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It is not the function of Congress to settle questions of constitutionality. That is solely the prerogative of the Supreme Court. And until we have some system by which that Court may render advisory opinions on legislation, either to Congress, or to the President, the only method of determining constitutionality of legislation is to pass it, and then institute a test-case.

"That is what President Roosevelt will have to do—unless our whole legislative machine is to be stalled every time some legislator questions the constitutionality of a measure."

"It is clear what the Tories want. They want the President to do nothing. Those Tories offered no remedy during the many years they were in power. Nor do they offer a remedy now."

"The Cuffey coal-bill marks the first constructive effort any one has made to end the demoralization of a vital industry. Yet the Tories say, 'No, no. This bill may be unconstitutional!'"

As "The Record" well points out, there is no authorized system in this country set up to advise the President or Congress previous to legislative action as to the constitutionality of any proposed act. As far as the Supreme Court is concerned, it is empowered to judge the constitutionality of statutes, proposals already made into law, and then only when litigation is "initiated by a citizen complaining that the administration of the law deprives him of some constitutional right. Furthermore, when a case or controversy is brought before the court, its decision is restricted to a determination of the law applicable solely to the facts involved in the case."

We are here quoting Dean Hinwoodey, Editor of the "United States Law Weekly," who also says that "the Schechter decision invalidating the NRA was not a complete determination of the broad issue concerning the limits of Federal power under the Constitution within the bounds of which the New Deal must remain, nor can all the New Deal decisions of the Supreme Court thus far announced be considered to have fully defined such limitations. The fact that one legislative method does not conform to the Constitution does not necessarily import that other legislative methods are unconstitutional."

And so before proposing any amendment, it must first be determined whether the present document affords sufficient authority for the administration's program; and if not, in what particular the constitutional powers of the Federal Government, to cope with national problems is lacking.

In a recent discussion about a constitutional amendment to safeguard the New Deal, Raymond Moley, Editor of "Today," was asked by Walter Lippmann to draft such an amendment. Mr. Moley answered:

"Obviously, no amendment can be drafted which will make secure the fundamental principles of the New Deal until the Supreme Court has passed upon other aspects of the New Deal such as the Agricultural Adjustment Act, the Wagner Act, the Cuffey bill (if passed), the Securities Act, the Stock Exchange Act and the Holding Company Act. Until this evidence is in, it would be unwise to attempt to formulate a proposal for the consideration of the American people."

Seeking out solutions of nation-wide social and economic problems in the midst of uncertainties as to whether or how such solutions as may be thought advisable can find place within the present framework of the Constitution, the Administration must fly blind to a large extent. But that should not excite misgivings as long as the Supreme Court is in the offing, ready upon suit to define, correct, to clear the atmosphere.

JOHN E. MASSETH

DOCTOR WILLIAMS

With the death last week of Dr. Walter Williams of Columbia, Missouri, ended a notable career. It was crisscrossed with interest, especially for journalists.

Dr. Williams was never blessed in his early years with a college degree. He never received even a high school diploma. Nonetheless, he scaled great heights in the fields of journalism and education.

Born in 1864, he obtained his first newspaper job at the age of 15 in the composing room of "The Boonville (Mo.) Topic" at 70 cents per week. At 23 he was editor and part owner of "The Boonville Advertiser" and president of the Missouri Press Association.

It was in 1890 that Dr. Williams began to make journalistic and educational history. It was his aim to raise the professional standards of journalism and his efforts in that direction soon gained him national prominence.

He wrote "The Journalist's Creed," in which he laid down the standards of his profession. It was a code of ethics and had a wide and helpful influence in journalistic circles. Among other things, it ruled out the subjective element in reporting news. It is largely due to Dr. Williams that the good reporter of today keeps his own views out of his reporting.

In 1908 he founded the School of Journalism in the University of Missouri, the first separate division in any university to be organized exclusively for instruction in newspaper work. It was the curriculum worked out by him that served as a model for other schools of journalism afterwards opened in other universities.

Later he became president of the University of Missouri, an unusual honor for a practical journalist.

The more we scan the unique career of Dr. Williams, the more inclined we are to believe that journalists are born, not made. We certainly have had reason to hope so.

J. E. M.

Who Helps The Poor?

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STRANGE BUT TRUE

Catholic Facts But Little Known

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By M. J. MURRAY

AN EMINENT ARCHAEOLOGIST HAS DESCRIBED THE

Cathedral of Chartres

As the most curious monument in France, perhaps even in all Europe.

THE INCONCEIVABLE DEPTHS OF ITS HISTORY OF TREQUANT RECONSTRUCTIONS DURING 1100 YEARS

THE FIRST LIGHHOUSE IN CHRISTIAN TIMES

MAINTAINED BY PRIESTS AND MONKS

THE LIGHHOUSE WAS BUILT ON A ROCKY MOUNTAIN FROM WHICH LIGHTS WERE FLASHED IN STARRY SKIES. THE ANCIENT CHURCH OF SAINT NICHOLAS AT LIFECAMP, ENGLAND, IS STILL USED, AS IT ALWAYS HAS BEEN, AS A LIGHTHOUSE.

OUR LORD PERFORMED A MIRACLE IN HIS OWN BEHALF ONCE ONLY WHEN HE INSTRUCTED SAINT PETER TO TAKE A FISH FROM THE SEA OF GALILEE. PETER HAD PROMISED ON HIS BEHALF

THE LIBRARY SIGN POST.

Hilaire Belloc is a very excellent Jack-of-all-literary-trades. From noble biography and inspired poetry down to the delicious spoofing of his nonsense Rhymes, he is a dabbler in all the arts. Among many excellences it is hard to pick one that is characteristic. I am inclined to agree with those who think that Belloc is unique and apart in the deathless ranks of his great biographers. But there is another forte which I think is his by right patent, a mordant humor as incisive as the dry-point of an engraver.

Belloc's best qualities move easily in his essays. Here you can find grave and gay, satirical and tender. They are like an April day in the quick variation of their mood, and the interplay of activity and repose is so adroitly balanced that no experienced reader is tempted by monotony or fatigue to yawn. "The Book of the Dead" is a masterpiece of this kind. If it will not seem a trivial anticlimax, may I suggest that a summer salad, irrigated and refreshing and substantial, is a not unflattering analogy for the Belloc essays.

For instance, in the collection which he names "A Conversation with a Cat and Other Essays," there is (among many fine morsels) the essay of the title-name, with just the kind of monologue which any connoisseur of cats might be expected to carry on with a furry sphinx on his lap. There is (among many fine morsels) the hilarious "A Guide to Boring," in which, at the end of a long and helpful list of the miniature word-portraits of Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk, whose "mesurage career" broke off so sharply, and that masterpiece in little, "Archbishop Laud on the Scaffold," with the restrained austerity of its telling.

It is told of Belloc that he has traveled on foot over all the ground described in his travel books and essays. For his biography of Napoleon he personally visited and studied the ground on which the great Napoleonic battles were fought. All of which means that he has been a pilgrim over almost all the ground of Europe. He has stopped at hundreds of wayside inns, guaffed scores of unpremeditated wines, and talked with all types of the great human bazaar. And best of all, he has liberally recorded all this metropolitan and cosmopolitan lore all through his books, and no one can write about the far places and things of travel quite like the same Hilaire Belloc.

In "Aguecheek's" "My Unknown Chum," there are also some mellow essays on travel, as well as some more thoughtful ones on "Boyhood and Boys" and "Girlhood and Girls," and also some philosophic ones on "Suffering and Life."

When the virtuous and humble man is corrected for a fault, he grieves for having committed it, the proud man on the other hand, on receiving correction grieves also; but he grieves that his fault is detected, and on this account is angry at the person who corrects him. St. John Chrysostom.

OF COURSE HE ROSE FROM THE DEAD!

History records a Man of 1900 years ago, Who claimed to be God. History relates that He proved His claims by doing the sick, blind, deaf and dumb and raising the dead to life.

History has written down indelibly that Jesus Christ rose from the dead on the third day after His crucifixion, just as He Himself had foretold, thus proving definitely His Godhead.

So, certain is this historic fact that the greatest enemies of the new Religion dared not deny the evidence; for they knew that the hundreds who had seen the risen Christ would laugh them to scorn. So conclusive a proof of the divinity of Christ was the Resurrection that its preachment was the chief instrument in bringing thousands upon thousands into the Church in the early days, and millions upon millions during the centuries since.

History? What history? The greatest and most authenticated history ever written—the Gospels. The history that has proved itself thoroughly and permanently self-thoroughly and permanently by coming unscathed through the attacks of the greatest minds of pagans and atheists throughout the centuries.

But yet another history confirms the facts. Flavius Josephus, the learned Jewish historian of the first century, who never embraced Christianity, writes thus:

"He was the Christ. And when Pilate, at the suggestion of the principal men amongst us, had condemned him to the cross, those that loved him at the first did not forsake him; for he appeared to them alive again the third day, as the divine prophets had foretold."

And yet there are some today who deny by their teaching and preaching the historic fact of the Resurrection perhaps because it is religious, Christian and Catholic; for they doubt not at all the accomplishments of Xerxes, Alexander and Caesar whose histories are far less authenticated.

Of course, Jesus rose from the dead! The Catholic knows this from Faith and from Fact. And on Easter Sunday the Church celebrates that most glorious of all festivals, the Resurrection, by which Christ proved Himself God and restored to a fallen race the great privileges lost by sin.

Catholic Information Society of North America

THE CATHOLIC EVIDENCE LIBRARY RECOMMENDS

The Following Armful of Novels for Summer Reading:

A CONVERSATION WITH A CAT, AND OTHER ESSAYS. BY Hilaire Belloc. Exhilarating reading for the dog-days.

HILLS AND THE SEA. BY Hilaire Belloc. Essays as refreshing and cooling as their open-air title.

MY UNKNOWN CHUM. BY "Aguecheek." A welcome variety from hoisterous pieties and nerve-racking trips: essays in familiar vein.

THE DARKNESS GREEN. BY Compton Mackenzie. If you hanker for a cool and quiet village that you never seem to get to, here's one you can enjoy in your back-yard hammock: delightful people, too.

Not—The Library will be open on the Holiday next week, August 15.

CATHOLIC EVIDENCE LIBRARY
HOURS—Afternoon—3:30 through to 9:00 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.
PLACE—Lobby of Columbus Civic Centre Building, 50 Chestnut Street, Rochester, N. Y.
DAILY RENTAL—One cent for each book.

Diocesan Recordings

A doctor in Hollywood has

"brought back to life," a monkey, frozen in ice for five days. This is nothing compared to the "monks," dictators of nations persecuting religion are making of themselves.

When a parish in these days is able to build a new church edifice that parish, its pastor and members, should be highly commended. They have done the unusual under trying conditions. Sunday, St. George's Church (Lithuanian) will be dedicated on Hudson Avenue, Rochester. The event will be well worth recording. Despite the times, pastor and people have worked zealously and determinedly to bring about a pleasing edifice in which to honor their God and to practice their Holy Faith. Congratulations.

Accessible by boat, train, automobile, or airplane, the city of Cleveland, Ohio, will be a converging point for thousands who will assemble there September 23 to 28 for the National Eucharistic Congress. Many in this diocese will avail themselves of the rare privilege afforded to attend this event in which the Holy Eucharist will be adored in a special manner in addition to the deeply significant opportunity for special grace, the Congress is also going to be made an occasion for those who are interested in Catholic Action to increase their knowledge of its meaning. Sectional meetings will be held with the general theme to be discussed announced as "The Holy Eucharist, the Source and the Summit of Catholic Action." Eleven groups will meet, each with its own speakers and discussion leader. "Catholic Action," as Pope Pius XI has stated, "constitutes the very heart of the pursuit of personal Christian perfection, which is however before all others its first and greatest end, but it also consists of a true apostolate in which Catholics, of every social class participate, coming thus to be united in thought and action around those centers of sound doctrine and multiple social activity legitimately constituted, and as a result, aided and sustained by the authority of the bishops." To follow-out the Holy Father's wishes, what better opportunity could be offered than the National Eucharistic Congress as a beginning for a well-rounded Catholic Action program in the fall?

Rochester diocese representatives at the Catholic Students Mission Crusade convention in Dubuque, Iowa, this week heard the Catholic students of the United States lauded highly for their sacrificial zeal in furnishing funds for the mission. Also did they hear praise for the educational program of the Crusade. The latter was said to show that the apostolic spirit is well developed among the students and to prove that the average student is willing to make intellectual efforts when the motive is an inspiring one. In the last two years more than 2,700 degrees in the Order of Paladins honor society of the Crusade were awarded for achievement in the field of mission study. While many are deploring the movement, the deeper things manifested by students of today—it is refreshing to know that a large group of our Catholic students are engaged in a work worthwhile, the progress of the universal church.

A peaceful land is one in which everybody is getting his fair share except those who can't cause any trouble. San Francisco Examiner.

They can cut the Townsend pension tax in half, says the Southwest Courier, because no woman will admit she's 60.

He who promises pardon to the sinner who does penance has not promised a tomorrow in which to do it. St. Gregory.

Unhappy is the man who knoweth all things and knoweth not thee, but happy who knoweth thee, though he knoweth naught else. St. Augustine.

If by silence we hide the faults of others, God will also hide ours, but if we divulge them, God will also make known our own. St. Poymen.

Unhappy is the man who knoweth all things and knoweth not thee, but happy who knoweth thee, though he knoweth naught else. St. Augustine.

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