

Is Youth Too Ambitious?

Modern boys and girls are too ambitious in their rush to become leaders in the fields of business and the professions, declares Roland L. Stratford, director of an employment counseling service designed to aid boys and girls to get a proper start in the business world.

Mr. Stratford says that the youngsters are "unwilling to start in the less glamorous jobs," and work their way up. The revelation that they cannot earn \$5,000 a year one month after graduation from high school "is often a rude shock to our modern teen-ager."

The counselor reports however, that once the teen-ager is convinced of the proper course to follow in connection with employment, he becomes ready to dig in as a clerk, a messenger, a stenographer or office-boy and "work his way up in the American tradition."

The "ambition" of a teen-ager is largely the product of modern education and an environment that includes many examples of "from rags to riches" in many lessons. It is no wonder that many average boys and girls get the idea that money can be made in bales, overnight.

The success tag which most communities put upon the man who makes big money in a short time, without any discriminating judgment as to the methods involved, is enough to make the average teen-ager believe that the volume of cash is almost everything that counts.

This explains in part, the failure of some teenagers to appreciate the value of character in connection with economic effort, and in their inexperience, they sometimes conclude that the success stories are the rule and not the exception in the lives of human beings.

The problems of the nation could be solved perhaps, if the people of the United States, on the average, managed to be less selfish.

The same observation applies to the peoples that populate the globe—but let's not spread ourselves over too much territory.

In the land of the brave and the home of the free we have any number of prominent individuals whose sole claim to priority is that they have been more greedy than other individuals.

There is basis for the observation that the American dollar, when amassed in considerable volume, either through inheritance, hard work or colossal stealing, opens the gate to social, religious and cultural recognition.

The complete answer to world unrest is not to be found in an outpouring of American dollars nor in the surrender of American advantages.

We confess that those who advise Americans to join in a drive for world peace intrigue us very much.

The desire for peace burns in the hearts of the average man and woman of this country. The wish for peace urges mightily. But, nevertheless, we cannot follow the reasoning of those who believe that we can have world peace if we wish for it hard enough and long enough.

Nothing would compose human affairs more than the ability to believe that the Russian and the so-called nations desire peace as a fundamental state. Nothing would tend to make more certain our faith in peace than the belief that the peoples of these countries have peace as a goal to seek.

There is no evidence that the Russian leaders, or the rulers of their satellite nations want peace and nothing to lead us to believe that the people in these countries have sufficient power to make their wishes felt, even if they want peace. In fact, public opinion in the Communist countries is being constantly fed upon the propaganda of the defending Continent civilization against the capitalistic west that the rulers in office assert are certain to come.

In one of the automotive trade journals we read that the "autobank" is being introduced into more and more communities. This drive-in banking, wherein the customer drives up to a special window, cashes his check or makes a deposit without leaving his car, appears to have solved an element of the downtown parking problem—for bank customers at least. But we still anticipate a bottleneck: the customer who wants to cash a check and is not immediately recognized by the cashier. This means the vice-president in charge of okaying checks must be called in while the other drivers to the rear have to wait. But it looks like we can't have our cake and eat it, too.

The Birmingham Eccentric

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NOTE: The Eccentric is pleased to publish brief contributions that are well written and pertinent. Contributions are usually edited so as to be in the best interest of the community. Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation which appears in the columns of The Eccentric will be gladly removed if brought to the attention of the publisher.

Critics Having Field Day in Picking Faults in U. S. Trial-by-Jury System

(Special Story From Our Washington Bureau) Editor's Note: William Levin, former captain in the United States Army and now a columnist in Washington, contributed the following article at the request of our Washington bureau.

WASHINGTON—Trial by jury for years proclaimed the foundation of our legal system—has lately been beating from critics in the past few weeks.

The latest trial which the jury selected played an important part in news accounts is that of Mildred Gillars, better known as "Axis Sally."

Then there was the astounding decision handed down by a Georgia jury not long ago in the trial of two men accused of such bushing and killing a Negro. Two members of the jury actually testified during the trial that they would under no conditions believe any testimony against the accused.

"Blue-Ribbon" New York, where 11 top Communist leaders are on trial for conspiracy against the government, their attorneys have leveled their heavy pre-trial arguments at the "blue-ribbon" jury of New York.

"Axis Sally" trial posed a real problem for Federal Judge Charles Gurnea in his efforts to get an "impartial jury." Because her case has received so much publicity over the trial, few would under no conditions believe any testimony against the accused.

John C. Knox, senior judge of the U. S. District Court for the Southern District of New York, jumped to the defense of the "blue ribbon" jury. He contends that since the requisites of a fair trial are met, the jury is sound judgment and wide experience, there is no valid reason why a jury of this type should not be selected "with utmost care."

John feels that "no decision is either more or less reasonable, successful, but he is confident, probable improvement in the variety of exemptions pro-

vided by many states were cut down. "Millions of persons, possessing the best and most intelligent brains in all the land are relieved by a necessity of lending agency courts the search for justice," Knox points out.

Uniform Standards Knox's stand has been supported by the Judicial Conference of Senior Circuit Judges, which approved unanimously the committee report made by Knox and others calling for uniform standards for federal juries. The committee recommended juries be drawn from "all economic and social groups so as to be truly representative of the community," and that "from whatever sources drawn, those chosen should possess as high a degree of intelligence, morality, integrity and common sense as can be found by those who make selections."

The problem is a complex one. To "hand-pick" a jury seems undemocratic. On the other hand, to pick only those who have no opinions on the subject of the case, wholesale exemptions of certain groups because of their professions seems bound to result in a jury less likely to reach an intelligent verdict.

Until some corrective measures are taken, jurors might well wonder just whom the "jury trial system is aimed to protect.

Valentine For Mother

He used to send me valentines a long long time ago When He and I were young; And every valentine he sent me had a little love among. Other little keepsakes In an inland rosewood chest. Of course time changes many things. He sends me valentines no more. Perhaps he thinks they're stupid. Hearts and flowers and a cupid. How much I'd miss those valentines of yore, But not my own gentleman. Sends me a valentine each year. On it I find these words inscribed: "With love for Mother Dear."

BEATRICE McDONALD

Happenings of Long Ago

50 YEARS AGO February 10, 1899 It took 18 feet of "long matter" to fill the Eccentric last week, single column width, besides the "Shanties" and "Jokes" and "Puzzles" many other papers give as much local coverage as this Eccentric.

Here goes the biggest fish story of the season—Astin Park and Frank Smith captured 20 pickers while on their fishing expedition in the vicinity of Pine Lake last week.

The Library Society is obliged to ask the Novel Club to postpone its meeting for one week from Feb'y 11th to 18th, as it is found necessary to use the hall tomorrow night for a cake walk rehearsal.

For two weeks steady our thermometer has registered from zero to 12 below every morning. Good weather for the ice man, and since he is our coal and wood dealer, also, he seems to be getting more than his share at the present time.

We have two entertaining letters to publish as soon as space will permit. One from Alford Chatfield in Matanzas, Cuba and the other from Flora Chatfield, eldest daughter and cousin and the Philippine Islands. Both are in the T. S. service, and are the granddaughters of Mrs. Chatfield of our village.

20 YEARS AGO February 14, 1929 A total of 460 persons are expected at the Father and Son banquets which are being held at Birmingham churches tomorrow evening. This is a part of the national observance of the centennial of the birth of George Washington.

The village commission has expressed itself as against the annexation of Birmingham to the City of Detroit. Some were of the opinion that, because of legal technicalities, it could not be done. All were firm in saying they could not see this as a move good for Birmingham.

Parents have appealed to the Birmingham Board of Education to take the core and moving conditions at Barnum school. An order to redraw plans of the proposed school has been given as when they will be completed.

Elmer Root, son of Dr. and Mrs. Alfred Root of Davis avenue, Birmingham, was killed when he was thrown through the windshield of a car Thursday afternoon in a collision with a car driven by Martin Boye of Detroit.

Misses Lilah Johnston and Betty Peabody were winners Saturday afternoon in a contest held at Quanton Lake. Miss Johnston won the women's 100 yard dash, placing second in the 440.

5 YEARS AGO February 10, 1944 Ninety firemen from Birmingham and the village of Bloomfield Hills met at the Community House Tuesday night for a get-together. This included regular, auxiliary and volunteer firemen from both places. Mayor John E. Martz and Fire Chief V. W. Griffith spoke.

Paul Neal Averill was elected president of the Community House to succeed C. E. Eden at their annual meeting Monday night. New board members were selected at this time and plans laid for the coming year's activities to be held in the heart of Birmingham.

Notice has been given to dog owners in Birmingham and Oakland County as a whole, that all dogs must be placed under quarantine. This step has been taken in an effort to prevent further spread of rabies in this part of the state.

The Rev. Tom Malone has been secured by Calvary Baptist church as its new pastor, according to an official statement. Now serving in Pontiac, he will begin his duties in the local church on Sunday morning, Feb. 13. The Malone family will continue to reside in Pontiac.

One of the most popular spots in Birmingham seems to be the "Blue Ribbon" restaurant. Many of the young people in town are flocking there in this healthful and enjoyable atmosphere. Numerous parties have been made great fun by the "Blue Ribbon" restaurant. In fact, it is one of the finest recreations the city offers.

It Seems We've Heard That Song Before



People's Column

The Eccentric welcomes letters for this column. All letters must be signed and accompanied by a return address. Letters must be limited to 500 words.

To the Editor: I was shocked to see how The Eccentric has disposed of our heroes in this recent war. The write-up on Santa Claus—most uninteresting and of importance to no one—on a front page, but Tom Wells' rebuttal was relegated to the want-ad section.

I think the least you could have done was to put this notice with the regular obituaries. I personally did not know Mr. Wells, but I am sure your paper—his home-town paper—did nothing to make his parents feel better at this time.

It makes me wonder what kind of people work on your paper. I think a letter to Santa Claus deserves a place on a front page, and one who gave up his life for his country among the regular obituaries.

Perhaps the Wanderer should not wander so much. DOROTHY H. BEAM 331 Larchwood Drive B'ham

To the Editor: This letter is rather belated, not intentionally so. THE MISTY CANVAS exhibition at Cranbrook was a discovery in Labrador just

People's Column

Very successful event with more than 4,000 people seeing the paintings. We know that the excellent publicity cooperation which your paper gave was a very important factor in making this so successful, and we want you to know that we very deeply appreciate it.

GEORGE G. WHITNEY Public Relations Director J. L. Hudson Co.

Internationally Speaking

By Eugene Heaz International Market Analyst

Things sometimes happen in our immediate neighborhood and we scarcely have the time to notice the march of history. Newfoundland will be incorporated into the Dominion of Canada, as the result of a referendum held in the Dominion of Newfoundland last week.

The final question was narrowed down to WHAT kind of new taxes would the governor advocate—an income tax, consumer tax, real estate tax, or one or more other money-raising levies?

Governor Williams' remedy, as submitted to the legislature last week, would be to tax corporate profits. A 4 per cent levy on net income, prior to federal taxes, would yield about \$7,000,000.

ing explored by mixed Canadian and American groups, may add soon to a rearmament program. The fact-finding of the new province, as Newfoundland will furnish the port outlets for the substantial ore shipments to be expected.

Second, secure a natural gas for your subjects. Just as you would expect a picture of a boy carefully passing a ball in an album will be more attractive, nine times out of ten, than a shot of the same boy staring directly at your camera.

Third, if you're using a time exposure of a comparatively slow shutter speed, make sure that your subject will be still. With babies or other restless subjects, you will want a fast shutter speed.

Fourth, be sure you know what film you're using. Different black and white films require different exposures. Color films generally call for light filtering.

Fifth, measure distance from lamp to subject. The light on your subject depends as much on the distance from lamp to subject as on the strength of the lamp. Unless you know this distance accurately, you can't be sure of proper exposure.

Sixth, don't let light fall directly on your lens or be reflected into it from mirrors, windows, or other shiny surfaces.

And seventh, measure camera-to-subject distance so you're assured of proper focus. Focus exposure, too, when you're working with flash lamps attached to the camera.

THE ECCENTRIC'S Camera Corner

It's always picture-taking weather indoors, so don't let your camera idle during winter months.

IF YOU'RE one of those people who customarily put their cameras aside for the winter, you're missing a great deal of the fun and photography has to offer. For no matter what the weather is outside, picture-taking weather inside the house is as near as the nearest light switch.

Regardless of what type camera you own, you, too, can make indoor pictures.

In general, there are four ways of making snapshots inside the house—by daylight, by light from ordinary room lamps, flash, and by photoflood. Each of these methods has its advantages and, depending upon your equipment, offers a means of enjoying your camera throughout the winter season.

Each of these methods will be discussed here within the next few weeks. However, whatever method you use, certain points should be checked for each picture. Consequently, you'll want to keep this check list handy for future use.

First, as with outdoor pictures, look to see what's beyond your subject. Indoors or out, when picturing people a plain background is best. Where a distracting background can't be helped, try to throw it out of focus or keep it away from it. It will be out of focus if you use a large lens opening and shoot close up to the principal subject.

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LANSING—Tax chickens may come home to roost in Michigan big cities. Such is the prospect of the outcome of the sales tax diversion amendment, sponsored by big-city taxpayers and school teachers, if the legislature approves Governor Williams' new tax program. Here is the picture: The sales tax amendment raised the state treasury to the tune of 78 cents out of each sales tax dollar.

It meant the inevitability of a \$1,000,000 treasury deficit for the state's fiscal year ending June 30, 1950.

Governor Kim Sigler's solution was to repeal the sales tax diversion amendment, which he said was vital for inflation financing of public schools. And when Williams became the beneficiary of several hundred thousand "protest" votes, cast by Republican-leaning supporters, the top question at Lansing became this:

What would Governor Williams do about the looming deficit? His first message to the legislature indicated sympathy with social objectives and a willingness to impose new taxes to finance spending. Later the governor made it clear that curtailment of services could not be done without inflicting hardship on the merchant class.

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Many years ago, before C. W. Nash got together with the Keweenaw folks, we submitted an engineering analysis of his business and sent it to him in Keweenaw. The chief factor to urge him to establish his automobile plant in the Detroit area among his competitors was the tax situation in Wisconsin.

Later we met Mr. Nash himself here a few days later and we'll never forget the conversation. The kindly old gentleman said, "Look at your headlines from Lansing! Why should I seek refuge from Wisconsin taxation when your own state officials threaten me with tax, worse treatment if I transfer my plants to Detroit?"

Governor Williams has a ready answer: Raising corporation profits can well afford to pay a "reasonable" tax on sensitive and amenable consumers now pay 75.4% of the bill.

The tax chickens are looking for a place to roost. Will it be in the big cities?

BIRMINGHAM MOVERS 277 PIERCE ST. PHONE 1343

Fox and Hounds Inn John Ingleson, proprietor Woodward at Long Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills SERVING DINNERS Sundays from 1:30 p.m. until 9 p.m. Week days from 9:30 until 11:00 p.m. except Mondays when the dining room is closed. COCKTAILS SELECTED FOODS Phone B'ham 3290 for Reservations

FRIENDLY BANK

BANKING BY MAIL IS THE EASY WAY After your first visit to open an account here at your friendly bank, you can bank by mail. We furnish special deposit envelopes, and you can do your business with the bank by long-distance, at the price of a postage stamp. Come in, and let us tell you about this and other services that have made us known as "a friendly bank."

WABEK STATE BANK OF DETROIT BIRMINGHAM OFFICE—WABEK BUILDING