

The Birmingham Eccentric
 (Founded in 1878)
 Published every Thursday at Birmingham, Mich., in The Eccentric Building, 235-237 North Woodward Avenue, Birmingham, Mich., 11, 12 and 13
 Editor and Publisher: GEORGE R. AVERILL
 Business Manager: PAUL NEAL AVERILL
 Advertising Manager: CLAUDE R. WALKER
 Entered as Second Class Matter in the U. S. Postoffice at Birmingham, Michigan
 SUBSCRIPTION RATES
 (In Oakland County) (Outside Oakland County)
 One Year \$1.50 One Year \$2.00
 Six Months .75 Six Months 1.25
 Three Months .45 Three Months .75
 All newspapers and advertising copy must be in the Eccentric office by Tuesday noon to obtain insertion for that week.
 The Eccentric is a member of:
 National Editorial Association, Michigan Press Association, United Press Club, and Oakland County Weekly Press Association
 THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1938
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The following transcript is made from a radio address by Fulton Lewis, Jr., veteran Washington correspondent, on station WOL and a Coast-to-Coast network of the Mutual Broadcasting System, October 3, 1938.

It describes in some detail experiences of capital newspaper men with the National Labor Relations Board in connection with attempts to organize employees of the Press Club.

Mr. Lewis said: "Now, very frequently, the most important and far-reaching events take place very quietly, and inconspicuously, and that is just what has happened during the last few weeks, in connection with the National Labor Relations Board."

You know, most newspapermen, here in Washington, the editors, the writers, the columnists, and the correspondents, 90 or 95 percent of them, I think, have always been rather friendly to the Labor Relations Board. They support it, and they even defend it.

The basic philosophy of the Wagner Labor Act, of course, is to protect the worker against exploitation, and intimidation, and to guarantee the right of collective bargaining.

The principle is generally accepted as desirable, by all progressive, fair-minded people. A very few of the newspapermen have paid much attention to the activities of the board, and most of the news developments there are rather dull, and routine, and most of the correspondents, without having had any first-hand contact with the board, have generally assumed it was doing a good job, in a perfectly fair way. They've supported it because they support the theory of the board.

But in the last few days the newspaper gentlemen have been awakened with a rather rude start. They've had an experience of their own—a first-hand object lesson—of the way the Labor Relations Board operates.

And from present indications, that little experience is going to have an important effect on the newspaper attitude in the future.

What happened was this: The famous National Press Club, you know, is composed of all the columnists, editors, special writers, and news correspondents in Washington. It has 54 employees, and I might mention, that those employees are very excellently treated.

The pay for colored waiters is from \$62 to \$100 a month, (which is far above the union wage scale), plus three full meals a day. There's a very large Christmas fund, every year whenever an employee, or any member of his family, is taken sick, he gets full pay, including the club pays for all of his doctor's and hospital expenses, in some cases that has gone on for many, many months.

All employees get vacation, every year, with full pay. They get almost double wages, for overtime pay. They get their holidays off, with full pay. The last two and a half years, no employee has resigned—and only three have been discharged—two of them for stealing and selling hundreds of dollars worth of food, from the kitchen, and the other one, for making charges against a fellow employee, which he couldn't substantiate when an investigation was made.

Some weeks ago, some representative of the CIO began agitating, among the employees, and trying to organize them, in the Cafeteria Workers' Union.

A representative of the Labor Relations Board conferred with the executive committee, of the Club. They set last Friday, as the day for the election.

But rather strange things began to happen—a number of the waiters, some of them helpers in the kitchen, began to make complaints. They said that while they were at work, people had called at their homes, and told them wives that they didn't vote for such and such a CIO, they'd have their arms and legs broken. Some of them said that their wives had been told they'd be fired.

Then some of them brought in printed circulars, which had been sent to their wives, explaining why the employees should vote for the CIO. Those circulars listed ten statements, of what the employees would get if they voted for the CIO, and what they would lose, if they voted against it. And a very careful analysis showed that 7 of the 10 statements were diametrically untrue. They were simple falsehoods.

That was a little disillusioning to the newspaper gentlemen, who run the National Press Club. They certainly were not opposed to the workers signing up with the CIO, if they wanted to, and, as a matter of fact, I

think a very heavy majority of the newspapermen, in Washington, were in favor of the employees organizing.

But these threats and false promises did seem rather unethical and improper, and so some of the officials of the Press Club took the matter up with the Labor Relations Board. They thought that the employees had a right to know the truth, and to be protected from racketeering and coercion.

And then came the crowning blow. The answer they got from the Labor Relations Board was, that the Board would in the slightest manner, investigate, or overrule, or interfere, or of intimidation, by Labor organizers, who were trying to get the workers to join a union. It was merely interested in making sure that the officers and members of the National Press Club made no attempt to tell the workers not to join.

They said the Press Club officers would not be permitted to contradict the false statements, or to reassure the employees against the threats of violence.

And furthermore, the board itself would not do anything about it.

Now, as it turned out, it made very little difference. The election was held, last Friday, the employees voted, 31 to 23, not to join the CIO.

But that's a minor point. The important angle is what has happened to the sentiment among the newspapermen, who make up the Press Club, because this little experience seems to have been a rather severe jolt to their idealism.

There's a feeling that the Labor Relations Board is not giving protection to the workers, it's giving license to the Organizers.

During the last four or five days, I have heard the same remark, from dozens of the men who are the active supporters of the Labor Relations Board, before.

If this is the way the Labor Relations Board operates, no wonder there's such a howl of protest. I'm surprised that every businessman and industry in the United States isn't yelling its head off.

And unless I'm very much mistaken, I think you'll find that the handling of news stories of the Labor Board, which are looked in the last session, will take a very different turn, from now on, and that's likely to be reflected, in a very different attitude, down at the Capitol.

I think you'll find that the next Congress will go through with some of these investigations of the Labor Board, which are looked in the last session. I think you'll find a general demand for a general house cleaning, and for some adequate explanation, as to why the worker hasn't just as much right to be protected against threats, and coercion, and intimidation, by a union, as the employer has.

And apparently, from the developments, to date, there'll be plenty of support for that investigation, within the ranks of labor itself.

Because, this afternoon, down in Houston, Texas, Mr. William Green told the American Federation of Labor, that he will call for a complete overhauling of the National Labor Board, by the next Congress.

He made the charge that the board is merely a stooge of the CIO, that it's unfair and biased, and that it does not have at heart the interests of labor in general.

And he announced that the federation will use its entire strength, in an effort to defeat Mr. Donald Wakefield Smith, one of the members of the Board, when his renomination comes up before the Senate, for ratification.

An American citizen, in talking the other day, was discussing a foreign people. His criticism was that the foreign race believed it was superior to other nationalities.

Certainly, such a belief is not sufficient to damn a people. The French believe that they are the world's leading people. So do the Germans, the English, the Italians, the Japanese, and he admitted, the Americans.

So Emily Post, famed authority on etiquette, approved "dunking." She believes that a doughnut shouldn't be submerged too much, though, as it may drip, pieces fall before the mouth can gobble, and thus get on one's shirt or dress.

We suggest, therefore, that doughnut manufacturers put thin sugar lines on doughnuts, labeling them: "First Dunk," "Second Dunk," etc.

THE GREATEST MAP-MAKER in the world today is Adolph Hitler, leader of the German people. To him, an international boundary is merely an imaginary line in need of change.

TO REGULATE THE HOURS of work to 32 per week, as the U. S. A. recently called for, would be to inflict a hardship upon workers themselves. For three reasons, at least. First, too many of them have not other hobby interests to keep them out of mischief; second, Nature never intends man to spend most of his life in idleness; third, with so few hours not enough wealth will be produced to make for a higher living standard in the nation.

ONE REAL STUMBLING BLOCK to the maintenance of world peace among nations that are close to war, is that the causes that make for such a situation still remain. Accident victims are taken to the hospital after the accident—not before. A world in the condition manifested in Europe today has merely had an "accident," and war is a kind of "hospital." Wars come about through inequalities in the distribution of wealth, and so long as these inequalities exist, with some very rich, many quite poor, there will be strife.



PEOPLE'S COLUMN

The Eccentric is pleased to receive communications for this column. All communications must be signed, but signatures will be kept confidential upon request. Letters will be limited to 500 words, and must be in the office by Tuesday noon for publication the following Thursday.

To the Editor: An open letter and a friendly personal appeal to George R. Averill, Editor of the Birmingham Eccentric.

Two very striking editorials appeared in your copy of your paper on October 13.

The first is a reproduction of an editorial which appeared in my own paper, the Star and Alliance, with your own personal comment headed, "The Conversion of an Editor."

My answer to this is that the Government, Mr. William Green told the American Federation of Labor, that he will call for a complete overhauling of the National Labor Board, by the next Congress.

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THE "BEST WAY" to outlaw the political influence of the "bossy groups" is to raise the level of civic intelligence of the voters. The political groups really represent minority government in a predatory sense. That is harmful to lasting democracy.

do much for your district by lining up back of Governor Murphy, whom you laud so highly. I read with interest your recent editorial following the testimonial dinner, in which it was my good fortune to play the leading role. I am not but one paragraph which I could not quite understand, and that is your concluding remark in which you said: "Still I believe I ought to vote for Fitzgerald."

You and I are agreed that Murphy is the better of the two men, that the party of Lincoln here in Michigan has been misguided and does not express the wishes of the people.

So won't you join with me in this present campaign to elect the Governor, who has proved so conscientious in the duties and responsibilities of his high office, and who has shown such high intelligence; a man who, as I admit, has given the state one of the best administrations on record, and many of the reforms you and I desired for the past two decades.

And I hope that you will encourage all my fellow citizens to join the Murphy movement as I am encouraging you to do.

It is my earnest hope that your two very excellent editorial comments and my plea for consideration of my message, will be published in your paper.

Editor, Grand Star for your kindly treatment of an attitude toward Governor Murphy. I'm fine that you are going along with Mr. Murphy, and I'm glad to go along with him, much farther if it were not for his labor attitude of tolerating strikes, and his extravagant claims for the tax-payers' money, of course his objectives are fine, but so are every high school boy's.

Force! Human growth too rapidly—though Heaven knows I am for decency and practical reform over government. Best regards—G. E. A.

To the Editor: I am writing you this in Birmingham, Michigan.

I wish to take this opportunity in behalf of the Birmingham Fire Department to express my sincere appreciation for the cooperation received by the strikers of Birmingham during the Fire Prevention Week.

Due to the fact that there were no fires which resulted with losses in Birmingham during Fire Prevention Week, we were able to take the interest shown by the local people in our community in doing their part in this Fire Prevention Week.

I wish also to thank Howard D. Crull, Superintendent of Schools, for his cooperation in the Holy Name School through their cooperation with the students Fire Prevention Week.

I present these figures by the Department of Labor that the public may have knowledge of the extent of the strikes in the major industry of this section in 1937.

Sincerely yours, George A. Dondora, M. C.

Yours very truly, W. V. GREIF, Chief of Fire Dept., Birmingham, Michigan.

All private property owned in Oakland County passes through the Probate Court in the hands of one generation—three in a century. How important it is that the Judge Probate should be skilled in matters of law, as well

Both Political Parties Tip Their Hats to the Ladies Now

WASHINGTON.—The ladies are being given special attention this year by both major political parties. Democrats and Republicans are extremely interested in what the women of the country are thinking about on national affairs to lunch groups and being given special attention this year by both major political parties.

Not so long ago women were considered important only on election days and even then scant attention was paid them if the election name party workers appear before season or in any of the particularly busy times of the average housewife.

But that day is past. Both major parties now have a distinct division, in charge of a woman, whose duty it is to see that feminine party workers are kept up to date on political happenings.

Mrs. Dorothy McAllister, head of the women's division of the national committee, handles this job for the Democrats. Her program includes bringing lecturers on national affairs to lunch groups and being given special attention this year by both major political parties.

Like Mrs. McAllister, Mrs. Marion Martin is young and attractive. She is a native of New England and is a thoroughly enthusiastic about her job. She thinks the best job of her political experience occurred when a large crowd was held in a professor in the school of experience from time to time to make it pleasant for any one non-in-law.—The Akron Beacon Journal.

On the Job There may be faculty changes in the school of experience from time to time to make it pleasant for any one non-in-law.—The Akron Beacon Journal.

The Menace of Autocracy

The world, as this is written, gazed shocked and amazed at new and dramatic evidences of the dangers inherent in autocratic rule.

For more than a century and a half it has been in the great American eyes that the people rule—where the press and speech and religion and opportunity are free—and the other side of the coin is the rule of living and happiness.

For many centuries it has known the rule of autocracy, and the people are sacrificed on gross thrones of hatred and personal ambition.

These are natural outgrowths of the soils in which the two contrasting ideas of government—Democracy and Autocracy—are nourished.

The first seeks to govern through reason and progress; the second, through blind acceptance and regression.

The first bases its strength on the freedom of the people; the second, on the thickness of the chains that shackle them.

There are other differences. One, modern Autocracy, glories that cold abstraction, the state; the other, Democracy, that warm reality, the family. One glorifies the barracks, the other the home; one, terrorism, the other, the rule of law; one, conquest and war, the other, the order and achievement of peace.

One breeds anger and desperation, the other, comfort and confidence.

These are reasons why America established the principle of Government by the People. They are reasons why the American people should and must cling jealously to that principle of self-rule. Every surrender, however slight, of the power of the people serves only to weaken our sound heritage of freedom, and to bring closer the black shadow which looms over so much of Europe.

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