts from Washington, London and Moscow, was being utilized to convey the message to all commandants, guards, Gestapo agents and other persons regardless of service or rank, who might have the charge of Allied nationals. Allied planes were dropping uncounted copies of the warning over the part of Germany still held by the Nazis.

"Any person guilty of mistreating or allowing any Allied prisoner of war, interned or deported citizen to be mistreated, whether in the battle zone, on lines of communication, in a camp, hospital, prison or elsewhere, will be ruthlessly pursued and brought to punishment," the statement says.

It adds that responsibility will be "binding in all circumstances and one which cannot be transferred to any other authorities or individuals whatsoever."

Those specifically addressed, it says, "no less than the German High Command and the competent German military, naval and air authorities, will be held individually responsible."

The German offer to leave prisoners of war where they may be liberated by advancing Allied armies was transmitted through the Swiss governments as protecting power, a joint announcement by the War and State departments.

The statement said it applied to "all prisoners of war" but this government's acceptance was for itself alone and only as applied to American prisoners.

"The government of the United States," the State-War announcement said, "informed the Swiss government that unless word to the contrary was received from Germany by midnight Sunday April 22, 1945 (Bern, Switzerland time—7 P. M. Eastern war time), the government of the United States would consider this arrangement as being in effect as between itself and the German government as it relates to American prisoners of war, and as being operative as of that time and date."

As of the time specified no word to the contrary had been received from the German government.

One factor behind the German offer obviously was the lessening capacity of the hard-hammered Nazis to handle prisoner movements or find new places for them. Allied armies so far have over-run 47 of the 8 camps and hospitals where American soldiers are known to have been held, the War and State departments said, but at last reports the Nazis still held some 60,000 to 65,000 American war prisoners.

AT FIRST SIGN OF A COLD USE 666

Cold Preparations as directed



If You Had MY JOB

KEEPING HOUSE, helping take care of the family—you would realize that business girls are not the only ones who sometimes get Headache and Tired Aching Muscles. We home girls often work just as hard and have just as many Headaches, just as many Stomach Upsets and get just as Tired.

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Dale Carnegie

Author of "HOW TO WIN FRIENDS and INFLUENCE PEOPLE"

CARE IN ANSWERING QUESTIONS

I recently walked up to the information bureau in the largest railroad station in the world—the Grand Central in New York City—and inquired: "Where will I find the 3:15 train for Boston?"

The man behind the counter replied: "Track 18." Where was track 18? Naturally, I didn't know whether it was on that level or the lower level, so I had to ask a second question: "Does it leave from this floor or the floor below?" I was informed that it was on that floor.

But on what part of that floor was track 18? It might have been almost half a block to my left or half a block to my right. So, I had to ask a third question.

This man who makes his living year in and year out doing nothing but answering questions for hurried, nervous patrons of the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroad, does his job about as inefficiently as it is possible for him to do it.

Now, what should he have done? First, he should have repeated the time and destination of my train to make sure that he had understood me and that I had said precisely what I meant. Second, he should have given me immediately, and with a little more graciousness, all the information that I had to draw out of him with a series of three questions.

In other words, when asked, "Where does the 3:15 train for Boston leave from," he should have replied: "The 3:15 train for Boston leaves on track 18, this level, over there to your right," pointing in the direction.

Why didn't he answer like that? Because he was not trained to do it that way. And why wasn't he trained? I wonder. Some of the best transportation executives in America are operating this railroad; and why they permit such conditions to exist is difficult to understand.

If the general manager of the railroad wants to find out how questions should be answered, all he has to do is stroll over to the RCA building in Radio City and ask the man behind the information counter where to find Mr. A. L. Blank. Then what will happen? In order to be sure he understood you correctly, the information man will repeat the name "Mr. A. L. Blank." Then he will pause and say "18th floor." He will then pause again and say, "Room 1816." He will then tell you what elevator to take and where it is located.

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