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FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 1928.

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Radio.

Since Congress took from the Department of Commerce and took unto itself the regulation of radio, the net result has not been satisfactory to those most vitally interested—the receiving public. Unless the public is sufficiently pleased to express appreciation the advertisers—who pay the broadcasting bills—will discontinue.

Probably, the following editorial in the New York "Herald Tribune" outlines the situation correctly and suggests the proper remedy but whether Congress, whose members must please the constituents back home is problematical:

Those who look to radio for public services more noteworthy than its present duty of an anodyne to thought will do well to consider the recent statements of New York's representative on the Federal Radio Commission, Mr. O. H. Caldwell. Mr. Caldwell urges a limited number of high-powered broadcasting stations, each in a "cleared channel," which phrase means that no other broadcasting station on the North American continent would be permitted to use that channel or one close enough to it to cause interference. Other available channels would be shared by local stations of very small power, too small to cause interference if distances are sufficient. The logical end of the idea is two distinct groups of broadcasters. One group of stations with very high powers, 50,000 to 100,000 watts, would serve the whole country. Another group of very low power would serve local needs. The stations of intermediate power, producers of country-wide interference but not of country-wide entertainment, would disappear.

There can be no argument that radio broadcasting now serves best the half of America that needs it least, the half that lives in cities and towns. Farm radio suffers several handicaps; the cost and difficulty of expert maintenance, the usual lack of electric power lines; most of all the fact that our present too numerous, interfering broadcasters make of each other when all are at considerable distances from the receiver. The larger and abler broadcasters cluster near centers of population, a tendency which is inevitable so long as advertising pays the bills, for advertisers demand a numerous audience, and preferably a city one. Yet public policy points toward the farm, ill-served by entertainment and instruction, as far more needful of good radio proffer than are the already surfeited cities and towns.

The common-sense solution, as Mr. Caldwell points out, is to encourage a few large stations broadcasting power enough for everybody to hear. Thus radio would reach the city audiences that advertisers like, also the farm communities that really need it. Local pride and home-town sentiment may urge longer lives for some of the intermediate broadcasters which the proposed rule would displace, but do pride and sentiment propose contributing to the bills? The public declines to pay for radio directly. Once one has bought a receiver its receipts are supposed to be free. Advertising will foot the bills, but demands, as is but fair, a voice in who is to be asked. The social problem is to give advertising its money's worth, and still to get useful radio service to the more sparsely settled regions where the people need it most.

Bishop Shehan's retirement as rector of the Catholic University of Washington is regretted but he has earned a rest.

Mr. De Vane's friends do not see their cause by insinuating that the good Cardinal Patrick had approved the assassination of a person who suffer with his

Real Reason.

About all there is to the average

transatlantic aviation feats, is summed up in the following excerpt from an editorial letter in a metro-

politan contemporary:

Hero worship is an international

pastime. The masses of every nation

will always applaud a deed of

reckless daring, regardless of its

nature or value. As an antidote to

cowardice there is, perhaps, some

merit in such applause, and inas-

much as the British Parliament has

been unsuccessful in its efforts to

create a restraining law, a man may

attempt to cross the ocean in a row-

boat, climb the front of a skyscraper,

jump from a racing plane to an ex-

press train or, in the face of over-

whelming odds, fly across the Atlan-

tic, and none may say him nay. But

is there any reason why, when hu-

man life is at stake and there is

no scientific issue involved, such in-

cidents should be encouraged by

reputable authorities?

There is no need to cite the

flights of Lindbergh, Byrd and Cham-

berlin. Those intrepid pioneers en-

tered upon and completed a neces-

sary task. They proved, in spite of

their success, that the present statu-

s quo does not favor safe passage

and when he slid back the

senger transportation over a large

expanse of water. Has anything the

transpired since to change their

opinions? Then why continue to

run human life on a useless quest?

When word was flashed out that

the Bremen was safe, a sigh of

relief went up from the entire

world—not because civilization

had benefited one lot; not because

of a vast amount of material had

been released for special newspaper

editions; not because the sup-

ply of used ticker tape and old tele-

phone books was becoming burden-

some; but because three human lives

had been snatched from the track-

erous maw of the North Atlantic.

To stir a warlike and restless

world into feelings of good will

and fellowship was Lindbergh's ac-

complishment, and the sacrifice and

expense involved to obtain the result

were small in comparison. Byrd and

Chamberlin contributed scientific

data to help future progress, but

beyond these exploits—what? A long

list of useful lives snuffed out for

no useful purpose.

As a nation of sportsmen let us

welcome the European flyers as

Europe has welcomed ours. But

when the hysteria has died down

and the last pink edition has gone

to press let us ask ourselves the

question, "What has been accom-

plished?" and after we have an-

swered that question let us give

a solemn thought to those whose lives

have been saddened through a use-

less sacrifice of their loved ones.

Denied.

The news it contains is so reassuring that we quote in full this news

dispatch from New York:

The American Birth Control

League, Inc., of which Mrs. Margaret

Sanger is president, has been barred

from occupying a booth at the Pa-

rents' Exposition, opening Saturday

at Grand Central Palace, because of

protest of the Board of Education

against participation of the organ-

ization.

Until yesterday the Birth Control

League had expected to have a part

in the exhibition, but during the

day it became known the United

Parents Association, under whose

direction the exposition is to be held,

returned the contract calling for

space at the Grand Central Palace.

The contract, assigned, was sent

back to Mrs. F. Robertson Jones,

acting president of the birth control

organization.

The formal protest of the Board

of Education was entered a few

days ago by Harold G. Campbell, As-

sociates Superintendent of Schools.

Learning of the application of the

Birth Control League, the board had

put it squarely up to the United

Parents Association that, either the

body headed by Mrs. Sanger be re-

fused sanction to join in the show

or the Board of Education would

withdraw all displays and refuse to

allow any of its scheduled exercises.

It was the belief of the Board of

Education, it is understood, that a

booth advocating birth control was

not fit for an exposition in which

15,000 school children will have a

part, and which will be visited by

many thousands more.

So far as is known, the United

Parents Association gave no reason

for the return of the contract, and

it is supposed it took such action

in deference to the Board of Educa-

tion, which would be the largest

factor in the exposition.

Senator Keefe should be turned

loose in every State of the Union.

His virulence would insure Govern-

or Smith's nomination at least.

Attacks upon and criticism of the

New York State Labor Department

have not included the Rochester dis-

To Bad—It's the Law.

Really, one cannot help but sym-

pathize with the New York "World"

from an editorial letter in a metro-

politan contemporary:

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pastime. The masses of every nation

will always applaud a deed of

reckless daring, regardless of its

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The Difference.

The difference between the K. of

C. (Knights of Columbus) and the

K. K. K. (Ku Klux Klan) is stated

concisely by the Bulletin of the

Catholic Laymen's Association of

Augusta, Ga.

"Dr. Broughton went for the

Knights of Columbus in no uncer-

tain terms because of its secrecy,

but praised the Ku Klux Klan, an

other secret order. Which goes to

show that he is more of a preacher

than a politician."—Madison, (Ga.)

Madisonian.

Dr. Broughton, who is a Baptist

minister, ought to know that the

Knights of Columbus have submit-

ted their complete ritual to Con-

gressional, Protestant and Masonic

committees, which reported that

there was much to commend and

nothing to condemn in it.

The Bulletin has published the

obligations assumed by the Knights

of Columbus in all four degrees.

The "secrecy" of the Knights of

Columbus is no more than privacy

and the constitution specifically

states that this privacy does not

sanction members refusing to give

information when ordered to do so

by lawful authority, whether of the

State or the Church.

Barred!

The vernacular saying "Some

knocks are really boosts" is well

illustrated in the following National

Catholic News despatch:

El Paso, Texas, March 23.—The

Western American, Catholic paper

published here, announced editorial-