

The Voice

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EDITORIALS

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BETWEEN THE LINES

By Dean Gordon B. Hancock for ANP

UNHAPPY FOREBODINGS THESE

When Cardinal Spellman unlimbered his politico-religious batteries against Mrs. Roosevelt, he was doing a desperate and dangerous thing. Far more important than what he said was the spirit in which he said it; and Mrs. Roosevelt's calm and studied reply put the cardinal to flight. Just as little David with his sling and smooth stone felled the giant Goliath, so Mrs. Roosevelt in words that breathed strongly with the spirit of Jesus slew the giant cardinal that in the final analysis God was the only judge of human worth she uttered a rebuke that was justly deserved. Which the Cardinal's contended that he did not want support for Catholic education, but merely for "auxiliary" support, he threw his case to the winds and became a penitent crying for mercy at the hands of the American reading public.

I have heard many adverse things about the Roosevelts, but I have never before the cardinal's indictment, heard anyone call them intolerant. But the Cardinal found out to his utter dismay that Roosevelts cannot be pushed around. Personally this writer believes that it would have been a far wiser move on the Cardinal's part had he retracted his statement outright, instead of the specious explanation that it was not support for Catholic education but auxiliary support that he was demanding. There is precious little difference in paying for a child's education and feeding him while he gets it. It is true, in the crowd that stoned Stephen there were some who did not hurl stones, but they held the cloaks of those who did; and they thereby

became particeps criminis to the tragic affair.

I am a Baptist but I do not want the U. S. government to finance Baptist education lest the U. S. government regiment Baptist thought and thinking. Denominational choice is a spiritual luxury that the individual and his denomination should finance.

The most ominous thing about the controversy that Cardinal Spellman's ill-advised pronouncement has kindled is conviction forced upon many that Federal aid to education is a lost cause in the current Congress and that the demise of the bill was designed in the Cardinal's attack on Mrs. Roosevelt. If one Roman Catholic cardinal can thwart in such fashion the will of the people, it is high time that we take stock of our political and social heritage in this country. Could the anti-Catholic forces wish for better ammunition in their fight against the Catholic church?

This writer is a Baptist and bitterly and stubbornly opposed to Baptists running this government or even aspiring to do so; but he is just as stubbornly and bitterly opposed to government by Catholics. So far as power in us lies this must forever remain a government of the people by the people and for the people rather than a government of Catholics by Catholics and for Catholics or a government of Baptists by Baptists and for Baptists or a government of Catholics by Catholics and for Catholics. Tolerance in religion, politics and race happens to be one of the fundamentals of my life's philosophy.

The greatest wealth is contentment with little.—John Roy.



by JAMES C. OLSON, Superintendent STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

While we don't hold with the school of thought that contends climatic extremes were greater in pioneer days than they are today (witness the blizzards of last winter, for example), when the thermometer is crowding the century mark we frequently marvel at the courage and fortitude displayed by those pioneer Nebraskans who endured such weather without refrigeration, air conditioning, or any of the many conveniences we of this generation have come to look upon almost as necessities.

From looking at the record left by those pioneers, we have concluded that one of the greatest hardships resulted from the absence of trees; many a pioneer woman found her heart filled with despair as she looked out day after day upon the blistered prairie unbroken by so much as a single cottonwood.

Arbor day was no accident in Nebraska. It developed out of a very real necessity.

Fortunately, the sod house, made necessary by the lack of lumber, provided much better protection against the summer sun than an ordinary frame house; its heavy earthen walls had insulating qualities not found in lighter structures.

Another source of comfort to the pioneer homemaker was the well. In addition to providing an abundance of pure, cold water, it served as an excellent refrigerator. Indeed, butter kept in a well was usually just the right consistency for spreading, not too soft and not too hard.

Probably the greatest summertime luxury of all was ice. This

perhaps was even more true for emigrants making their weary way along the dusty trails of the Platte Valley than it was for the pioneer settlers. Thomas Creigh, who went overland in the summer of 1866 with a load of mining machinery bound for Montana, recorded in his diary for July 10, not far west of present-day Lexington: "Had a bushel of ice today, a perfect godsend to us in this country of poor water." We assume the ice was procured at one of the road ranches along the trail.

The ice house came to be an important institution in the pioneer prairie town, and frequently farmers took advantage of a nearby hillside to dig a cave for storing ice.

The community ice house consisted of sawdust or straw encased in a wooden frame, and covered with a board or shingle roof. A firm in Beatrice stored 400 tons of ice in 1873, and another, 200 tons during the same year.

The busy man has time for everything. The man who thinks he is busy, has time for nothing.

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Dallas Firm Hires Negro Salesman

DALLAS, Tex. (ANP). Established in Dallas for more than ten years, the Conco Chemical company last week hired its first Negro salesman, Alex Wilson, 25, a veteran of World War II, and an employe for two months with the company as pharmacist mate. Wilson will work in Dallas, Fort Worth, Houston and San Antonio. L. E. Crane in announcing Wilson's promotion pointed out that the company had accounts with several Negro institutions including Prairie View, Texas, and Tyler Barber colleges.

The new salesman is married to the former Ruby Inez Shaw, and is the father of two children, Jimmie, 8, and Ella Ruth, 11 months old. He has lived in Dallas 15 years.

He is a native of Oklahoma. His mother, Mrs. Ella Jordan, now lives in Dallas.

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