Weekly News Review

Germans, Poles, Hungarians Covet Part of Czech Nation

By Joseph W. La Bine

CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND HER MINORITIES DISTRIBUTION

Foreign

"After 20 years of peace we were overtaken by a violent crisis. Dynamic political forces . . . from neighboring states threatened our lands . . . England and France, two democracies, informed us that arbitration could not solve the difficulty . . . The government could do nothing but accept the suggestion of the two powers . . . Nothing else remained, because we were alone."

Thus, to her angry, downhearted populace, little Czechoslovakia explained why Sudeten borderlands were being ceded to Germany. Two days had passed since faithless England and France had capitulated to Reichsfuehrer Adolf Hitler's demand for immediate "release" of the 3,500,000 German Czechs whose protests have kept Europe in a dither all summer. Further delay would bring invasion; it was the better part of valor to surrender. The terms: Predominantly German areas would be ceded immediately, while part German areas would be given a plebiscite. In return, Adolf Hitler would join in guaranteeing Czechoslovakia's future.

But even while Europe began breathing easier, new troubles were brewing, mostly caused by the hopeless conglomeration of nationalities from which the Czech nation was carved 20 years ago. *(See Map.)* The troubles:

In **Prague** itself, democracy gave way to semi-dictatorship as Premier Milan Hodza's cabinet resigned, replaced by that of Gen. Jan Syrovy, one-eyed army chief. Meanwhile, blood splattered throughout Sudetia as Czech troops quelled Nazi riots.

In **Warsaw** was heard a growing cry for "liberation" of 62,000 Poles in the Silesian Teschen belt which Poland lost to Czechoslovakia in 1920.

In **Budapest,** Hungarians demanded annexation of 700,000 Magyars in Czech territory contiguous to Hungary.

In **Treviso,** Italy, Premier Benito Mussolini decided treaties mean nothing in modern Europe, therefore urged complete split-up of Czechoslovakia to satisfy Czechs, Germans, Magyars, Poles, Ruthenians, Slovaks.

Meanwhile, Britain's Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain and France's Premier Edouard Daladier ate crow. In **Paris,** a crisis threatened in protest against the Franco-British scheme whose stench almost paralleled that of the notorious Hoare-Laval plan for Ethiopia's partition. Three cabinet members resigned. In **London,** where the "sell-out" created equal protest, Neville Chamberlain had good reason to worry about his job.

As the prime minister boarded his plane for Godesberg, Germany, and his second conference with Adolf Hitler in a week's time, there were some indications that Der Fuehrer might eventually reject the Sudeten settlement, might demand complete division of Czechoslovakia among Germany, Poland and Hungary.

Only definite fact was that Germany had bluffed her way into Europe's No. 1 position, relegating both France and England to the classification of second-rate powers.

Domestic

New England had already weathered three days of rain when tropical storm warnings were posted on Florida's east coast. By midnight the hurricane was safely past Florida, far at sea. Next morning Jacksonville warned North Carolina's capes, but high tides and wind had already spread the word. By noon the weather bureau at Washington ordered storm warnings posted from Atlantic City to Eastport, Me.

By late afternoon the storm hit Long Island's fashionable Westhampton with a 90-mile wind, a 40-foot tidal wave. Luxurious homes on the sand dunes were blown to sea and bodies were scattered for miles along the beach. The storm's full force had struck the island from Montauk down to Queens and Brooklyn.

Roaring across Long Island sound, it brought flood, wind and fire to Connecticut in a night of horror that cost $30,000,000. At Providence, R. I., waves that broke 1,000 feet into the city left 25 feet of water in some streets. By the time it reached Massachusetts, four days of rain had already swollen rivers to flood stage. As only a hurricane can, it ripped northward into New Hampshire and Vermont, thence across to Montreal where it took two more lives before playing out. Behind was a picture of amazing desolation that stretched across six states.

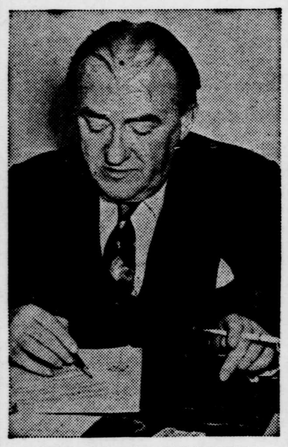
Next day began the biggest rehabilitation job since 1937's spring floods. With more than 400 dead, with property damage standing above $400,000,000, with thousands homeless, many communities were so hopelessly shattered they could not help themselves. To the rescue came the Red Cross, U. S. coast guard and WPA, while from Washington President Roosevelt ordered all federal agencies to give every possible assistance.

● Shortly after midnight, Southern Pacific's Chicago-bound Californian pulled onto a siding at Tortuga, Calif., making way for the Los Angeles-bound Argonaut. Though Brakeman Eric L. Jacobson threw the switch, Argonaut thundered through, crashed head-on into the Californian to kill 12, injure 100. Told that he had opened a closed switch, Brakeman Jacobson became hysterical, shrieked over and over: "I'm not crazy, but I don't know why I did it!"

Politics

All summer the U. S. has waited for Franklin Roosevelt to say yes or no regarding his third term candidacy. Only known facts were (1) that he would retire if a strongly liberal congress approved his legislative program by 1940, and (2) that, having control over the Democratic party, he would then be able to name his successor. Thus it was obvious why he strove to defeat such "obstructionist" senators as Iowa's Gillette, South Carolina's Smith, Maryland's Tydings and Georgia's George.

But by last week, as primary season closed, the President's only major success had been against New York's Rep. John J. O'Connor, defeated by administration-blessed James H. Fay, one-legged war veteran. Though Representative O'Connor won Republican nomination (he entered both tickets), Candidate Fay is a safe bet next November since he carries both American Labor party and Democratic endorsement.



NEW YORK'S O'CONNOR
Biggest fish in a summer's angling.

Since little John O'Connor was the biggest fish Franklin Roosevelt has been able to hook in a summer's angling, at best his so-called "purge" was only 25 per cent successful. This means the President's program will not be completed by 1940, also that his tremendous personal popularity would bog down if he attempted to choose his successor. Though he can win votes for himself, he cannot do it for others.

Apparently two choices remain open. Either Franklin Roosevelt will run for Democratic renomination or he will head a new third party, a step not considered unlikely in view of his recent promise to support liberals, whether Democratic or Republican.

● In Massachusetts, ex-Gov. James M. Curley staged a comeback, won Democratic gubernatorial nomination over the incumbent, Gov. Charles F. Hurley. Opposing him next November will be 46-year-old Leverett Saltonstall, liberal Republican, who scored three times the vote of his three opponents combined.

● In Wisconsin, where popular Gov. Phillip F. LaFollette could be beaten only by a Democratic-Republican fusion ticket against the powerful Progressive party, November's gubernatorial race will again find three candidates: Governor LaFollette, Democratic Robert Henry, Republican Julius P. Heil. Most interest will center in the senatorial campaign, where Democratic Sen. F. Ryan Duffy must face Republican Alexander Wiley and Progressive Herman L. Ekern, currently lieutenant governor.

Business

Foremost among American industry's problem children are the railroads, who jointly fell $180,000,000 short of earning fixed charges during 1938's first six months, whose proposed 15 per cent pay cut ($250,000,000 a year) is met by labor's allegation of financial mismanagement and overcapitalization. Last spring, almost simultaneous with the wage cut announcement, congress received rail legislation but tabled it on the insistence of Wisconsin's Sen. Robert M. LaFollette, who argued that pay cuts and government aid do not go together.

Called for October 1 was a general railroad strike which, under federal legislation, can be averted 30 days while a presidential fact-finding committee deliberates 30 more days after its report is submitted. Though President Roosevelt plans to follow this procedure, he began thinking early in September in broader terms than a strike. To the White House were summoned three experts of rail management (Union Pacific's Carl Gray, Pennsylvania's M. W. Clement, Southern Pacific's E. C. Norris) and three experts of rail labor (Railway Employees' B. M. Jewell, Firemen-Enginemen Brotherhood's D. B. Robertson, Railway Labor Executives' George M. Harrison).

Their job: To draft for next winter's congress a long-range rehabilitation plan for the $26,000,000,000 industry, one-third of which is now bankrupt. Though the President obviously hoped to avert a rail strike by promising legislation, though steadily increasing carloadings plus the prospect of business recovery gave promise of obviating a wage cut, labor remained adamant. At the committee's first session, its three experts told management's three experts that no legislation could be talked until wage cut demands were dropped.

International

Early in Depression it became apparent that permanent recovery was a world-wide proposition. Thus, since 1931, each year has brought an International Management congress which woos international prosperity through means that have thus far failed to win international peace, namely, co-operation.

To Washington for this year's congress came 2,000 executives and management experts. But a fortnight ago, after the first day's session, it was plain that the weight of American delegates would change an impersonal discussion of business ills into a field day for protests against what U. S. industry considers its No. 1 foe, the New Deal.

From France's Alex Brule came the simple analysis that most of management's problems are reducible to human problems. Germany's Dr. Gorg Seebauer was interested in "the social aspects of scientific management." But one U. S. speaker after another found reason to lay American business ills at the White House door. Samples:

Johns-Manville's Lewis H. Brown: "Adding to the misunderstandings between business and government . . . is our present confused state of mind . . . We are torn between contradictions."

Westinghouse's A. W. Robertson: "Management . . . must struggle to maintain the cause of free enterprise in a world threatened by too much regimentation."

Labor's complaint came from Robert J. Watt, U. S. workers' delegate to the international labor office: "My message to management . . . is that you can have discipline and responsibility within unions as soon as you stop waging war against them and give your workers a chance to develop their own patterns of . . . discipline and responsibility."

Soundest advice of all came from William Allen White, wizened editor of the Emporia (Kan.) Gazette, who spanked both capital and labor while speaking as a "representative of the public."

EMPORIA'S EDITOR WHITE
Capital was "just plain dumb."

Editor White to capital: "You were short-sighted for not seeing that the eight-hour day was coming . . . You had to fight it, every inch, and make the consuming public think you were greedy . . . You were just dumb."

Editor White to labor: "The proper business of a labor union is to get higher wages, better hours and good shop conditions . . . But when labor en masse plunks its vote for its own (political) party, then the spirit of loyalty begins to obscure labor's objectives."

Next day, Secretary of Commerce Daniel C. Roper promised less government interference with business.

Bruckart's Washington Digest

Three Times in Row President's 'Purge' Attempts Prove Futile

Roosevelt Unable to Transmit Personal Popularity to His Followers; Political Prestige Suffers Irreparable Damage; Forced Realignment Seen Complete Flop.

By WILLIAM BRUCKART
WNU Service, National Press Bldg., Washington, D. C.

WASHINGTON.—There was quite a sermon, for me, in the telegram of congratulations that Virginia's great leader, Sen. Carter Glass, sent to Senator George upon the occasion of Senator George's victory in the attempted New Deal "purge" in Georgia. I don't know why that telegram was not more widely printed, but it was typically like Carter Glass, so cryptic, so full of meaning, that I am going to reprint it here:

"Senator Walter F. George, Atlanta, Ga.

"God bless you, Walter. Likewise, the sovereign State of Georgia.

"Signed. Carter Glass."

To get its true meaning, one has to recall that Senator George was the third Democratic senator, in a row, who was openly opposed by President Roosevelt; the third marked to be "purged" from the Democratic party and the third in a row to be victorious over the President's ill-advised attempt to dominate voters of a state, and, in due course, the congress of the United States, by personally picking the Democratic party nominees.

Next, Mr. George had been subjected to perhaps the strongest New Deal slap by the President, of any of the nine senators whom the President originally described as men behind the times. It will be recalled how Mr. Roosevelt, with Senator George on the platform, spoke his blessing of United States Attorney Camp at Barnesville, Ga., and announced his conclusion that Mr. George represented the past, not the future. It was on that occasion, too, that Mr. Roosevelt uttered the now famous: "God bless you, Walter; I hope we will always be friends."

The third feature to be remembered is that Mr. George won, that former Governor Talmadge was second and that the New Deal candidate was third in the race, and that Mr. George's victory was so overwhelming that there was no need for a run-off primary—the method in the solid Democratic states of choosing between the two highest candidates from the primary vote. This means that a majority of the voters—more than 50 per cent—voted for Mr. George.

President's Prestige Has Suffered Heavy Damage

Couple these facts with Senator Tydings' victory over Rep. David J. Lewis for the Democratic senatorial nomination in Maryland, and Sen. "Cotton Ed" Smith's substantial margin over Governor Johnston in South Carolina, and it appears to me that several conclusions are proper and justifiable. Mr. Roosevelt went into South Carolina in behalf of Governor Johnston and he went into Maryland to promise construction of several huge Chesapeake bay bridges and to point to the good qualities of Representative Lewis. Yet, the President's wishes were well ignored.

The conclusions I have reached—and I believe they will stand the most critical test—are:

1. Mr. Roosevelt is unable to transmit to his followers the same personal popularity that he has enjoyed since entering the White House.

2. His prestige as a political leader, which undoubtedly was slipping to some extent before, has now suffered irreparable damage.

3. The congress that will be elected in November will be the most independent, indeed, probably the most obstreperous, that the President has faced, and that spells trouble in a big way.

4. There can be no discounting the influence that victories for the conservatives, like those won by Tydings, Smith and George, will have on the rest of the country in the November elections. It is an honest statement, I believe, that there are numerous voters who have been wavering between the New Deal and the conservative school of thought, and a large percentage of them will turn to conservative candidate when they have a chance. They will be influenced strongly, and that fact worries the New Deal thinkers at the moment.

'Purge' but Step In Plan Of Political Realignment

But there is yet another thought in this connection. I refer to the President's program for a realignment of political groups in this country. He has called for it; of that there is no obvious doubt. The "purge" of the senators marked for political destruction was one of the early steps. So, it is significant that Mr. Roosevelt's early maneuver in the direction of a forced realignment has succeeded to the extent of a complete flop. The thing that started out to be a beautiful swan-like dive became a belly-buster, much to the chagrin of the great thinkers who surround the President and give him such poor political advice.

There will be a condition in the next congress that will be worthy of watching. Surely, no one will expect Tydings and Smith and George and Clark of Missouri and six or eight other senators to go out of their way to support a Roosevelt program in which they may not believe. There is the nucleus. There were already 20 or more senators of that mind. With those re-elected after overcoming the "purge," it seems reasonable to suppose that as little political credit as possible will be given to the President.

House members nearly always keep in close touch with the senators of their respective states, particularly if they are of the same political faith. They will take encouragement from the forthrightness of their seniors and, quite naturally, will be bolder and more outspoken. It will be much more difficult for Democratic Leader Rayburn to hold his majority together in the house of representatives because of this new-found courage and, in some cases, resentment.

All of which leads into a third phase. Few Presidents have been able to withstand bushwhacking from Capitol Hill. It confronts Mr. Roosevelt to an unparalleled degree because of the "purge." Thus, a further analysis seems to offer evidence, at least a hint, that Mr. Roosevelt's control of the Democratic party may be broken. If it is not now an accomplished fact, I see no reason to expect that the President can control the Democratic national convention of 1940. That, after all, is one of the things at stake in the President's ill-starred "purge" attempts.

Some Heads May Fall; New Spokesmen Appear

In consequence of these things, I have an idea that there will be many, many moves made during the next session and in the session just before the 1940 convention designed to take the Democratic party out of the hands of the Roosevelt advisers. I think you will see delegates being groomed here and there, 18 months before they are to be formally chosen. I believe also that state political bosses will become quite active next summer as they watch which way the wind blows. Some will guess wrong, some right. Some political heads will fall and new spokesmen will appear on the scene.

All of these things, I predict, will happen, barring one thing. That one thing is war. If there is a general European war on the horizon, then we may expect a different course of political events in the United States.

What I am about to say, now, is not said in discredit of the President. It is merely voicing a fact in politics. If there be a general war abroad, and, more particularly, if American relations become involved in it, then Mr. Roosevelt unquestionably will appeal for solidarity of public opinion, for unanimous support for the government of the nation. His spokesmen and henchmen will be busy as bees showing him to be the only man for the job, the only man capable of saving the nation. That happened in Woodrow Wilson's time and it has happened in every other war, and it will happen again.

Political Destruction Of Roosevelt Threatened

I know that Mr. Roosevelt is no more anxious to have the United States become involved in war than you or I. He realizes its cost in blood, as well as the disarrangement of world economics that follows. And if war comes, he naturally will want a united nation back of him. But, coldly and abstractly, I repeat that war conditions are the only set of circumstances that I see now which may prevent a thoroughgoing movement on Capitol Hill for the political destruction of Mr. Roosevelt. When I say, political destruction, I do not mean to imply, or to hint that opponents of the President within his own party want to send him to oblivion. They will seek—they are seeking, now—to dethrone him in every way except as titular head of the party. They want the guidance to come from old Democratic leaders and they want adherence to old Democratic principles. That is to say, the long-time oracles of the Democratic party have witnessed stupidity, sheer dumbness, on the part of the young squirts who have crowded close to the President, and they want to send those quacks back to the oblivion from which they came. Further, the old line Democrats want to avoid a wide-open split in their party. Unless that can be done in 1940, there will be a Republican victory followed by exactly the same conditions that wrecked the Republicans after the "purge" that the voters gave the G. O. P. in 1932 and 1936.

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WHO'S NEWS THIS WEEK

By LEMUEL F. PARTON

NEW YORK.—This writer has always thought it would be a good idea for the newspapers of a city to make an award every year to the person who had provided them with the most good copy. In New York, I would nominate Dr. Raymond L. Ditmars, for 39 years curator of mammals and reptiles at the Bronx zoo, almost any year. He has just left for Trinidad to catch some parasol ants, which he has been craving for a long time. It has been generally supposed that the ants pack leaves and petals for shade. Dr. Ditmars puts us right on that. They gather them only for food.

Dr. Ditmars Superlative News Source

The curator has exploded many myths, but usually substitutes something even more interesting. Reptiles haven't the slightest interest in sweet music and aren't soothed by it, monkeys will return to cleared jungle if it grows again; the mother snake does not swallow the little ones in times of danger.

But, being thus disillusioned, we learn from Dr. Ditmars that there are sea serpents, great schools of them, in the Indian ocean and the western tropical Pacific. They are as gaudy as an Elks' parade. with cold, beady eyes, and emit a dreadful venom. Dr. Ditmars carries them on the books as hydrophiinae.

There are flying snakes, fish that climb trees, fish that shoot down bugs out of the air by expelling pellets of water like an air gun, frogs that can swallow rats, frogs with vocal power 1,000 times that of a man, insects which are carried by jungle people for flashlamps, animals which can travel 60 miles an hour and animals which never lie down.

Dr. Ditmars is 62 years old. At the age of 15, he began gathering insects for the Museum of Natural History. He had a year of newspaper work before joining the staff of the zoo, which may account for his being a friendly Santa Claus to reporters.

• • •

IT IS recalled that Homer Martin, the fighting parson who contends with John L. Lewis in a Faustian struggle for the body and soul of the automobile union, was the world hop, skip and jump champion just a few years ago—and may be still. It is only three years ago that he quit the pastorate of the Leeds Baptist church in Kansas City, got a job in the Fisher plant, organized the local of the United Automobile Workers' union and became its first international president.

Homer Martin May Still Be World Champ

His battle soon turned from the bosses to the left-wingers of the union and that's the issue of his contention with Mr. Lewis. Getting under way, he eloquently plastered William Green of the A. F. of L. and it is not clear where he would be headed in case of a final break with the C. I. O. leadership.

He is tall, athletic—once a track star for the Illinois Athletic club—with a wide, ready smile and shell-rimmed glasses. He gets $3,000 a year for a whole lot of trouble and strife, but seems to enjoy it. He is 36 years old, born and reared on a southern Illinois farm.

• • •

THIS writer knew quite a number of early-day aviators, including Lincoln Beachey, Art Smith, Bob Fowler, Si Christofferson and others, and he always wondered why none of them ever dressed the part. They all were as drab as so many gray moths, while their role certainly called for a dash of color. One thought of the sartorial dash of d'Artagnan, Porthos and Athos if they had been riding the skies.

Col. Turner In Splashes Of Gay Colors

Col. Roscoe Turner, who recently lifted the Thompson trophy at Cleveland, for the second time, winning $22,000, satisfies a long-felt want. His flying togs are modeled on the old-time pousse cafe, calculated to give him protective coloring against a flaming sunset, but high visibility from below.

For years, off and on, he has been picking up records in pink pants and a lavender tunic, or in an ensemble blending many shades of blue, cerise and henna, with a rakish English officers' cap, ruddy face, Grover Whalen wax-tipped mustache and a couple of octaves of fine teeth. Here, as the old books on decorum would have it, is an outfit which would take you around the world.

Colonel Turner is of California background, the title being a dispensation of the governor of that also colorful state.

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WNU Service.

The Book of Kells

The Book of Kells, a magnificently illuminated copy of the Gospels by an unknown Seventh century monk, is said to attract more visitors to Dublin in Ireland, than any other object in the city.

'Burning Spring' in Virginia

The first natural gas discovered in this country was probably a "burning spring" mentioned by George Washington on his visit to Kanawha valley, then in Virginia, now West Virginia.

Believe Henderson House Haunted by the Builder

Henderson house, in Herkheimer county, N. Y., is equipped, even to a ghost, in its duplication of an Old World house. The ghost is the shade of the woman, Harriet Douglas Cruger, who built the house after the home of her uncle, Sir William Douglas.

Built on the land granted to James Henderson by George II in 1737, then some 16,000 acres, his descendant, Mrs. Cruger, filled the place with reminders of the Clan Douglas, family portraits, some by Sully, and a Douglas tartan rug. Protecting the rim of the cup from which Sir Walter Scott once drank to his hostess' health is a silver thistle.

But Mrs. Cruger is now supposed to haunt Henderson house because she is buried in the family plot in New York and not in the huge sarcophagus she built near the kitchen door.

Shot Kills Two Foxes

Tom Mackay wasn't so anxious to save shot as he was to bag two foxes, so he stalked the renards for three hours on grouse moors in Caithness, Scotland. Then he shot both with one blast of his gun. Mackay is gamekeeper on the moors, and was keeping watch when he sighted the intruders a mile away through his telescope. He followed them. If he fired at one the other would escape. Finally they drew close and Tom got his reward.

FDIC Considers Insuring Bank Deposits Over $5,000

WASHINGTON. — Chairman Leo T. Crowley disclosed that the Federal Deposit Insurance corporation is studying the possibility of insuring bank deposits above the present $5,000 limit.

A questionnaire has been sent to the 13,719 insured banks asking the number of their deposit accounts below $5,000, between $5,000 and $10,000, between $10,000 and $25,000, and more than $25,000.

Crowley declined to commit the corporation in advance of the survey, but he expressed the belief that if the additional risk were small there would be little or no objection to increased insurance.

Previous estimates have shown that 95 per cent of the nation's deposits are covered by the $5,000 insurance now provided. No recent studies have been made and deposits since have grown to the near record total of about $47,500,000,000.

CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT

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Here's an Answer to School Hat Problem

By RUTH WYETH SPEARS

M. S. writes: "I followed the directions in Book 2 for a fabric hat and it was so satisfactory that I wonder if you could tell me how to use a piece of woolen material that I have to make a hat for my little girl who is just starting to school?"

Here is a cunning schoolgirl hat that's easy to make. You need two pieces of goods—one for the hat and one for the lining. They may either match or contrast. Each piece should be 1-inch longer than the measurement around the largest part of the child's head. The depth of the pieces should be half their length. The diagram at

the upper right of this sketch shows how to make a paper pattern for the hat. Cut a square piece of paper ½-inch wider and deeper than half the head measurement. Mark point A on the right edge half way between the top and bottom as shown. Points B and C are marked at the center top and bottom of the paper. The dotted lines are guide lines to help shape the curved lines between A and B and C and D. Point D is the center front of the top of the hat pattern and is placed on a fold of the goods in cutting each of the two layers. The diagonal line from A to C is the center back seam line.

Stitch the back seam of both hat and lining and press it open as at E. Now, place the two pieces right sides together and stitch as at F. Turn right side out, baste along turned edge and stitch as at G. Gather the top as at H and finish with a ribbon or a stitched fabric bow and a feather.

NOTE: Use what you have on hand to make things of real value. You can save by doing—instead of doing without. Mrs. Spears planned Book 2—Gifts, Novelties and Embroidery—to help you. Every page contains complete, clearly illustrated directions for things you can make at almost no cost. Enclose 25 cents and address Mrs. Spears, 210 S. Desplaines St., Chicago, Ill.

Moral Rectitude

"His head is seldom far wrong whose heart is always right. We bow down to mental greatness, intellectual strength, and they are divine gifts; but moral rectitude is stronger than they. It is irresistible—always in the end triumphant."

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Worthy Spark

Our humanity were a poor thing were it not for the divinity which stirs within us.—Bacon.

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The Devil Leads

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