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WEDNESDAY, JULY 6, 1938

Salvaging the Big Show

Gargantua the Great, the big gorilla, has joined up with the Al G. Barnes Circus. And so has Frank Buck, the big Brin-Brin-Ah-Ah. And so have the Wallendas, the high wire marvels. And Captain Terry Jacobs and Dolly and the lions, and William Meyer and his horses, and the Nallou, Japanese acrobats and ballet dancers, oh, yes, we've nearly forgot; Roland Butler, the great agent.

The Barnes outfit is a subsidiary of the Ringling, Barnum & Bailey outfit. And in transferring these principal acts, including Roland's, the subsidiary, the circus performers, including Gargantua perhaps and Roland of a certainty.

Honeyed Words

The President plainly had his tongue in his cheek yesterday when he announced that he was going to continue the fight for the reorganization bill. Not that he didn't mean it, but that he didn't mean it.

Most Representatives who voted to shove the reorganization measure favored 90 per cent of its principles and opposed ten per cent of its details.

And that's a beautiful example of a speech promulgated by way of practical politics. As the President knows very well, that account of the bill looks like the dubious "the boys, indeed, made a great deal to do about all sorts of details. The Comptroller General was about to be abolished, the Civil Service Administration would be the puppet of the President, etc., etc. — all of which was pretty plainly not so. And some of them confessed frankly to a yen to smack the President down at any cost. But — the heart and core of that bill was simply a provision under which the President could have taken an army of 150,000 Government employees off the patronage list and put them under civil service.

Which, we betcha, was the main reason most of the boys were so dead set against the bill. For it is patently, precisely, through which a Congressman keeps his job.

The End of the Way

They have gone home from Gettysburg now, the 2,000 old men who were left behind to guard the rear of a half who once made up the greatest armies of their time. And the odds are that none of them will ever look with bleary eyes on the scene again.

What did they think about as they fumbled themselves into bed on the last night and watched the fireworks on Oak Hill in their honor? Not many of them had actually ever fought in the "great fight" or the "Peach Orchard," but all of them were not past remembering could remember how those names had once hovered over the minds of a people, charged with hope and pride and despair and triumph. But perhaps in the way of the old they did not think much of that. Perhaps they went poking about among the memories of childhood. Or thought of nothing says only that they were very dead, that they had really very dead in a sleep. Or even did not think of it, as the brown leaf waiting for the winter wind does not think of whether they thought, over and over, that would forever. A man who has lived as long as these men who were here, they would have thought, over and over, that would forever.

gaping breath as compared with the long, long while that went before and the long, long while that had come and had their glory, and all very important it had seemed once. But now it was an old fading memory, and was about to end forever in a very quiet and almost faithful way that one forever, — like the whistling of a ship passing down a fog-bound harbor to the sea.

Opportunity for Service

Two or three weeks ago, Detective Chief Sullivan, emphasizing the greater effect of certainty of punishment over severity of punishment, let fall a cynical comment about the management of Mecklenburg's Superior Court which, if true, had been caused by an uproar. There was instead a dead silence. The chief said right out in meetings, so to speak:

"In Charlotte, a case against a man of influence and money will not get on the court docket before it is tried."

In addition to cases of this kind, hundreds of others, involving people of no influence at all, without legal dollars to their name, have rotted on the court docket in this county. Not favoritism but simply inefficiency, archaic methods, inept administration and indifference have been responsible for the fact that the dread of criminals — storebreakers, drunken drivers, assaultants — have gone untired, first freed on bonds which weren't worth the paper they were written on, and finally forgotten in the rush of the court business. There has been no such thing as certainty of punishment in Mecklenburg County. Indeed, with more than 300 nonprosecutors in the last fourteen months, there has been some unpredictable certainty that no punishment would be meted out through non-trial.

It was this condition to which Dr. V. K. Hart, retiring president of the Rotary Club, addressed himself yesterday. He recommended that the organization undertake a balance sheet study of court dockets and administration, to see what was wrong and what to do about it. We hope they take him up on it. The Rotarians preen themselves on service, and there is probably no greater service to the public than in Mecklenburg County than this.

Streets As Private Property

The National Labor Relations Board yesterday ordered the Harlan Fuel Co. of Yancey, in Harlan County, Va., to cease its efforts to stop unionization of its employees by the United Mine Workers of America, John Lewis' CIO organization, and extended the order:

"To prohibit the mining company from barring U. M. W. strikers from the streets of Yancey. The company holds a 29-year lease on all lands in power in the town. It has contended that by virtue of its lease it was entitled to bar union organizers from entering the community."

When you set up a town, you set up a town, whether you incorporate it or not; and the notion that you can treat its streets as private property is a relic of feudalism, when the barons owned their towns and the lives of those dwelling in it in fee simple. It gives you the power — as in this case — to deny the citizens those rights which under modern democracy we accept as inhering in them without regard to the possession of property rights. As such it is totally incompatible with common sense or any sound theory of private property rights. Indeed, it has done more than any other thing to lend color to the propaganda that all private property is essentially feudalistic in nature. And destruction ought to be welcomed and encouraged by everybody who genuinely wants to see private property rights preserved.

Contradictory but Competent

Anthony Eden has a high opinion of the United States' foreign policy. He said so in a speech at London on the Fourth. And France's Foreign Minister Georges Bonnet had the nice thing to say about American ideas, statesmanship and competence in the Paris on the Fourth. Our hearts swelled with pride.

But come to think of it, what is our foreign policy? The Good Neighbor? Of a certainty, in Pan-American affairs. But Pan-America is home, in a manner of speaking. Foreign is over yonder.

And over yonder we are doing the most contradictory things. On the theory that it is principally the hoarding of international commerce which has made the world a yapping Secretary Hull has been making trade treaties right and left, without any regard to political characteristics or animosities. Yet a trade treaty with Italy fell through because of the way of the King of Italy Emperor of Ethiopia as well.

And we are shipping munitions and supplies of war to the combatants in China and Japan without a thought of the way in which the ship such materials to either side in Spain is against the law as the President has formally invoked it. We have insisted to Japan's face that we have our rights in China and India. And the ball lies in another direction, in the hands of the Emperor of Manchukuo, which used to be a part of

A Sure Thing

(Here and There, Sanford Herald)

H. M. Waggoner, one of Sanford's independent sellers, is a man who doesn't bet unless it's on a sure thing. Out on the local golf course the other afternoon, he came close to betting Don Currie, of Pinehurst, on a little putting drill. But better judgment held him off, and now he's strolling, walking down the street with three big catfish and two gars on a string. "You could very easily imagine those catfish in a frying pan covered with corn meal, and you'd bet your eyes were done," he says, with a glance from the diet of cornbread and molasses.

(R. F. Blank, Lexington Dispatch)

Edna Leonard's son, accidentally lost the best part of a couple of his teeth Saturday.

China, the abrogation of all our rights based on no convincing proof whatever.

And that and more like that to the contrary notwithstanding, we agree with Messrs. Eden and Bonnet that our foreign policy is to be commended. We are doing, in the face of the gravest difficulties, the best we can, and nation nor man can do better than that.

THE LEGION AND FASCISM

By HEYWOOD BROUN

PROFESSOR WILLIAM GELLMANN, of Northwestern University, has written a doctor's thesis on the American Legion. I assume that it is a long document and that the educator furnishes data on which the bases of his conclusions. Newspapers can afford to give only the highlights, and many readers will take aside one way or another merely by reading the headlines.

Already one of the Legion officials has attempted to say that the doctor is a Red and should go back where he 'came from. That, of course, really isn't an answer. I haven't read Professor Gellmann's report, but I want to 'horn in' on the discussion somewhat to be said for Legion leaders, both local and national.

The offices which he held didn't drop into their laps. At least, they went out and worked to get themselves elected. In my opinion, it would be an excellent thing if the articles' spokesmen of the American Legion were to take these views, but that isn't likely to happen unless the progressives get to work and elect the kind of men they want.

THOSE WHO DISLIKE PRESENT POLICY SHOULD VOTE

It is my understanding that approximately four million persons are eligible for membership and that a shade under a million now belong. Very many have supposed that those who are not members are those of them dropped out because they didn't "like the way things are going." That seems to be almost the poorest excuse in the world. As far as a purely social club is concerned, it is the individual's right to take it or let it alone.

IF I DON'T THINK THAT RIGHT EXISTS FOR ANYONE WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO BELONG TO ORGANIZATIONS WHICH MAY POTENTIALLY PLAY AN IMPORTANT PART IN THE AFFAIRS OF OUR NATION, WHETHER BY THE ACTIVITIES OF THE AMERICAN LIBERAL IN OTHER COUNTRIES, THERE IS NO DENYING THE FACT THAT IT IS A POWER IN AMERICAN POLITICS. THOSE WHO DROP OUT AND THEN PROCEED TO EFFLACE THE STATEMENTS OF THE NATIONAL COMMANDER ARE NOT DOING AN EFFICIENT JOB.

It may be tedious and difficult work for the American Liberal to obtain membership and do their best to get the sort of commander they desire at the next convention. If the Legion needs to be reformed, that change can best be accomplished by Legions.

MERE LAZINES EXPLAINS THE RULE OF A CLIQUE

I don't mean for a minute that the Legion should be immune from criticism from without. But very persons in power in the world, carrying a banner of some kind, are not eligible to the franchise assures them that in his opinion they are blackhearted reactionaries. The ballot box is a great leveler.

It is much more simple to kick a man by power to convert him. On several occasions this column has criticized the Legion, but it is my present impression that nothing I ever said was particularly salutary whether it was right or not. As the years pile on I begin to believe that I have rushed to certain fates, with the best intentions in the world, carrying a bucket of undiluted kerene.

Your million potential Legionnaires can't all be fascists, or America is already gone. Even a million can't invariably be wrong. But they can be busy, industriously inclined to let a small active group run the show.

Devil and the Sea

(Norfolk Virginian-Pilot)

Improvement in business threatened to put the Republicans in a pretty quandary. They don't know whether to be happy over money in their pockets or sad over declining election prospects.

Visiting Around

LOSERS AND GAINS IN TARBEELIA
 Loss
 (Oak Grove Item, Lexington Dispatch)
 Our esteemed Sunday school superintendent had the misfortune to lose his mule recently.

Losses
 (Princeton Item, Smithfield Herald)
 Lightning killed a mule for J. P. Rain and a cow for Jack Edwards during the rainstorm Sunday afternoon.

Gains
 (Sanford Herald)
 We are very appreciative for the nice squares that Mrs. R. W. Cox down on route 3, Jonesboro gave us the other day, also for the nice peaches that J. P. Brown over on route 2 Sanford gave us. If there is anything we like any better than these, it is just a little more of them.

Loss
 (Winston-Salem Route 5 Item, Lexington Dispatch)
 Belford Goddeller is very sad since one of his big "Sulla cattle" disappeared Monday night, leaving her little ones alone. He is very fond of his rabbits.

Gains
 (E. V. Wilkins, Smithfield Herald)
 Seen along the drag duty Wednesday morning, a young Negro boy, his eyes sparkling, walking down the street with three big catfish and two gars on a string. "You could very easily imagine those catfish in a frying pan covered with corn meal, and you'd bet your eyes were done," he says, with a glance from the diet of cornbread and molasses.

Loss
 (R. F. Blank, Lexington Dispatch)
 Edna Leonard's son, accidentally lost the best part of a couple of his teeth Saturday.

What Became Of Cemetery Park Scheme?

Charlotte Is Only Town Of Size In South Without A Rest Spot Downtown

Dear Sir:

I noticed that some time ago Dorothy Knox had something to say several times in her column about the desirability of turning the old cemetery in the back of Knox and the First Presbyterian Church into a public park. And some time after that you heartily endorsed the idea in an editorial. I walked hopefully to hear that the city officials were at least considering it, but I never did. Dorothy Knox and the editors of The News seem to have decided to let the matter drop.

Why? Charlotte is the only town in the South, so far as I know, where there is not a single bench in the park and no rest area on which one may pause to rest. And the old cemetery is perfectly adapted, it seems to me, to be made into a park without any offense against the graves of the dead. Why don't you get behind this proposal in a consistent and concerted way? You know that is the only way to ever get anything done in Charlotte.

V. R. L.
 Charlotte.

What A Men Knows Is Guide Of His Value

Dear Sir:

Statistics have been tabulated showing that productivity per man varies directly with the schooling. The poor farmers of India receive from three to fourteen cents per day, and only five cents more if they are able to read and write. In Russia about forty per cent of the people read and write. In the United States 92.3 per cent of the people read and write. From the shoulders down, neither men or nations are worth more than one percent of Americans are college graduates.

ROBERT L. CAGLE JR.
 Ansonville.

WHITTE HERON

By Maude Waddell
 A woman's acme is painted on my heart.
 And down the vista of the years,
 I see a heron standing in the marsh,
 Snow white in a mist of tears;
 Like green reeds against a sapphire sky.

Like fingers trace upon the air,
 The lines that beauty such as this
 Must die.
 And heron white and very fair,
 Beyond their fading finis form,
 Find sanctuary, where beauty end
 Seek refuge from the ravage of time's storm.

The Squabbling Liberals

By HERBERT AGAR

SOME days ago I wrote about the danger to liberalism if labor cannot postpone its private warfare long enough to vote unified liberal candidates. If the AFL refuses to vote for anyone who is supported by the CIO, and vice versa, liberal candidates will be defeated all over the country and Congress will fill up with people like Senator Tydings and Representatives Smith and Clegg.

There is also the danger of a divided vote. There are liberal voters outside the ranks of labor. One reason why liberals in America have seldom been as powerful as their numbers would make possible is that they tend to be perfectionists. They tend to get angry at any political leader who does not give them exactly 100 per cent of what they want.

Since nobody can ever get exactly what he wants in politics, American liberals have tended to waste their strength on "protest votes." The Tories are not so foolish; they stick together.

Issues have recently become so clear and so important that even the liberals are beginning to see the importance of sticking together. An interesting example of this is an article in the New Republic by John Chamberlain: "Roosevelt or Reaction?"

THE LIBERALS HAVE NEVER TRUSTED MR. ROOSEVELT

John Chamberlain is one of the best-informed liberals, intellectuals in America, and he is the most perceptive critic of the liberal-intellectuals who are always distrustful Mr. Roosevelt. It has seemed to them impossible that the President could really mean what he said, could really intend to go through with the fight.

This attitude has been partly established in the past. The liberal-intellectuals look down on politicians. They do not care to believe that a man who rises in high office through one of our two major parties can be both sincere and courageous.

And their attitude has partly been based on the history of history. For since the liberal-intellectuals did not care to believe that a man who rises in high office through one of our two major parties can be both sincere and courageous, they have tended to be perfectionists. They tend to get angry at any political leader who does not give them exactly 100 per cent of what they want.

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BELIEVE IT OR NOT By Ripley

On request, sent with stamped, addressed envelope. Mr. Ripley will furnish proof of anything depicted by him.

ALL THE RAILROAD CARS OF THE P.&E. RR. WOULD MAKE A TRAIN LONGER THAN THE RAILROAD ITSELF

TRY STONE'S FOR GOOD BEDS

ADVERTISEMENT OF A FURNITURE COMPANY IN MRKEESPOT, PA.

MARY MALON Ansonville, N.C. THE GIRL WITH THE BABY FACE KNEES

A MILLER'S TOMBSTONE IS A MILLSTONE
 Kahoka, Missouri

Today's Cartoon Self-Explanatory

Earlier Days

News of 75 and 100 Years Ago From Files in the State Library at Raleigh

JULY 4, 1863
 75 YEARS AGO
 CONFEDERATE ACCOUNTS

There has been four days' fighting near Gettysburg, commencing on Saturday night, July 3, and ending on Tuesday night, July 4th. It is reported here that A. P. Hill, Early and Rodes thought the army principally on Wednesday, beginning at 1 o'clock and lasting two hours. We drove the enemy through Gettysburg and two and a half miles beyond. At Gettysburg we captured their wounded — 3,500 in number.

In the fight on Thursday our whole line is said to have engaged, the line of battle extending six miles in length. The fighting continued until a very late hour of the night of Thursday and was renewed again on Friday night. It is also reported to have begun again on Saturday and ended late Saturday night by our men capturing the immense fortifications of the enemy.

—Yatesville Observer.

JULY 4, 1863
 100 YEARS AGO
 FROM MEXICO

Intelligence from Mexico is received to the 17th ultimo. At that time the French frigates "Terminator" and "Mousses" were at the Sacrifice. The French minister had left on the 17th; preparations were made to attack the place on the 28th, at which time the squadron consisted of two frigates and five brigs. A consultation was, however, held on that day, and a number of the vessels were abandoned. Great excitement was produced in the city by the rumor, so much that Governor Rincon advised the French residents to leave, as he might not be able to protect them in the event of an attack. The French envoys a mid blockade, a number of English, French and American vessels had arrived in Sacrifice, and were refused admission.

—N. O. Standard.

Had Her There

(Sara Lawton, Macon News)
 "You've torn your pacon!" Mrs. W. O. Evans reprimanded her son, W. O. Jr., just after I Monday afternoon. They were to patch them again. "That's all right," replied her son, "it will embarrass you, not me."

Peculiarities Of People

By F. Romer

JOHANN KEPLER

LEFT A widower with children, the great astronomer Kepler (1571-1630) asked his friends to pick him a wife to rear them. He rejected eleven a mid blockade, a number of English, French and American vessels had arrived in Sacrifice, and were refused admission.

—N. O. Standard.