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THURSDAY, JULY 5, 1934

The President's Speech.

Surely no one who heard the President's radio address Thursday night, or missing that, read it in the newspapers the following day, will fail to agree with Will Rogers that it "satisfied all but those who had made up their minds in advance that they wouldn't like it, no matter what he said."

No President, in our memory, has been able to take the people into his confidence so convincingly as Franklin Roosevelt. It is our belief that his address last night was wholly disarm those whose speech—while it may not wholly disarm those whose political campaign ammunition is to wail about "unconstitutional rights—will lay the hobgoblins of "Communism," and "Fascism" and "Socialism" with which the die-hards have been attempting to frighten the people.

No fair-minded person, we think, whether counting himself as opposed to the President generally or not, could have listened to that speech and remained unconvinced of the sincere determination of Mr. Roosevelt to effect his reformation within the limits laid down in our Bill of Rights. Only those who would like to participate in the last ditch could hear or read that speech and continue to fear the buyers of Hoovervilles, which are now enjoying privileged few, are the benefit of their special favors, are dangling before the people to frighten them.

Within our memory, Franklin D. Roosevelt is the first President to put into practice that splendid conception of Thomas Jefferson which would grant to every man in this democracy "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." We have been fond of parroting those words, but we have had precious little practical application of the theory in this country. And if making lives, homes, savings, jobs secure in this country may be regarded as contrary to the Constitution and as an effort to take from us our constitutional liberties, then indeed is our democracy one only in name.

No one may deny the substantial gains that are being made in business. Data from the Wall Street Journal and other reliable sources discloses that 210 corporations which at the end of the first quarter in 1933 sustained aggregate losses of 32 millions, showed aggregate profits of 84 millions during the first quarter of 1934. Statistics prove that unemployment has lessened. Data shows that wages have practically ceased in the fifteen months of the Roosevelt administration. And what, as the President asks, liberties have you lost? Have you paid too high a price for these gains?

"Have you as an individual paid too high a price for these gains? Plausible self-seekers and theoretical die-hards will tell you of the loss of individual liberty. Answer this question also out of the facts of your own life. I have no question in my mind as to what your answer will be."

This newspaper does not question what the answer will be or that public sentiment is overwhelmingly in favor of the New Deal. We doubt sincerely—barring the die-hards and the few whose financial ties have been trod upon—that even the critics of the Roosevelt administration would be willing to return to the "good old days" of the Old Deal upon which we turned our backs as a nation early in March 1933.

Buy A Boone Half Dollar.

The President has signed the Chapman-Barkley Bill, which authorizes the Federal Government to accept an acreage at Boonesborough, Boone's Station, Bryan's Station and the Blue Licks, to be improved as a national memorial.

Financing of the project is to be done through the expenditure of a single dollar. Congressman Rhea and the Daniel Boone Bicentennial Commission, and the Boone Commission, care of the Phoenix Hotel, Lexington, Ky., are now asking that every school child give one dollar at once to Frank Dunn, Secretary of the Boone Commission, care of the Phoenix Hotel, Lexington. Money is needed at once to defray an expense of $1,500 incident to the making of die and the artist's model of the souvenir coin.

Nicholas county should show its interest by sending in subscriptions at once to Mr. Dunn. Advance subscribers will be sent their coins as soon as they are minted. These coins have an intrinsic value, aside from their worth as souvenirs. The Stone Mountain half dollars, for instance, are now quoted at $1.25 by coin collectors. The inclusion of the site of the last battle of the American Revolution in this Government memorial should give the project special appeal to residents of Nicholas and adjoining counties and The Mercury urges its readers to make immediate and generous response by purchasing one or more of these souvenir half dollars.

Try To Convince These.

"Cleveland, Ohio, July 1—More than a million railroaders were jubilant today over a $400,000,000 monthly increase in their pay envelopes and executive approval of legislation which will retire at least 100,000 of their number on pensions this year.

"The wage increase, affecting 1,020,000 men employed on the nation's carriers in every capacity except executive, constitutes a two and one-half per cent salary restoration provided in an agreement reached between labor and management April 26—Associated Press dispatch."

"Try to convince these million odd railroaders that their constitutional rights are being trampled upon by the Roosevelt administration! How many of them, do you think, would willingly return to the "normalcy" of Harding and Coolidge and Hoover?

"The man who finds more in his pay envelope, seen in his home saved through a national Home Loan Act, a breathing spell granted him on his farm mortgage, is not concerned a whit over alleged violation of his "constitutional rights." Doesn't give a tinker's dam whether his individualism is "ragged" or not. He and his family have food and shelter, he has a chance to fight through, where he could see no glimmer of hope prior to March 1933.

Go back to "normalcy?" Why, even the corporations that are granting these pay increases are beginning to declare dividends again.

AN EDITOR'S RANDOM THOUGHTS

On the Maysville & Lexington road, between Carlisle and Millersburg, a meandering branch cuts through the rich, red loam of bluegrass pastures and passes under the highway where once a wooden bridge stood in the old toll-gate days. The road is wide at this point and in the days of horse-drawn vehicles it was necessary to ford the stream at the side of the bridge to water their horses. To me it has always been a picturesque spot. As ancient apple tree spread its branches out over the stream where it emerged under the road and flowed into the adjoining field and ten days ago I noticed a beautiful clump of tiger lilies were adding their color to this old roadside watering place. . . . Yesterday, as I passed, the old tree lay in chopped up sticks, the lilies had disappeared: I do not know who is responsible for this "improvement," this chopping up of the road side, but I wonder why. So frequently men seem to be obsessed by a passion to destroy roadside beauties, to chop down trees on the fringes of pastures. Less than a half hour's chopping and hacking destroyed in this instance an old tree perfectly placed by Nature. A half century would be needed to restore what a half hour has destroyed. . . . But mine seems to be a voice crying in the wilderness of opposition to roadside and streetside conservation of trees, blossoming flowers, clambering vines and green hedgerows. Often then comes out; grab them up and make the roadside as bare as a railroad right-of-way seems to be the passion of line crews and of all highway home owners. I sometimes think that the ideal of beauty of those who grub and chop so ruthlessly would be achieved by covering our highways and byways with concrete, or blacktop and substituting poles for trees. . . . But the trees are avenged eliminated in future days of our country, timber became scarce. We wasted the supply with thoughtless prodigality and now along the Mississippi basin the floods begin to take their toll of the ever-increasing damage to property and in prodigious government expenditures and of a might river, swollen to a residual menace by the billions of gallons that shrink off a watershed denuded of trees. . . .

Of course the enacted old adage tree that cannot shade when it blows applies to our forbears along the trail over which stage coaches swept some sixty years ago and which Andrew Jackson rode horseback to his inauguration as President, held back no floods. Nature's laws are inexorable. They take no heed to man and his greed. Chop them out; grub them up and make the roadside as bare as a railroad right-of-way seems to be the passion of line crews and of all highway home owners. I sometimes think that the ideal of beauty of those who grub and chop so ruthlessly would be achieved by covering our highways and byways with concrete, or blacktop and substituting poles for trees. . . . But the trees are avenged eliminated in future days of our country, timber became scarce. We wasted the supply with thoughtless prodigality and now along the Mississippi basin the floods begin to take their toll of the ever-increasing damage to property and in prodigious government expenditures and of a might river, swollen to a residual menace by the billions of gallons that shrink off a watershed denuded of trees. . . .

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Of course the exigencies of a political campaign, the need for political thunder in the fall Congressional races must be taken into consideration, but I am unable to convince the bugaboos of the die-hards who oppose the New Deal because the bugaboos of the Roosevelt administration and who would have us believe that we are headed for Fascism, Communism, Socialism, have the desired effect against men, now working for the first time in two or three years, farmers given an opportunity to pay off their mortgages and home owners given a chance to save their homes under legislation passed by the Congress at Mr. Roosevelt's suggestion. Enormous sums are being spent by the Federal Government in its true, but whose money are we spending—and speculating in, understainly, for the greatest good of the greatest number—but our own? Are we to be taxed for these expenditures then to be remain in the state of hopeless despair that befogged us prior to March 1933? It is strange to me that those journalists who are doing the most yapping now should fail to realize that the Old Deal was leading them to a precipice from which only a revolution would not have been bloodless. To my mind the Roosevelt policies have saved these from the results of their own greed and folly, as they have saved countless farmers, home owners, workers from financial ruin and actual starvation. Perhaps they have their opinion, but in my opinion the bolts of those opposed to the New Deal will prove to be fusses far from lethal.

Newspaper Man Complimented.

The Mt. Sterling Gazette-Courier says: "We heard an insurance man say the other day, 'Gemmil Senff is the best Insurance Commissioner we have ever had; he has made the department pay and he has studied the business of his office until nothing crooked would get by him or over him.'"

It is a pleasure for The Mercury to publish so splendid a compliment to Gemmil Senff, author of the Mt. Sterling Sentinel-Democrat. As past President and popular member of the Kentucky Press Association, he is doing an able job of discharging the duties of a State office in particularly gratifying, we are sure, to all Kentucky newspaper men.

Talking Troubles.

(From the Bourbon County Times-Union)

It was an ancient practice to decree death for the bearer of bad news. Well still like to slay people who are self-appointed messengers of gloom.

What is there about some folks that makes them almost gleeful over troubles of others? Does it take a mortal delight in spreading dismay.

Practically everybody is bearing additional burdens of these days. People are facing situations they did not create and cannot change. That in itself is a mountain to move.

The man who goes from office to office lamenting the state of things, and forecasting the future in terms of storm and stress is a public menace and a psychological "typhoid Mary."

The woman who whines and cries over her deprivations, and can think of nothing but what she had in the good old days, is a curse.

As matter of fact, we suspect that a good bit of this gloomy cloud of the present is bunk. The people who know who have real troubles are seen about them and hear their disappointments with stoic philosophy.

Everybody has his troubles these days. Best to keep your own to yourself.

Do this, and see how your friends will appreciate it, and what a wholesome effect it will have upon yourself.

If the printing of the Congressional Record were abolished and the newspapers sending reporters to the capital, how long would it be before Congress would quit talking?

POEMS THAT WE LIKE

GOLD AND EMERALD

(Kenneth Porter)

This strip of wheat, a golden girdle glowing
About the middle of the harvest day,
Is set with emerald stalks—weed stalks growing
Where old straw-stacks last spring were hauled away.

FRED M. VINSON ANNOUNCES CANDIDACY FOR CONGRESS

In this issue Hon. Fred M. Vinson formally announces his candidacy for Congress in the Ninth District.

Mr. Vinson is well known in this county, his universally admired and respected for his ability to serve his fellow men by the readers of The Mercury, but it will not be amiss to point out the fact that the Kentucky district has a more able, conscientious and hard-working Representative in Congress.

Since Mr. Vinson first became Congressman from the old Ninth district he has given a good account of himself. In spite of succeeding term both his ability to do constructive work and his place in the Congress as one of its outstanding members have increased steadily and he is as highly regarded throughout Kentucky and in Washington as he is in his home district.

For devotion to the interests of his Kentuckians, and particularly to his constituents, Mr. Vinson has no peer. Irrespective of political affiliation the citizens of this district ever respond to a request of Fred Vinson that it is not given courteous and prompt consideration and any measure arising that touches the welfare of this district succeed himself.

PROGRESS OF THE POLL

(Courier-Journal)

The latest report on The Literary Digest presidential straw poll, a semi-final tally—shows a net gain of 5 per cent for the President over his 1932 election figures. The total vote now counted is 1,926,961, of which 920,357 are for the President over his 1932 adherents and gains 1 out of every 20 of Hoover's 1932 supporters.

This comparison discloses that Roosevelt has gained in twenty-five States, while he has lost in twenty-three other States. Participating in The Literary Digest canvass:

The poll indicates that Roosevelt has incurred net losses of support among poll voters in nineteen States since 1932 even though he still carries all nineteen of them: Indiana, Iowa, S. Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Maryland, Virginia, N. Carolina, S. Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Texas.

Applying that same analysis to the total of all The Literary Digest poll-voters who voted in 1932, the result indicates a net gain of 5.88 per cent from the forty-eight States considered as a whole.

The current Literary Digest poll shows a favorable ratio of 61 per cent. Roosevelt votes to 39 per cent. In 1932 was 57.32 per cent—only 3.68 per cent less than the present ratio as indicated in the report on The Literary Digest poll for this week.

The list of marginal States that give Roosevelt less than a 55 per cent ratio of Yes' ballots now includes Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nebraska, New Hampshire, South Dakota, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Virginia, Wisconsin.

Six of those ten States are on the edge. Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, South Dakota, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, give the Republicans a margin of 2.50 per cent marginal ratio of approval. South Dakota is nearest the line with a favorable ratio of only 57.75 per cent.

Five States stand fast outside that 5 per cent marginal lead for the President. Connecticut, Delaware, Idaho, New Jersey, Rhode Island, and the District of Columbia—none of those have receded as high as a 62 per cent unfavorable ratio.

The report this week shows eighteen States and the District of Columbia in the 55.88 per cent Yes' ratio group: Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, West Virginia, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, North Dakota, Ohio, Wisconsin, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Wyoming.

And there are twelve States in the 60.75 per cent Yes' ratio group: Washington, Oregon, Utah, California, Nevada, Arizona, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Florida, Kentucky, Virginia, Tennessee.

The greatest strength for the President, as indicated by this week's report in The Literary Digest poll, lies in the States with Yes' ratios from 75.88 per cent: Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas.

A separate poll of lawyers gives Roosevelt a majority, as do separate polls of the clergy and of educators, the latter now reported for the first time; leaving the separate poll of bankers adverse to the President.

50 YEARS AGO

(The issue of The Mercury for July 3, 1884, is missing from our files. Publication will be resumed next week.)

A BALL OF GOSSIP

(New York Sun)

Mrs. Smith, was frying potatoes for supper when a drop of hot grease fell on her hand. It hurt so that she called Dr. Jones. After applying medicine and a bandage, he remarked that he was glad that it was only a drop of grease, because grease can do lots of damage. He said he had once had a scalded arm, and it was so painful and you wouldn't believe how bad they were.

Mr. Smith told Mr. Brown about it on the train to the city the next morning. Mr. Brown saw Mr. Thompson at lunch and passed the news on, saying that Mrs. Smith had been burned by boiling grease and that the doctor said she had had a dangerous kind of burn he knew, a scald. On his arrival home Mr. Thompson told Mrs. Smith that she been dangerously burned, and that the doctor didn't know if she would retain the use of her hand.

At the bridge club meeting the next afternoon Mrs. Thompson told Mrs. West, Mrs. Southworth and Mrs. East about the horrible accident, saying that Mrs. Smith probably would be in the hospital for weeks and that it was doubtful that she ever would be able to use her right hand. The whole pot of grease had upset over them, she said the poor woman was so nervous.

Mrs. West encountered Mrs. Johnson the next morning and she understood that the doctors were doing everything they could to save Mrs. Smith's right arm, although, of course, they might have to amputate. Mrs. Johnson, with some slight embellishment, told the story at the next bridge club and got to Tribely he repeated the sad news to Mr. Brown, who broke the news to the Smiths when they all lived in Three Oaks, Mich.

Mr. Brown's duty informed were to Mrs. Smith's sister, who telephoned the news to her on the fact that her brother, dear sister was in danger of the dreadful thing and she hope they wouldn't have to amputate her dear sister's arm.

Mrs. Smith was thoroughly surprised when she was interrupted in the act of frying potatoes (Mr. Smith is mightly fond of fried potatoes) by the arrival of a special delivery letter from Sister Mary, who wanted to know why the awful news had been hid from her, and offered to take the children into her home and bring them up like her own.

ODD ACCIDENTS

Little Jean Johnson stood on the curb in a Maryland city waiting to cross the street. A car came along and knocked her down, crushing her head and fractured her skull.

A Pennsylvanian, Lowell Short, was riding with a friend, and he was badly injured in an accident. He sued his friend and a sympathetic jury awarded him damages because the accident had so affected his digestion that they flowed continuously.

Little Harry Merriedth, of Delaware, aged 10, was fatally injured by a window sash which fell upon his neck as he was climbing through the kitchen window.

It is considered good marksmanship to bring down your prey with one shot but a Washington colored boy, ten brought down one man with a single bullet during a street fight.

A male bear escaped from Barnum & Bailey's circus, in Dallas, Texas, and ate a stroll of tightness. Hedrick was killed unnecessarily.

An impulse to be modest resulted fatally for Hedrick was a young Tennessee lad. Riding on a truck, he leaned back to talk to some girls—and the truck struck a bump, and he went through the windshield of a passing car.

A total of over 19,000 insane and feeble-minded persons have been interned in California in the past 25 years.

In Germany there is an average of one suicide every 20 minutes. In this country there is approximately one to every four or five.

THE SUNBONNET

(Elizabethtown News)

The sunbonnet is an universal sign among women, born old and young, in the days when the color was a youth. It was called a bonnet because it protected the face from the sun. It was made in the shape of a hood and extended out over the face four inches, and it was laid under the chin. It was a nuisance sometimes but and sometimes very useful on top so that it wasn't limited. It seems to us the poet was wrong when he wrote Maud Muller had a sunbonnet. We believe it was a torn bonnet. It should have gone like this. Maud Muller, on a summer's day, raked the meadow sweet with hay. Beneath her bonnet glowed a wealth of simple beauty and rustic health. Of course the hayers raked while she, the mock bried echoed from off yonder. The hayers were mean. Maud Mullers before the day of mowers and the horse rake was the family turned out into the meadow and the girls, and sometimes the mother, raked the hay. They were sunbonneta and these rakes were invented to look in. The movements were graceful. Their figures were beautiful and at the end of the day they had raked the hay, they came in and helped to get supper for the family and to wash the dishes, uncomplaining and satisfied with their simple life. We peeked into these sunbonnets many times and seen the faces. They were luminous with profoundest peace and kindness, bright, flushed, with mirth and laughter in their depths. Then the beautiful sunbonnet hiding them, glowed with health and beauty, and hatted in sunshine rather than hiding it. We adoption may be around to him.

Further validation also is provided for by and all mortgages held by Production Credit Administration and agencies which permit some extension of time on livestock when proceeds are to be applied against the debt. Extensions are also provided by the new law also six months' extension of loans made by Production Credit Associations. Whereas prior to the passage of the new law which had they crowded amount of time for payment Kentucky farmers in position to make full use of Production Credit Associations in financing their fall planting, as well as in the purchase of feeder and stocker animals for fall and winter grazing and feeding, and in the purchase of dairy stock. Many farmers who are now using the services