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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1937

On Demand Only

There is, we believe, a general will-
ingness in the community to con-
cede that fireworks are dangerous
and ought not to be allowed. At the
same time, mothers and fathers are
indulgent enough, and children are
persistent enough, to take a chance
on the purchase of fireworks. It is
on eyes put out, fingers blown off, and
the pain and possibly serious conse-
quences of anti-tetanus injections.

Sacrificial Offering

The action of the Japanese govern-
ment in recalling Rear Admiral
Mitsunami is an act of sacrifice. It
was being freely predicted on all sides — Miss Thomp-
son says as much in her column to-
day — that the promises of Tokyo
to punish the high officers responsi-
ble for the bombing of the Panay
would come to nothing. But the
little brown man has most clearly
spiked all that with this action.

At a Discount

Mayor Thomas E. Cooper's blast
at Highway Patrolmen which they
spoiled the carefully-laid scheme of
the Wilmington police department
for capturing a couple of bad men
hidden out in the neighborhood, one
of whom was Bill Payne if he wasn't
Wash Turner, may have, for all we
know, some justification in fact. Cer-
tainly the bigger of the two birds
isn't away.

First-Hand Testimony

And that they were in a jam, that
their navy had deliberately, and
knowingly and brazenly set out to
knock the Panay as well as the
Standard Oil vessels and all who on
them were, appears to be conclusively
established by the story of the sur-
vivors. First the Jap planes flew
over the ship, and then the Japs
was clear and visibility was "excel-
lent," so that the American flags
broken out "everywhere" on the Pa-
nay and the commercial craft were
to be seen clearly. And having had
a good look at the Japs, the Jap
planes wheeled and began lining up
for the bombing. Said one chap
who had been on the Panay:

Note On Our Heritage

Colonel John Wilson, Speaker of
the Arkansas House of Representa-
tives in 1837 was "in every respect
an amiable man. For 45 years he
represented the people of the State
whose dispatch of December 15 in
that year we published Wednesday
in "Earlier Days." But the Colonel
had one weakness, that, like many
other men on the American frontier,
he had a little "hook" in his feel-
ings." So when a member of the
House, Major J. J. Anthony, passed
some remarks, down came the Col-
onel from his seat with a bowie knife.
A moment later the Major lay dead
on the floor, though without
having practically sliced off the
Colonel's arm beforehand.
Whatever happened to the Colonel
thereafter, beyond the fact that the
House suspended him as Speaker, we
don't know. But we'll bet a dollar
to a moth ball that he neither
hanged nor went to jail. Men in that
country in those days never did hang
for such killings, and rarely went to
jail except as honored guests. Old
Benjamin Glavin, Baldwin, re-
sisted, indeed, that they didn't even
have to stand trial unless they
themselves had a nice feeling for
town and satisfied on it. It all was
a matter of honor to be settled pri-
vately, which was why, said Bal-
dwin, that they didn't even then the

most violent country in the world.
And, come to think of it, maybe that
tradition of honor is one of the rea-
sons that the Southwest remains
one of the most peaceful parts of
the United States after the South-
east, which also had that concept of
honor in its mores.

Two Play This Game

Maybe, since it's the fashion just
now to give Mr. Roosevelt the works
for falling to cooperate with busi-
ness, it might be as well to look for
a moment at the other side. We are
not suggesting that the President
hasn't got it coming to him. In view
of the record, the plainly has
nevertheless, when the National
Manufacturers' Association — which
if it doesn't speak for American
business as a whole, often assumes
to — met in New York, it had as the
chief speaker on its program Tom
Girdler, who has hated the labor
his turn is anathema to them. Girdler
whose whole philosophy is the
antithesis of the New Deal. Girdler
who symbolizes in his person pre-
cisely what the New Deal means
to us, the terms "black reaction"
and "economic royalist."

Was it wise, then, to have him as
the chief speaker when rapproche-
ment seemed in the making? Obvi-
ously not. Such rapprochement can
come about only on the basis of an
open confession by talking the mid-
dle way. And it is the sum and es-
sence of Tom Girdler that he will
hear as little of compromise and the
middle way as the Hon. Harold
Locks himself.

Many People Think He's Sin's Papa

Because Mr. Corcoran has been active
in drafting some of these
in statutory form, be-
cause he is frequently
deputed to see them
through, and
most of all because he has come to be
"the best man to see" to get any project
considered or speeded, the opinion has
become general that he is the very
Beelzebub of the whole show.
I don't believe it. I haven't the honor
of Mr. Corcoran's acquaintance or even
close acquaintance. I have never talked
to him except on the telephone, but I
have seen his works.

What's the Hurry?

(Fayetteville Observer)
In Raleigh a little girl was killed yester-
day when she "ran in front" of a
Highway Patrol car which was "hurry-
ing" to investigate an accident.

Musical Note

(Nerfolk Virginian-Pilot)
It's a great relief to have the Saturday
afternoon radio programs change from
football to grand opera, the selling is so
much better organized.

Why the Goose-Bumps, Then?

(Statesville Daily)
Shucks! This is not cold weather
we've been having. It's just a state of
mind.

Visiting Around

Joy Apples for Worry
(Worry Item, Morganton News-Herald)
Wayne Dula, of near Joy, brought a
truck load of nice mountain apples for
the neighborhood and they sold well.

Meeting Place

(Waxhaw Enterprise)
It is interesting to know that in 1830
the population of Charlotte was 717.
That is less than the population of Wax-
haw, which was 840 in 1930. We wonder
if in 2030 Waxhaw will be a thriving city
of some 75,000 people. We rather doubt
it though. There are no statistics on
hand, but we wouldn't be wrong in
saying that in the two cities there are
many people in Waxhaw Community in 1830
as there were in Charlotte.

Incense and Myrrh to the Neglect

(Laurinburg Exchange)
Montpelier Presbyterian church at
Wagram will hold her annual Joy Gift
service on Friday evening, December 23,
at 7 o'clock. The theme for this year is
"Three Paria: Gold, Gift for ministerial
relief, and the gift of worship."

Never Met a Payroll

(Moore Enquirer)
Senator Robert Reynolds, having re-
covered from a slight illness, breaks into
the news again by issuing a statement
that he favors the wage-hour bill, say-
ing:
"Do you think I would have the nerve
to go before the working people of North
Carolina and say that I voted against
paying them a minimum wage of 41¢ a
week when I had just learned that I
was a year? I should say not. Waxhaw
has always been desperately low in North
Carolina, and the scale should be in-
creased and the people given the benefit."

Two Discuss
Jap Sinking
Of Our Ship

This One Believes It Would Be
Swell To Take A Page Out
Of Nippon's Own Book.

Dear Sir:
Why shouldn't an American cruiser
sail to Japan and shell one of the large
cities, accidentally on purpose, as the
American gunboat was bombed and
sunk?
Then the United States could send a
note to Japan and say, "Oh, excuse me;
my mistake. I'm so sorry" and offer to
take the full blame and settle for it.
Japan might ask a million dollars and
then Uncle Sam could say, "Oh, too
honorable much; 27 cents. I think. I
send check."

Charlotte.
M. Y. MISTAKE.

AND THIS ONE FEELS MUCH
THE SAME WAY BUT HAS HIS
DOUBTS ABOUT ITS WISDOM

Dear Sir:
Those of us who can look down the
corridors of time will recall the seething
ferment of the days when the United
States went to war with Spain. The bat-
tle ship Maine had just been sunk in the
harbor at Havana, and while it has never
been definitely decided who was re-
sponsible for that unfortunate affair, it
was universally believed that Spain had
something to do with it in view of the
conditions prevailing in the islands to
the south at that time.

But regardless of who was or was not
responsible, public feeling ran high and
the people clamored for war. Almost
overnight banners appeared stretched
across streets and later appeared on
the sides of trains bound for concentra-
tion camps. And this was the inscrip-
tion:
"Remember the Maine
To hell with Spain."

And now we have a parallel in the
sinking of the gunboat Panay by Japan.

The only difference being that Japan
admits her guilt and Spain never did
admit hers if she was guilty. And now
it seems to me appropriate to have some
more banners —
"Remember the Panay
Make Japs pay."

My only point in writing this, Mr.
Editor, is to point out the change in
sentiment since forty years ago. Then
the country demanded war for a sup-
posed insult to the flag. And while I
accept money for a glaring injustice
and when pay is forthcoming I imagine
the incident will be closed. Perhaps it
is just as well. It has long been a mooted
question if the Spanish-American war
was ever worth the price.

Charlotte.
G. R. AUSTIN.

BELIEVE IT OR NOT By Ripley

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



OLDEST INHABITED HOUSE
IN GREAT BRITAIN
The Jew's House
— LINCOLN
BUILT IN 1122
— 815 YEARS AGO
A SMALL WALKS ON ONE LEG
— IT DOES NOT CRAWL!
Today's Cartoon Self-Explanatory

ON THE RECORD

By DOROTHY THOMPSON
The Panay Incident

The Panay, a practically unarmed
American gunboat — in reality a small
yacht — has been bombed and sunk by
Japanese war planes, while proceeding
peacefully in the Yangtze river, above
Nanking, together with three Standard
Oil vessels. The action occurs while the
Japanese government is making re-
peated protestations to the United States
that it desires wholeheartedly to retain
American goods — and while Japanese
diplomacy is doing its best to win Amer-
ica away from close cooperation with
Great Britain.

The question is: Why did this incident
occur? How could it occur?
The Japanese Ambassador in Wash-
ington says that this was "a grave bur-
der," a "great mistake," and "completely
accidental." We are informed that
members of the Japanese cabinet were
near tears when the news was an-
nounced.

The circumstances of the bombing are
such as to preclude any possibility that
it was accidental. First of all, the Pa-
nay was according to news reports,
had boasted that there were no more
Chinese ships left in the Yangtze. There-
fore any other ships remaining there
could be foreign. Second, the identity
of the Panay was conspicuously dis-
played by American flags on every mast.
Third, the American naval command in
Shanghai had repeatedly informed the
Japanese navy of the whereabouts of
the Panay, was so small that the bomb-
ing planes had to swoop very low, where
they could plainly see what they were
aiming at. And then they bombed it
four times.

One is forced to draw a few conclu-
sions from this incident. It would ap-
pear that the Japanese government is
without authority. There is no
connection between its diplomatic
policy, and the actions of the army and
navy, who really rule Japan.

These armed forces of Japan, which
have never been defeated, apparently
the forces of the world, if it need be.

These facts — if they are correct — are
of extreme importance. For it would
seem that what we are dealing with —
and what the Chinese are fighting — is
not a responsible Japanese government,
but a irresponsible army. That the
much vaunted Japanese discipline is, at
this moment, a myth. And that the

A Pair of Names
(John Harden, Salisbury Post)
North Carolina nomenclature: Two
servants in an old Nash county home
had names worth recording. One
was named Mary Jo Ann Maria Susan
and the other was Lucy Lucinda
Marmaduke Henrietta James Alexander
Deary Chandler Smithfield Institute.

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

DECEMBER 16, 1868
75 YEARS AGO

CONFEDERATE DEBTS
We are glad to see that resolutions
have been introduced in both houses
of the Legislature of our state, similar, as
we suppose, for we have not seen them,
to those passed by the Alabama and
South Carolina Legislatures, to guaran-
tee (not assume) the debts of the Con-
federate Government. Such a guaran-
tee may give some additional credit to
the government, and if we succeed — and
succeed we must and will — will not in-
volve the state in any of that debt. It
were possible that the Confederacy
could fail to secure its independence,
why then, we admit, it would involve
North Carolina in an immense debt. But
that is an inadmissible idea; and what
we can do ought to do to sustain the
Confederacy and let it manage its own
debt.
— Fayetteville Observer.

YANKEE BURIALS

Yankee characters is so well developed,
and their civilization so well understood,
that it will take some by surprise when
informed that, in burying their dead,
they satisfied themselves with merely
digging long ditches and pitching them
in, heels or heads upward, as was most
convenient, much after the manner, in
peace times, of burying dead cattle.
— Fayetteville Observer.

DECEMBER 10, 1837
100 YEARS AGO

THE FLORIDA WAR

The accounts are as usual contradic-
tory. When the news from Tampa Bay on
December 11, represent the Indians
as coming in, men, women and children,
prepared for removal, other late ac-
counts from the headquarters of General
Jesup, show that the mediation of the
Cherokees has entirely failed, and that
San Juan, the leader of the Seminoles,
has departed from the Everglades, send-
ing word to General Jesup that if he
wanted him he must come and take him;
and that, having proved treacherous in
capturing Powell, he had protected by a
flag of truce, his would go to the
— Fayetteville Observer.

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