

SECOND THOUGHTS

By javie aiche

At first I thought it was a one-hundred-percent job that Judge Harold Flannery had done in releasing from the flag salute those Witnesses of Jehovah who consider it a form of idolatry forbidden by their special interpretation of the Holy Bible. As far as it went, the Flannery decision was good in the sight of God and within the sanction of just men.

But, along comes the junior jurist of the Luzerne bench with a secondary decree in which he upholds an alderman's ruling to fine agents of the same religious group for distributing handbills without first receiving a license beneficial to only the public treasury. Which made it appear that Judge Flannery ruled for freedom of conscience but in opposition to freedom of the press. The two must go together or neither one goes at all.

Does the Salvation Army pay license for the right to sell from door to door the magazine known as "The War Cry?" It does not. Nor has any congregation of any valley community been compelled to take out, at a price, a permit for dropping onto the household front porch a coaxing invitation to help along a box party, bingo, oyster supper or visiting evangelist. So, controversy simmers down to the idea that in one or another manner the Witnesses of Jehovah have come to be alone and apart adherents of all other biblical formats, not alone in their religious discipline but also in their status under the law.

The most patriotic man I ever knew was a Mennonite lay preacher. He answered the call of Abraham Lincoln for his first one hundred thousand soldiers; then when his enlistment ran out and he found the pastor of his church under draft he promptly assumed the pastor's obligation and served for the rest of the Civil War. Substitutions were permitted then, you know. Yet, it is only a while back that the Mennonites of Pennsylvania were facing jail as an alternative to sending their children to a kind of public school of which they did not approve. Governor George H. Earle came to their rescue.

Getting back to freedom of conscience and freedom of the press, a question or two might be posed: Of what spiritual value is the salute given only as a means to evade jail or ignorance? Members of Jehovah's Witnesses have made it clear that they love their homeland, America. And why bother them with formal salute when time and again they have given testimony to willingness to die for both the cause of the United Nations and their inbred convictions? Especially, why should effort be made to force their children into flag salutes that are negations of home teachings? Consider only a few of the facts by which the United States crusaders are winning victories in a war that previously was only a record of defeats.

Savages in the Solomon Islands have a religious conviction on the spiritual and physical strength they get from decapitating their enemies, partaking of their flesh and then making keepsakes of the grisly heads. United States Marines are rewarding each native for cannibalistic prowess. They recognize the inestimable value of having allies who know how to clean the Japs out of the jungles. Likewise in Africa there has been set up a military trading arrangement that under our civil law would be illegal and punishable by imprisonment because it is based on the gold standard buried deep in the terrain of Kentucky.

The Koran, the Talmud and all that can be produced of the teachings of the major and minor prophets are variously brought into the picture of war to lure races and tribes to the belief that their concepts of heaven as well as their desire for life's enjoyments rest wholly with victory for the cause of America. No one has made a secret of the plain statements in Australia and elsewhere that it is only the United States in this conflict that has no gain at stake but only costs vastly beyond its responsibilities. An Australian high official may be quoted in his people's preference to join their future to this land of the free rather than go on with the British Empire that failed in the crisis.

A literate people may be trusted with anything they can read and with every conviction they can voice. Let freedom ring us around with all the creeds that satisfy individual needs. After all, the breach in the walls of Fascism and Nazi overlordism was made by the victims of brutal compulsion inside the afflicted and conquered countries long before American courage and resources began the polishing-off of the job.

Do You Like To Sew?
Maybe you can thread a needle just as easily as ever if your eyes are properly fitted with glasses
Dr. Abe Finkelstein
OPTOMETRIST
Main Street, Luzerne

THE LOW DOWN FROM HICKORY GROVE

I see where the War Production Board is clamping down on things we don't need and which interferes with supplies, like copper, etc., that is needed for bullets. It is about time, says Henry. And the dams and powerhouses not needed make a list as long as your arm. And furthermore, he says, most of 'em were out in the sage brush.

A jack-rabbit, I says, should not have much use for electric lights, trying to keep Henry wound up. When he is wound up he talks without frills. Josephus, he says, the buddies of this nation who are making a drive for Socialism and a nice lifetime job, are the gents in the wood pile. And put this in your pipe, he says, and smoke it—if those Bureau Boys ever get a firm grip on the electric business, they are gonna branch out. Do you think we will ever have Govt. barbers, I says, and if so, how about guys without excess hair, I says. Can the Socialists grow hair? On a dome like yours, he says, they could grow anything — and he headed for home. Yours with the low-down, JO SERRA.

POET'S CORNER

Sugar And Spice

Little girls, so poets say,
In their ruffled, starched array,
Are made of sugar and of spice
And everything both sweet and nice.

In these days of sugar ration,
The stork must suffer consternation.
Where is he to find the stuff
Little girls are fashioned of?

Spices from a far off land,
Too, are hard to keep on hand.
If priority him annoys,
Maybe he will stick to boys!

The Blood Donor

This pint of blood that I donate
Carries all my love and hate,
It has circled through my veins,
'Neath summer's suns and winter's rains.

With a most unseemly haste,
Through my arteries it raced,
When my lover came to me,
Court'ing on his bended knee.

It has carried food and air
To my toes and to my hair.
It has flowed uneven, slow,
When I suffered sorrow's blow.

In this blood there may be found
Bits of sea and sky and ground,
Bits of our United States,
Rogues and robbers, reprobates,

Conquering heroes, pioneers,
Preachers, doctors, sonneteers,
Men who sailed the seven seas,
Ladies whose dimples tempt and tease.

Now reduced to saving plasma,
Sent to battle, a phantasma,
It will enter foreign veins,
Ease another's wounds and pains.

He and I, then pledged by blood,
I in comfort, he in mud,
Shall fight on in Freedom's name,
To keep her heart and torch aflame.

My Man

Hush, my child, don't be a-feared!
It's only Dad behind that beard!
He's still the same sweet, loving man,
He was before the razor ban.

First he had a time to find
Shaving cream of any kind.
Razor metal was its need.
Then the government decreed.

Now your Dad has sworn off shaving.
Think of all the time he's saving!
Though he looks like bum or screever,
When you see him holler "Beaver!"

Three offerings from the pen of Rives Matthew's Carra taken from a recent edition of his always entertaining Somerset News.—Editor.

Here Comes Another Blitz



Released by Keystone Features, Inc.

THE OUTPOST

Where those at home and the men and women in the armed services from the Back Mountain Region—in camps and on the fighting fronts—keep contact with their fellows throughout the world.

Send Them Mail

Dear Editor:
You are giving a real service to the fellows in the U. S. Service through the columns of your paper, and by giving them free subscriptions. I am always interested in knowing where my Back Mountain friends in the service are, what they are doing, and how they are getting along. I like to hear from my friends on the home front, too. The Dallas Post gives me this service, and I write these few lines to give you my appreciation.

I enjoy the Outpost column and the Contact for Service Men column. And then, too, there is the Script Club. This is not the least important corner of the triangle. About the quickest way to get the boys out of the barracks is to let the mail clerk announce the mail call. I have seen a lot of boys go to the mail call, and I have seen a lot of them go away, but let them go away without a letter; that is the best way to wipe the smile off their faces.

Well, the Dallas Post is like a letter from home, so please find enclosed my subscription application form.

Very truly yours,

Pvt. Paul Montross
900 Guard Sqdn.
Columbia Army Air Base
Columbia, South Carolina

Paul: It would be nice if the people from Noxen and Monroe township would send in more news that would be of interest to you fellows from that region. It seems to be the hardest thing in the world to get people to appreciate how much one single item means to a chap when he is away from home.—Editor.

Really Like It

Dear Editor:
Just a few lines to let you know I am grateful to you for sending me the news from back home. I really enjoy it.

We are in the best camp in the country, from my point of view. It's just like a little town. They have brick buildings where officers and their families live. They have many little stores in the camp where the men can go when they are off duty.

We also have a large Post Exchange where there is a large gym and bowling alleys. I play with the battery bowling team and we are leading the league with four wins and two losses to our credit.

The boys in this battery come mostly from Pennsylvania. They are from Scranton, West Pittston, Exeter, Wyoming and three of us are from Shavertown. The other two boys are Cpl. Howard H. Carey and

P.F.C. George K. Straw. They all seem to pick the Dallas Post up and read it when I get through with it. They enjoy it just as much as I do. Thank you again for sending me the Dallas Post, hoping to receive it wherever I go.

Cpl. Robert J. Pritchard
Battery B, 406th Sep. C. A. Bn.
Fort Sheridan, Ill.

There's not much excitement in Shavertown right now, so the folks down there are seeing things nights. They claim a gorrilla man is haunting the quiet streets and lanes at night.

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We'll have more about that in our news columns. Bob will you fill out the complete Soldier's Mail coupon in this week's post and send it in to us? We haven't a complete one in file for you.—Editor.

Ready For Japs

Dear Editor:
Just a note to say I'm not lost. In fact, we're feeling pretty good. We're just back from eight horrible days at the firing range in northern Massachusetts.

Why we're feeling good is this. On the 40mm Anti-Aircraft guns, on which I'm chief of the Range Section, out of the 79th Regiment we are the high scorers. We beat every battery in it. My platoon beat the first platoon of our battery and my section was tops in our platoon. Hence the good feeling. We're ready for the Japs, but it's up to Uncle Sam to send us over. We want to go and we're hoping it's soon.

Enclosed is my Script Club coupon. If Martha can do anything with it, she'll be eligible for membership to the "International Brotherhood of Magicians."

Well, hope to see you all soon.
Best of luck.

As ever,
Cpl. Herb Updyke
Battery F
Manchester, Conn.

You'd be surprised what Martha can do, especially for guys who are sure they can hit Japs. Herb fill out one of those Free Posts for Soldiers Coupons so that we can have complete information on you for our files.—Editor.

Finishes School

Dear Editor:
This probably won't be much of a letter, but it may serve the dual purpose of letting you know that I am receiving the Post here at my new station, and thanking you for being good enough to send it to me.

The fact that this is the first letter I have written doesn't mean that I don't appreciate every issue. On the contrary, I hope that you realize how much it means to a fellow to have a contact with his friends back of the mountains. Not to mention "The Outpost," which receives special attention.

I have finally finished my schooling, after six months, and am assigned as an operator in the Army Airways Radio Station here at Will Rogers Field. The work is interesting and we learn something new every day, so there is little chance of getting bored or restless.

The country down here is all right I guess, but I prefer a few hills to

THE SENTIMENTAL SIDE

By EDITH BLEZ

Thanksgiving Day 1942! You and I and all the other Americans have a great many things to be thankful for. Frankly, I think it would be rather silly to enumerate all our blessings — they are too numerous. It would be the same old repetition of words which really mean very little, because, it isn't possible for us to realize how fortunate we are — but I do think there is one thing we could stop and think about on this Thanksgiving Day.

Health Topics

By F. B. Schooley, M. D.

Child Hygiene

Children of today are the adult leaders of tomorrow. Protection of the child's health forms part of the general program of protection of public health. An all-year program of immunization of infants and preschool children is a sound community health procedure and will save time and money. Every student in the grade schools and the high school group should have a thorough physical examination as soon as possible after the school term begins. Careful records must be kept in all cases for observation and study, and for a comprehensive understanding of present and future needs. These records should be open for local, county and state inspection at all times. The co-operative support of the school board, municipal authorities, local board of health and the parent-teacher's association is necessary for a successful public health program. A complete course in personal hygiene should be given to the high school students, and accredited by the State Department of Public Instruction. This should include the essential facts in proper language concerning venereal diseases, especially gonorrhea and syphilis. The effects of alcoholic intoxicants on the mind and body should be presented in detail. Students who have recently enrolled should be checked immediately for history of inoculations against contagious diseases and should be examined as soon as possible for any physical or mental defects.

Combined tetanus and diphtheria immunization is a valuable procedure for infants and children. The duration of immunity to tetanus or lockjaw as measured by the level of protective antitoxin in the blood serum has been found to be as good as the immunity to diphtheria during a period of three years of observation. When a child or adult is injured and tetanus serum would ordinarily be given, the individual may be given a stimulating dose of tetanus toxoid as an additional precaution and the usual reactions produced by the serum are avoided.

Education in better health habits and wider utilization of known preventive methods now available are essential in a successful community health program. Health supervision means a complete medical examination for detection of any abnormal physical condition and guidance into a manner of living which will secure for the individual a full development of his physical and mental capacities so that he may live a more effective and happy life.

break the monotony. I would certainly enjoy climbing North Mountain again, but realize that such things must be put off 'till some time in the not-too-far-off future.

I have been trying to write this letter while on duty in the station, and have made very slow progress, so I had better close and try again later. Thanking you again, I remain.

Yours for Victory,

Pvt. Don Roberts
3rd Comm. Sqdn.
Will Rogers Field
Oklahoma

Sounds to me as though you like army radio work better than managing the Acme Market on Union street. Enjoyed your letter a lot. Write often.—Editor.

One Of Our Boys

Dear Editor:
You certainly keep up to the different places the Army sends me now and then. To my great surprise the Dallas Post came directly to this school. Why, I don't believe the larger newspapers could do a job as well.

This letter will probably be a surprise to you as I find little time to write these days. It just seems my time isn't mine any more. Back at Camp Bowie we were starting up a new baking outfit, and it certainly kept me plenty busy.

Now I'm up here in Chicago taking an advanced Baking Course at one of the largest baking schools in the country. Before the Army took it over it was an advanced civilian bakery school. Today the Army has full charge and they are using the same civilian instruction the school has always had. And, let me tell

(Continued on Page Three)

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