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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1937

This Town

A favorite story of ours, with a remarkable moral, is of a fan salesman who was arrested by the police in Virginia. The one day that the cop raised her brow, a couple of big-time gangsters shot their way out of jail. On being brought before a magistrate and handed a stiff fine, she observed as she reached for her money.

"Judge, this town sure is tight on morals and loose on prisoners. Last night Chief Vic Pepperman and his men of the Rurala patrolled the midway at the Carolina Agricultural Fair. They closed the night gambling concessions, and put a stop to a tan dance. We trust that no desperadoes were roaming the countryside, but this was their chance.

Worth Trying

Bill Chivarsque, North Carolina senator as represented by the press, is not hesitating, willingly, unhesitatingly, gladly beside a door which has been opened. Attorney General A. F. Sowell describes the door as the "last vestige of civil and political inequality" (of women) in this state. The woman's made welcome to enter, barred only by the formality of a test case in the Supreme Court. The question came before the Attorney General from Henderson county, where it was said by the feminine defendant that she ought to serve on juries, and in serving be paid.

"Conditions in this state are such that the administration of the law demands the support of the women's suffrage. This end is not served unless the women are admitted to the jury which is most vitally interested in the integrity of our moral standards.

It has been our belief that, for all the resolutions and demands, the great body of women had no faith with to serve on juries, and that a few of them were only letting the news of them in for a nuisance. But now hearing the Attorney General's attention to the matter, there is an opportunity for service here which women are well situated to render. Let the door be opened unto them.

Makings of a Story

A venture we should like to hear more of, if possible, is taking place out in Los Angeles. The owner of a small knitting mill, beset with labor troubles and probably sick of the whole business, offered to sell out to his striking C. O. employees for \$200,000. Three then took him up. They raised the money, and down-payment, somehow, formed a company with themselves as president, vice president and secretary-treasurer, signed a contract with the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, gave a 5% wage increase and started up the machinery. The boss kept as sales agent.

There are two things about this that would be interesting to watch. How long the mill is going to make good. Will it be a profitable venture enough to earn a fair return on capital invested, to pay taxes to Uncle Sam and the State of California, to cover a reasonable allowance for maintenance and obsolescence and secure the workers that their jobs will last. The other, is what effect will the transition from hands to boss have upon the new president, vice president and secretary-treasurer.

It will be struck with what an amount of interest and expense, in the hope that it will be necessary to show the public why they marvel at the amount and cost details there is in the making of a story.

and the decisions to make? Will he be awake nights in dread of slipping across the thin line between a going concern and insolvency with its wholesale capital assets? In fact, he gave up a job under somebody else and became capitalist proprietors in their own right? There'll be a story in it, either way.

It Will Pass

The broad, sluggish stream of human events seems today to be narrowing and accelerating as though at the approach of rapids. Britain and France have given Italy 24 hours - politely, to be sure - in which to accept an invitation to discuss the withdrawal of foreign volunteers from Spain. Failure of Italy to appear might force the two democratic nations to open the Franco-Spanish border for the passage of arms and men to the Loyalists. And in Geneva and independently in Washington Japan has been denounced as the aggressor in the present undeclared war, and a conference of signatories to the Nine-Power Treaty will be called, probably at Washington. Not only that, the League of Nations advisory committee on Far Eastern Affairs has recommended to the body of the League that direct aid be given to China wherever possible. If this policy were formally adopted, Japan undoubtedly would consider it an act of war.

Altogether, our placid stream is rippling and bubbling, as events thus affected by the economic diabolical force. Its action gives strong indication of grave trouble ahead. And yet, experience of the last few years teaches otherwise. Experience teaches that it does, for all his effrontery, has no wish to match might with any first-rate power much less two. Experience teaches that England does not care to fight and under no circumstances to fight now, while she remains unready. The known disposition of the greater signatories to the Nine-Power Treaty is unready and procrastinate, to strike attitudes but never a blow for China. A conference will be weeks in the convening and fully as long in the deliberation. Meanwhile, the enterprising Japs will have bitten off as much china as they can handle, and they will have lost their game that isn't worth the candle. Meanwhile, too, the men in charge of world affairs will be talking, and as long as they talk and observe the amenities, the world is safe.

False Alarms

Newspaper publishers, these days, are crying Wolf! Wolf! at the real wolf would be that the real wolf would pay any attention to them. Freedom of the press is the flock upon which they are shepherds, and brigandage of the legal sort which specter which frightens them. So far, judging from the examples cited by President James G. Stahlman of the American Newspaper Publishers Association, there is no valid cause for alarm.

As illustrations of attacks on freedom of the press, Publisher Stahlman recites the murder of Don Mellet, Canton, Ohio, editor, in 1926; the Kentucky Legislature's investigation of the letter to the Louisville Courier-Journal in 1927; the legal action taken against the Aberdeen, South Dakota, News, for criticizing a court; Huey Long's Louisiana special newspaper tax laws; and the murder of Walter Liggett, Minneapolis publisher, in 1935.

The first thing to notice about this far from impressive list is the scarcity of attacks, even "alleged" attacks, on freedom of the press over a period of more than 10 years. The second thing to notice is the infrequency of the attacks. The few governmental agencies have been involved. It is from government's quarter that danger to freedom of the press is supposed to be looming, yet, save for the South Dakota incident, which was so local in significance as to have escaped our notice entirely, governmental action against freedom of the press have been exactly two: that of the Kentucky Legislature and Huey Long's Louisiana special newspaper tax laws.

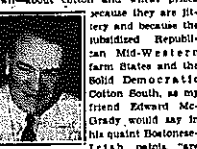
The Kentucky incident grew out of a letter in the Courier-Journal, giving the Legislature down the country in a probably libelous manner, calling, "One Who Believes in Honesty." The Government, in its attempt to make the paper's editor, called who wrote the letter, put him in jail for an hour, tried him for contempt and fined him \$25. The Courier-Journal got a hundred times that much pay out of the Government.

The Louisiana business was, it must be admitted, different. It was a real and direct attack, prompted by Huey's hatred for his betters, against freedom of the press. But, again, what happened? The Supreme Court of the United States saw its duty and did it with a vim. The legislation was declared unconstitutional and invalidated. Besides, the Louisiana business has been killed, and the Huey's political affairs in Louisiana have reverted largely to normal.

It is not much of a case that Publisher Stahlman makes out for jeopardized freedom of the press. In fact, the main effect is to reassure. If there is one of our dear American institutions which is in positively no danger, this would seem to be it.

ENTER THAT ROGUE NCL

WASHINGTON.—This Administration has ants in its pants about price—about the cost of living, especially of meat, because it has gone up—about the stock market, because it has gone down—about cotton, because they are jittery and because the subsidized Republican Mid-Western farm States and the solid Democratic cotton South, as my friend Edward McGrady would say in his quaint Bostonese Irish patois, "are raising up old hell."



Whatever the trend of prices is, down or up, this Administration can blame or credit—nobody but itself. The President himself used his great influence last spring to break the stock market. He said that markets were too high and threatened withdrawal of government buying to break them. The market broke a little later. I think he was right that the stock market was too high. But is it the business of government to jimmy with the markets? The President himself once said, "No."

As to other prices, and especially those affecting the household market basket and the cost of living, this Administration deliberately set out to raise them. No President ever took upon himself so direct a responsibility for hiking the cost of food.

MEANS— Principally, in order to do this, he raised the price of gold by about 75% and of silver by more than 100%—by fiat. That was a direct decrease in the purchasing power of workers' wages. It was an outright gift to our gold and silver hoarders. But this market hiking compared to what it did for foreigners.

Hoover was repudiated for his fool Grundy Tariff. Talk for a similar cause, but the magic stunt, by decreasing the purchasing power of our dollars almost as much as the tariff, was a vertical increase in tariff rates far greater than any Republican ever dared to dream.

TO AN END It was done to increase the price you pay for living. The policy was to increase prices in the 10% level. But the money magic was only part of the plan. The same object of hiking prices was also what the little pigs were killed, the cotton plowed under, the cattle shot and the corn and wheat not planted. That was why a sales tax was slapped on food and cotton goods—miscalculation or propaganda.

Practically every policy of this Administration was designed to raise the cost of living and now that it is raised and going higher, the economic planners all have their undirected eyes on the money market. They don't understand that the fact that they can no longer afford to feed their families means it really jogs the more abundant life.

CAPITALISM HAMPERED There is no hamper on what the stock market is going down after. That, too, is a direct result of the actual and theoretical tax policy of the Third New Deal. This Administration now seems determined that money shall not earn new money by investment. The tax policy works to prevent that. The principle is that money earns no interest for labor and pay wages. The combination of policies makes unemployment because it prevents new business enterprise. It also pinches the living costs of the employed. The whole mess is fixable to the planning of the very politicians who are now worried about it. That paradox plus the public apathy about it is one of the most fantastic phases in our political history.

Aiders & Abets

(Raleigh News & Observer) The Associated Press reports that a veteran Great Smoky Mountain guide named Walter H. H. H. had his chicle chews from his native rattlesnakes and the automobile traffic of the nation's capital, he'd take the snakes. Never was there a more forthright critic between gentle breeze and tornado. He was the only man who had a single person die as a result of snakebite, but in the same year 973 died as a result of automobile accidents. The serpent is not to be feared beside the automobile; he is a harmless worm in this automotive age.

It Turned Out Badly

(Leland News-Tribune) Well, waver Cam Morrison regrets his title as the "Good Roads Governor." If it had not been for those same good roads, Bob Reynolds couldn't have gotten in to make so many mistakes in that mode.

Epigram

(Statesville Daily) If you really want to make great dreams come true, you'd best not over-sleep yourself.

Appeal For A Quiet & Safe Neighborhood

Negro Ministers of South-Torrence Street Bespeak Aid and Consideration.

Dear Sir: We, ministers of South-Torrence Street, have read your article concerning better conditions for the colored section; we do beg to cooperate with you in making South-Torrence Street a quiet and safe place to live. Since we own or are buying our homes and are forced to pay high taxes, we want the full protection of the law.

As we must continue to leave our families alone, we do not want them to be exposed to the liquor traffic, which has no thought of decency. We appeal for a respectable street, not an alley or a slum.

R. M. HARRISON, W. A. NORWOOD, A. W. DAVIS, J. B. BARNES, Charlotte.

IN YOUR NEXT LETTER, CAPN, RECONCILE THEM KKK AND LIBERALISM

Dear Sir: It is not because Mr. Black belonged to the K. K. K. once upon a time that the press is against him; it is because he is a liberal.

HARRY HANSEN, Chicago.

SENATE COMMITTEE ASKS VIEWS ON UNEMPLOYMENT AND FEDERAL RELIEF

Dear Sir: You are probably aware that a special Senate committee has been authorized and directed to investigate unemployment and relief. The resolution authorizing this committee in part reads: "Resolved, that a special committee consisting of five senators, to be appointed by the Vice President is hereby authorized and directed to study, survey, and investigate the problems of unemployment and relief, including an estimate of the number of persons now unemployed by reason of the use of labor-saving devices, mechanical and otherwise, in manufacturing and other industries."

As chairman of the Senate committee to investigate unemployment and relief, I am anxious to receive the best thought of the country on this important question. The section of the resolution which I have quoted acquaints you with the purpose of the committee. I will appreciate your furnishing me with your views on the subject as well as any recommendations or suggestions which you think will be helpful to the committee in its work.

JAMES F. BYRNES, Washington.

(The News will be glad to publish and transmit, or transmit directly to Senator Byrnes, any of its readers' opinions or recommendations.—Ed.)

PAINTER INGERLE MAKES HIS MANNERS TO THE NEWS AND MISS KNOX

Dear Sir: May I take this opportunity of thanking The News and Dorothy Knox in particular for her fine article about the paintings of the Fort Knox Klan, which is the very symbol of anti-liberalism. "I Believe Everything" is something to write home about, and we believe Dorothy Knox is an unusually talented writer.

RUDOLPH F. INGERLE, Chicago.

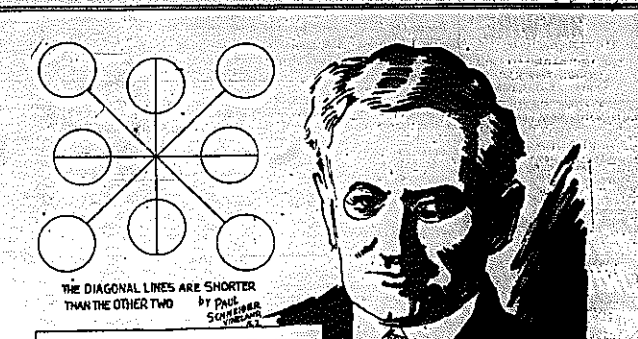
Visiting Around

He Must's Been a Black Bam, We Lakewood Negro Jim, Morganlan News-Herald) A. Yelton landed a four-pound bass Monday afternoon. Mr. Yelton said he had caught many fish but this one was the wildest he had ever caught.

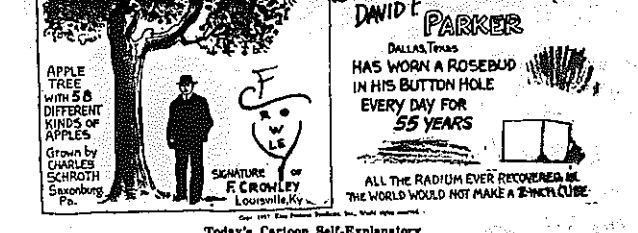
Too Bad It Couldn't Have Been a Full-Blooded House (Williamston Enterprise) The local fire company received its first call of the fall season last Saturday at 5:10 o'clock when the threatened home of William Midgett on Elm street.

Yeh, It's Tawny Preparing When the Bills Start Coming In (Rains Crossed Item, Smithfield Herald) It looks like prosperity around in this community this week to see the homes with their electric lights.

BELIEVE IT OR NOT By Ripley



THE DIAGONAL LINES ARE SHORTER THAN THE OTHER TWO BY PAUL SCHROTH



Today's Cartoon Self-Explanatory

ON THE RECORD

THE SENATE CAN ACT

There is a technique of the authorization of government which is being used to subject the people constantly to shock surprise, to follow one measure so abruptly with another that attention is diverted, and if caught in a mistake, to be taken out, and trust to the swiftly moving kaleidoscope of staged events to cover everything.

Certainly there is a very large body of opinion in this country which was totally unaffiliated with the explanation which Mr. Black gave the other night on the radio—a speech which mixed an admission of guilt with sanctimony and further suppression of material fact and which is totally unconvincing and untruthful in the whole affair. But there is a feeling that nothing can be done about it. It is not well for democracy to get such a feeling of defeatism. And in this case, there is good reason to believe that something can be done, and should be done.

So far, the only has all been put upon Mr. Black, that is not where all the onus belongs. The onus is also on the President, who made the appointment, and on the Senate, which ratified it. Both are accused by a large branch of public opinion of having been delinquent in the exercise of their constitutional obligations. It is impossible to believe that the President would have appointed to the Supreme Court, in a liberal administration, and in response to a popular demand that the court be liberalized, any man who had even been a member of the Ku Klux Klan, which is the very symbol of anti-liberalism. It is impossible to believe that the Senate would have ratified the appointment if the facts now known had been known at the time—if the revelations recently can put it on a cynical basis, and say that the President would not have appointed Mr. Black nor any member of the Senate voted for ratification if it had been suspected that the fact—some of the members undoubtedly knew—would ever be unemotionally disclosed. For even Justice Black himself says that the disclosure of the facts is not good for the public welfare. The facts and their disclosure are humiliating to the President, and humiliating to the Senate.

I understand that a scholarly liberal lawyer and a liberal Senator agree that there is a way in which the Senate may check itself. The proposal is that the Senate should vote to reconsider the ratification of the appointment, but for the purpose of reconsideration, it is to rescind its original approval, because its "advice and consent" were secured under misrepresentation. Under the common law, and the practice of our Government, reconsideration can be voted. The very words "advice and consent" have been defined in the seventy-sixth and seventy-seventh papers of "The Federalist," and the Supreme Court has often made reference to this document as a source in dealing with the constitutionality of laws.

Adolf's Turn (Norfolk Ledger-Dispatch) Mueseler called that "German" the greatest "democratic" and then, of course, Hitler told one.

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

OCTOBER 7, 1862 15 YEARS AGO COL. DE ROBERT NOT DEAD We rejoice to see that a member of the family contradicts the report so generally circulated in Wilmington and this place of the death of Col. William De Robert of the 3rd Regiment, from wounds received during the battle of Sharpsburg. To the contradiction in the Journal the writer adds:—"His wounds on the second (the date of the last letter received) were rapidly healing and he was doing remarkably well considering their nature. It is hoped that he can be brought home in a few weeks, and that he can take the field in two months."—Pawtletville Observer.

FROM THE ARMY IN VIRGINIA We have seen a letter from an officer at the camp near Winchester in which the writer, admitting that no one can say with any certainty what are General Lee's plans, infers from facts that he does not intend to make a stand at that point. We copy two paragraphs from the letter:—"One of our wounded men was left on the other side of the river and paroled by the Yankees and returned yesterday. He says that the enemy, like ourselves, are lying quiet in camp. They appear to be making every possible effort in the next engagement and say that if the battle of Sharpsburg had been delayed one day only our army would have been annihilated, for they received during the next day a reinforcement of 35,000 men" and reserves from Pennsylvania. "This campaign cannot last much longer unless we are supplied with clothing and blankets. Our sick list increases at the rate of ten and twelve per day. We have now about 130 on the list. It is a good many of them, however, notwithstanding the matter except one left, having no shoes."—Pawtletville Observer.

Low Pressure Salesman (George Deasley, Jr. Monroe Journal) A chip of Salesman Sam is one of my kindergarten, playmate—Haynes Bacon, the Younger. He and one of his little friends were practicing salesman ship the other day. We answered the doobler and Master Haynes' compulsion held out a brand new penny box of matches which she offered to sacrifice for one nickel. For a minute, Haynes watched our reaction to the proposition of paying a nickel for a penny box of matches, and then he applied the pressure: "Let him have it for a penny."

Arms and the Girl (100 Years Ago, Charlotte News & Courier) Married on the 27th inst., the beautiful Miss Ann, Carolina Wrennall, to Miss Ann, Carolina Wrennall, all of this city.