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WEDNESDAY, JULY 21, 1943

Dr. Saunders

Early Reports Were Wrong: He Stays at Morganton

The News has had its say so many times on Dr. J. R. Saunders, the present supervisor of Morganton's State Hospital For the Insane, that we will be brief with this latest comment.

We have just discovered, after being assured by an Associated Press report that Dr. Saunders had resigned his position, that he has, indeed, been retained. He will not, as reported, enter the armed service, but will continue to hold power over the inmates at Morganton.

Dr. Saunders was assistant to the late Dr. Watkins during the period of mis-treatment and neglect of Morganton's patients. He is the Crown Prince of Morganton, described in last year's investigation as hated and feared by patients.

He was largely responsible for the treatment patients received in the past at Morganton. He will, we feel morally certain, continue the policies he permitted to be followed in the past. The Governor's Board of Inquiry, at least informally, is opposed to leaving Dr. Saunders in the office if another man can possibly be hired.

And yet the Governor's new Board of Control has retained Dr. Saunders, as we had earlier reported. The retention of this man, far from blameless in the long investigation, is the end of the battle for humanity, and against the hard, often cruel treatment of Morganton's inmates.

This is a victory for the impinging school of thought which held, tongue in cheek, that there was nothing wrong at Morganton that money couldn't cure. All the testimony offered in the long weeks of investigation has been forgotten; that there was filth, and inhumane treatment, and lack of fresh air, and politics.

If it is impossible just now to secure the services of a new director, we should say so. Otherwise, the people of North Carolina will understand fully that the lone result of the Morganton investigation, with all its heart-breaking revelations, was a political trade of some sort.

E. T. Canler

His Death Takes a Real Leader From Community

The passing of so valued a citizen as E. T. Canler, Sr. will not go unnoted by this community, nor by North Carolina. Throughout a long and active life he made his influence felt and his personality appreciated throughout the entire section. As an attorney he had long been a professional leader, one of the best-known lawyers in the State.

NYA Reborn

State Gets a Chance To Pick Its Bones at a Bargain

It may be that North Carolina, under an arrangement between our Department of Education and the Federal Government, will be able to take over the going concern that was until recently the National Youth Administration, and keep it going in these parts. Governor Broughton intimated that such steps would be taken last week, and said that the NYA's machinery and mechanical equipment might soon be in operation again, under State direction.

If that comes to pass, then some 2,000 young men and women may be trained despite the interruption—for such facilities are in existence—and badly needed workers for war plants and shipyards may be forthcoming. It may be that the State, operating the few units within its borders, can operate the NYA somewhat more economically than the Federal Government. At any rate, with all the gains to be made, the conversation about the NYA has been several hun-

Gay Old Party

Republicans Push Bertie McCormick in Face, and Move

The dress parade of the Republican Party must have made a terrible noise in the City of Chicago. The bugles must have hurt the sensitive ears of Colonel Bertie McCormick, and sounded as the strokes of doom to the Republican Nationalist Revival Committee—an organization of subscribers to The Chicago Tribune.

The Republican Party has officially, note this carefully, now, come out for the defeat of the Axis! Great balls of fire, citizens, the Republicans want to whip the enemy! The news is startling, but that is not all, and we must hurry. The GOP also wants to take part in the world of the future. Convinced, now, that the earth is round, and not so large as it was in the days of Howland.

There were a few faint cries from the back of the hall, even from Col. Bertie, as he was being thrust off the speakers. One voice was heard to remark that he was in favor of reasonable nationalism, whatever that means. But that was all. The Party was off at a gallop.

The name of the new standard is the same Franklin Roosevelt has been posed in for a great many years, but it's news when the Republicans do these things, so the chief of the New Deal doesn't matter. He's now just a man who was President for three terms, and an 'old' to make it on the fourth try. When the GOP moves, it moves. What does it matter that, as it moved, it ground Bertie McCormick and Franklin Roosevelt under the wheels. This is progress!

The Beer Ban

It Achieved Results, But Can't Be Perfect Forever

Downtown Charlotte was very quiet, Sunday night. There were not so many soldiers, and all of those in sight were well-behaved. Many of the questionable beer joints were closed tight, and dark. Their owners had taken benefit of the beer ban, but their sales were about the only excuse for staying open, anyhow. So the beer ban, apparently, worked like a charm on its first trial.

There were rumors that several places were selling soda on the sly, in violation, and that, in the Negro sections, beer and wines were being sold in homes. But there was no disturbance, and the business section which is usually noisy night after night, was, in fact, quiet. It was prohibition at its best; prohibition, even a little one, reached the goal. If there were those thirty citizens who stocked up in advance, and did not live in the privacy of home, no one knew or cared. There was peace and quiet on the streets, and no riot threatened.

In Mecklenburg, home of 150,000 souls of all kinds and all drinking habits, there was not an arrest for drunkenness—and that sounds like a record. Drunks, who give the courts of City and County the majority of their business, were the matter of a dozen, and the first on Sunday night. That was a victory for law and order, and for the Army, but it must not be thought to be a final victory for the little prohibition. For the beer ban, though it may do an apparently perfect job in preventing street scenes, will certainly not stop the drinking of beer. And it will certainly not guarantee a perfect record in the matter of arresting drunks. As a temporary measure designed to give City and military police relief from an unusual problem, we are willing to accept it as a permanent measure, and at the citizens of the County after the war, we will oppose it vigorously.

WASHINGTON POSTMASTER GENERAL FRANK WALKER, and Czech Ambassador Hurban called on the President the other day with a sheet of newly printed stamps commemorating the visit of Czechoslovakia. FDR immediately began jiddling Walker about the fact that he was getting bald.

"Boss" replied the Postmaster General, looking down upon the seated President, "you're getting bald yourself. Any vertebrae?" "Not a vertebra in the world," replied FDR, running a hand over his thinning hair. "Well, you mustn't worry," joked Walker. "We don't want you to get bald."

Then he and the Czech Ambassador handed Roosevelt the new stamps for his collection. The President, one of the leading philatelists in the country, examined the new issue carefully, complimented Walker on it. Then as his callers were about to leave, the Postmaster General remarked: "By the way, how about some money? We're selling these to you, not giving them."

The President laughed and felt in his pockets. They were empty. Carefully, one by one, he examined each pocket. He didn't have a cent to his name. Finally he had to send out and get some money to pay for the stamps.

NOTE: Most people don't realize it, but the President of the United States seldom has an opportunity to spend anything for himself. All his household bills are paid by the housekeeper, and he travels, at his own expense, so the President gets out of the habit of carrying money.

If John L. Lewis could have heard what went on at a secret meeting of Assistant President James Burnes and War Labor Board members, his hitrate

War Regalia

By Dorman Smith



For Freedom

A Case Of Nerves

By Samuel Grafton

NEW YORK

IF THERE were no great popular movement in France, the officials of North Africa would not be giving that curious impression that they are walking stiffly on eggs toward the future.

They have tried to make themselves free of the people, and how often they are! Even Girard's trip to Washington was a complicated kind of obedience to the people, a sort of ebb-tide. He has tried to act independently of the French resistance movement, to be uncontrolled by it, and so he has had to cross an ocean to impress it.

How tense they are, these who would do without the people! Ten times a day, they pause unwillingly to bow to the very people they are trying to do without. It is so, around the world. Even the Harrison Spangler wing of the Republican party, which is trying to get around the people's desire for a more stable world, finds that it has to work by agreeing that it wants a more stable world and by setting up a committee to plan, or something, for it.

And Governor Becker of Ohio finds he has to work for "a return to local self-government" by saying, just that he is in favor of international cooperation. Not this kind, of course.

Of Harry Riddle

Editors, The News: It will be a big surprise to me if this letter is ever printed in your newspaper. It will undoubtedly end as did so many that praised the work of the Board and employees of the State Hospital at Morganton. Every bit of the testimony in the investigation that was against the hospital was played up big by you. It was also printed in heavy black type but on the other hand all testimony in favor of the board and employees was always put in fine print.



Everyday Counselor

First & Last

By Rev. Herbert Spough

FROM Tampa, Fla. the Associated Press reports this twister, "Give me your last name first," said the clerk registering Tampa Shipbuilding Company workmen for the new pay-as-you-go income tax deduction.

"First," "Yes," she said, "Your last name first." "First," he repeated, "My last name is 'First'." "What is your first name then?" she asked. "Last," he replied.

In no mood for play, the clerk who had had a busy day, shoved the form over to the worker and told him to fill it out for himself. "Last Name First," the Louisiana Ave., Tampa, Fla. he wrote. "That is really my name," he explained. "My parents name were First, and for some unexplained reason they called me Last. They are both dead and I never found out the reason why, but the confusion has plagued me all my life. Every time I fill out a questionnaire, I have to go through all this."

Three of the Gospel writers record the experience and conversation of Jesus with the Rich Young Ruler, the man who put earthly treasure before heavenly treasure. Perhaps he might have changed his mind if he had been with Captain Rickenbacker recently on the Pacific, when that group learned something about "First Things."

We are told that this young man was clean, upright, attractive. St. Mark adds, "Then Jesus beholding him, loved him." He asked to become a follower of the Saviour, who told him that if he would do this, he must put away his worldly possessions. This he was not prepared to do. Jesus concluded His observations upon this incident by saying: "FIRST THINGS SHALL BE LAST, AND THE LAST SHALL BE FIRST."

Someone or other it is so difficult for us to realize that Jesus meant what He said; that He presented life's true values in their proper order. We are fighting the most terrible war the world has ever seen because too many have insisted on putting self first.

When the founding fathers concluded the famous Declaration of Independence, it is interesting to read what they did for the support of the Declaration, WITH A FIRM RELIANCE ON THE PROTECTION OF DIVINE PROVIDENCE, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor."

Simplification

War By Air

By Raymond Clapper

ALLIED COMMAND POST, NORTH AFRICA. I HAVE met British officers who have not been home for three years. Many Americans I have met over here have been away more than a year. Few have any prospect of getting home before the war is declared, perhaps not until Japan is licked. For the sake of saving lives and finishing the war as soon as possible the best chance lies in pushing air warfare to the fullest extent.

It is showing little that the bold use of air power can do. The beach landings there had been dreaded as likely to be the most bloody kind of operation. But because of the heavy use of air power in advance, the landings were relatively easy. Sixty also is demonstrated that enormous quantities of men and supplies can be moved in a day after day, operating the vast amount of shipping necessary for that purpose, with negligible losses. The air ever has made possible all naval and ground operations with few casualties.

Evacuation hospitals made preparations for thousands of casualties but the expected rush of the wounded has not materialized. In the case of Sicily air warfare seems to have further fulfilled the hopes of its champions.

It is obvious to the layman that something new has been added to the character of warfare. By taking full advantage of our opportunities for the use of air we are able to offset some of the difficulties that otherwise would make the defeat of Japan a long and tedious struggle. It is to be hoped that the possibilities now being demonstrated in Sicily will be exploited fully in our bigger campaigns to come.

Our present air superiority over Sicily is simplifying the whole campaign and speeding it forward in the most hopeful manner. Every day reconnaissance planes bring back photographs showing what traffic is on the roads, which is little if any new, what the enemy has on his airfields, where his shipping is, if any.

Sometimes just before a mission goes out they send a plane over to make quick photographs. In the first stages of the invasion of Sicily medium bombers were taking off soon after the photographic planes brought back target pictures. These reconnaissance photographs are a story in themselves. Col. Elliott Roosevelt heads one Air Force photographic group in North Africa.

The photographers go out in unarmed planes to get pictures of every town, perhaps mapping pictures, perhaps a closeup shot of a group of men on a railroad yard or harbor works or other points of interest. This kind of plane over Sicily and thus have under the most favorable conditions a laboratory of air warfare such as we have not had elsewhere. We are getting a working-out to other planes besides the P-51.

The most versatile plane is proving to be the P-51 which one Gen. Arnold was having trouble defending against criticism. This plane has become a remarkable jack-of-all-trades.

Another one in action with spectacular success is the F4U Corsair fighter-bomber, created out of the Mustang type. Finally the medium bomber B-25 which was so much criticized in the United States, especially because of its high landing speed, is proving itself fully here. One B-25 made a belly landing this week without injury to the crew. The "Coughlin Coffin," just retired, several times came all the way home on one engine.

Our various air weapons are proving out here to be highly satisfactory and improvements are coming along steadily. We have remarkable pilots and crews. All of which seems to make air war our natural specialty.

Visitin' Round Bible Thought

Do not take advantage of weakness nor ignorance. God is deeply interested in such and will father their cause; He doth execute His judgment of the fatherless and widow—Deut. 10:18.