

Modern intelligence tests are unfair to some children, says Dr. Ernest A. Haggard, professor of psychology at the University of Chicago...

"No one would think of giving an intelligence test, standardized on American children, to a child in Bali, or France or South Africa, and expect the results to mean very much," declares the educator.

He believes that present tests are "biased in favor of the middle-class child, and against the lower-class child, which does not have the advantage of securing comparable information and training in the family circle."

While we are in no position to judge the value of these paper tests, as does Dr. Haggard, we believe we have a pretty good "IQ" testing method of our own. It works this way: just ask the individual some practical questions, the answers to which involve a considerable amount of the old-fashioned ingredient, "horse sense."

The degree to which they show this "horse sense" will evidence how far they will get along in this complex world.

Newspaper Men Members of the Inland Daily Press Association, representing 428 newspapers in 19 inland states, recently unanimously passed a resolution calling the secret holding of political jobs by newspaper men "unethical practice."

The association went on record as believing "that a newspaper which does not announce in its columns the appointment of any member of its staff, or an owner, to a government position, is guilty of unethical practice and betrayal of its public trust."

The resolution was passed in view of the disclosure recently that 50 newspaper men in the State of Illinois were on the payroll during the Administration of former Governor Dwight W. Green. In some instances, the employment was secret and the services performed were considered, by uninterested observers, to be somewhat nominal.

There is a difference of opinion among newspaper men as to the propriety of holding public jobs while connected with the operation of a newspaper. Some think that the newspaper man should sever his connection with the press when he takes the job, and others hold that part-time political jobs are legitimate if the jobholder has special qualifications, enabling him to render special service to the state.

However, we believe in all instances there should be full publicity in connection with the job held by the newspaper man.



By Gene Allenman

The present day craze of economic security for the individual, as typified by the \$100 month pension granted recently by the Ford Motor Company of Dearborn, appears to be bringing forth economic insecurity to employers of small business firms.

"Little business" is watching the outcome of the United States Steel Corporation-CIO tug-of-war who is to pay for pensions and insurance.

It is interesting to note that the Ford-Bethlehem contracts for pension include federal social security benefits. These are financed equally by the employer and employee. If the Ford plan is adopted by other companies, the cost of such retirement income, if largely by the employer, will put new taxes upon the automobile.

Quotations Are Still True "The Russian political regime would not last twenty years if there were free communication between Russia and the West. . . In Russia, the masses are led only by fear and by force. . . This nation dreams of dominating the world. . . Russia sees Europe as prey which sooner or later will, by its own dissensions, betray itself to her. . . She fomented anarchy among us in the hope of profiting from our decay."

It is doubtful if any reader of the above paragraph knows the author. These statements were recently quoted by Anthony Eden, former British Foreign Secretary, who reveals that the statements were written by a noted French traveler, Marquis de Custine, who journeyed in Russia over a hundred years ago and wrote the above paragraph.

Apparently, the gap between the Russians and the rest of the world has been in existence for many, many decades. Moreover, the basic objectives of Russian foreign policy have not changed, despite the overthrow of the Czar and the institution of a Communistic government.

Works on Atomic Clouds From London, a special committee which has been studying European questions, reports that the Soviet Union is trying to develop "atomic clouds" for use against troops in the field.

This information, if accurate, indicates that the Russians are not only trying to develop atomic weapons to destroy industrial centers and ports, but to develop a method by which gases could be used to produce atomic clouds which would drift upon troops in the field.

We have no way of verifying the speculation of the committee which included outstanding men from France and Great Britain. Nor have we any idea whether the United States, or the Western democracies, have made experiments along the same line.

The presumption would be that in this country, at least, ample efforts have been made to develop the full use of atomic weapons, including gaseous clouds.

The Birmingham Eccentric

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curity benefits, now admittedly out of balance with today's inflated dollar.

The coming economic squeeze on "little business" illustrates why business men are genuinely concerned over the present steady drift toward the welfare state. If farmers are guaranteed fair prices for their crops, if workers are guaranteed economic security from radical change, what will be the final outcome?

It may be that the present tendencies toward centralization of the state will break down with all the inevitable results of anarchy and poverty before human beings can again acquire the freedom of personal freedom without which life loses its savor."

State socialism and inflation go hand in hand. It is high time that every American re-appraise the ultimate price of the inevitable outcome: Disaster for the nation and loss of freedom for the individual.

Poppleton PTA

The Poppleton school PTA will sponsor a Christmas party on Friday, Nov. 11, at 7:30 p.m. in the school, Big Beaver and Crooks roads.

Happenings of Long Ago

Business is booming at the J. N. Zimmerman handle factory. The mill was started five years ago and has continued to prosper. It has done so steadily until it is now an establishment, no small magnitude in our village.

Dick Bassett, an employee of the Michigan State Bell Telephone company was in this vicinity last week on an interesting job with the company. With such a wonderful invention, it seems he should have no trouble selling more of them in Birmingham.

The first frost of snow fell on the evening of Nov. 1. Although they could hardly be discerned without the aid of a microscope it was still snow. The furrles on Friday got mixed up with the big rain didn't make much of an impression either.

People say we can't grow good fruit in this region. Mr. Nixon doesn't believe all his hears and has just ordered 2,000 young fruit trees to be planted in the early spring.

Call on M. O'Connell some day and ask him to take you to his poultry yard. There dwelleth a treat in the young rooster whose bill crosseth like unto a crescent saw and yet the bird is entirely and grows each day. Being young, it hath not yet crotcheth.

V. J. Ward, manager of the C. F. Smith grocery store reported to police that an armed thug took \$9 in small change from him Saturday night in overlooking him of the day's receipts totaling \$66. Ward said the man, having in the rear seat of his car which he had parked behind the store.

The annual Red Cross roll call got under way Monday, to continue through Nov. 28. Mrs. C. H. McGehee, secretary, said that in addition to its relief work during disasters, the Red Cross is working with veterans and their families.

Village hunters are starting their trek north as the deer season opens. About 100 hunters, according to Allen F. McGirr, have expressed their intention of spending some time at the 6,000 acre site of the Birmingham hunting and fishing club near Auburn.

The extension of Merrill street from Woodward to the city limits will not be completed this fall as planned, Village Manager James W. Parry said yesterday. The city has had to postpone street construction will be more favorable in the spring of the year when the work would be delayed until that time. This action was taken in order to assure better workmanship on the project.

Sir Henry Thornton, president of the National Electrical Contractors Association has submitted an architect's drawing of the new Grand Trunk station which will be erected at East and Maple roads. The tracks are being removed to this location preparatory to the widening of Woodward avenue from Royal Oak to a point north of Birmingham.

The Charles Edwards Post, A. L. Post No. 100, is sponsoring their campaign to supply Christmas boxes for service men and their families. The boxes will be filled with military personnel may be left at the Leonard electrical store, 422 West Woodward, or the Legion home for packing and delivery on Dec. 10.

About 100 recent newcomers to Birmingham were honored at a dinner given for them Tuesday night at the Community House. Following the banquet an informal get-acquainted session was held with members from the various local clubs, after which the newcomers were conducted through the House.

The Sideline Quarterbacks are again handing the advance sale of tickets for the Turkey Day game against Royal Oak at 10:30. Tickets will go on sale Nov. 11, at local fan clubs with a minimum of trouble.

The local Goodfellows have announced that in keeping with the spirit of the season, they will be distributing Thanksgiving baskets again this year. The committee in charge has estimated that 750 Thanksgiving baskets will be the baskets. The one change will be—a food order will be given rather than a financial basket because of rationing restrictions.

Have You Met . . .

Former Detroiters, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Meyer and daughters, Marilyn Jane and Janet who are living now at 716 Grandview, Mr. Meyer is an industrial physicist.

WE HEARD IT SAID BY . . . City Commissioner Milton F. Mallender: "With 32 practicing engineers in Birmingham, this city should get some expert professional advice on the advantages or disadvantages of fluorine to the city water supply."

Photographs for publication in The Eccentric must be submitted by Friday noon of the week before publication.

The Plague



"Any Way You Slice It" BY HAL P. BURGER

Everybody wants to get into the act. Jimmy Durante probably didn't have the Birmingham Halloween Party in mind, but it's a good bet that he would have repeated his famous phrase if he could have been in attendance at the big shindig this year.

I have always been under the impression that the festival was started to provide something for the kids of the community to do besides damage. I think that was the original intention, but if certain adults don't mind their noses they are going to spoil one of the finest traditions our city has.

How old does a kiddie have to be before he can be trusted to march alone, that is, without having a hold of daddy's and mamma's hand, along a four or five block stretch of pavement? It is virtually impossible for anything to happen to them if there aren't any adults in the parade to trample them.

I don't blame parents for wanting to protect their kids from things that are harmful, but holy cow, can't they enjoy themselves a little bit without us adults butting in?

In other years a few parents accompanied some of the little ones along the line of march and I think that should. However, there comes a time in every kid's life when he thinks he can negotiate a few things alone. A thing like the annual Halloween parade should be one of the first projects he tries on his own. The line of march is well patrolled and there is very little danger involved.

I conducted a little experiment all of my own this year. I put two of my little girls in the parade all alone. I wanted to see what harm could befall them and we were ready to sacrifice a few braises and bumps in the experiment even though it wouldn't advance society very much. All at once the band began to play and away they marched, two forlorn little figures dressed as black cats with nary a hand to hold on to. As they disappeared in the line of march I thought I may never see them again, but I was going to be brave and see the experiment through anyway.

I beat it over to the corner of Bates and Maple, by the Wabek building, to wait. Everybody was waiting on the curb and things were pretty much in order when I got there. I was surprised at the number of adults that were there because I thought nearly all of them were marching in the parade.

The wait was short and in a few minutes the high school band was leading the kids around the corner onto West Maple. The people waiting in front of the Wabek Building had just enough time to run out into the middle of the street and clog it up so the band and the kids would have a tough time being viewed from the judges' stand.

Behind the band came the marchers. There were men, women, and every now and then you could see a kiddie. If you looked quickly you could detect that the children were dressed very cleverly in some of the most original get-ups imaginable. It was no hard hat that they were so well camouflaged by the protective association and the onlookers who have to do their watching from the middle of the street. The kiddies, bless their little souls, practically had to elbow their way through the crowd. Many a well little costume was overlooked by the judges because they just couldn't see them in all of the confusion.

Oh, yes, before I forget—I have two little girls in this fracas somewhere. I wonder how they are making out without me? Here they come now, bumping around between a couple of well suited adults. Boy, do they look beat. No, not the kids, the adults, and you should see how self-conscious they look. The judges even awarded a prize or two to the ladies and gents that were in the parade. They reasoned that while their costumes weren't much to brag about they looked silly enough to rate a prize.

My kids came bouncing out of the turmoil without a scratch on them. Somehow they managed it all alone, the brave little tykes. They and a number of others who somehow got along without the guidance of mom and dad are now thinking seriously of forming a new organization to be known as the, "We Made It Alone Club."

When Winds Blow Chill

The brightness of these autumn days will soon depart. Oh, then, my heart, You must content yourself in pleasant ways, Nor mind the haze, Of lowering skies. Only remember While grim November And bleak December Are here . . . that time speeds quickly past And spring will have her way at last. It is a lovely thought to keep When winds blow chill and snow lies deep.

MICHIGAN in WASHINGTON

By Esther Van Wagener Taft

Michigan's crime record in the files of the FBI is sensational. During the lawless '30's, the special agents of the FBI caught more dangerous criminals. But the G-Men admit none was more vicious than Benjamin Dickson, a Michigan criminal. Dickson's crimes were committed in South Dakota and Kansas. After his arrest in Detroit he was deported to Detroit to hide out, and to purchase autos of which he was exceedingly fond. Dickson came from a good family—his father was a high school teacher in Topeka, Kansas. He was in trouble with the law by the time he was 15 and was never out of trouble for the rest of his life.

His wife, Stella Mae, only 17 at the time of his death, had been his crime companion for two years. Chase Ends in St. Louis. In this brief career whether the Dicksons violated the following federal laws: national bank robbery act, national motor vehicle law, federal kidnapping statute. They also were wanted by the authorities of half a dozen states for assault, for gun battles with the police, and for bank robbery. Throughout his crime career, he maintained an interest in education—the scholastic background of his family—and took considerable chances in enrolling for school courses. While fleeing from the law in Kansas, the Dicksons aroused the suspicion of the Michigan highway patrol which ordered them to halt. His teenage wife shot at the tire of the police car. The Dicksons abandoned their car after stealing that of a Michigan farmer. They kidnaped two farmers from Leosidas, but freed them in Indiana.

Flight was futile, however, and they were tracked down by the FBI in St. Louis. President Truman prefers Lincoln to Cadillac, according to reports from the "kitchen cabinet." Naturally this delights Michigan's Henry Ford II, who will try to capitalize commercially on the taste of the nation's No. 1 citizen. Here's the story of how it happened. It started just before the Presidential campaign of last year. The White House, so it's said, put the "bits" on General Motors for a few Cadillac to use for an expedition to Key West. GM figured Truman's car after and decided to hold back his classy cars.

But Ford said the President was the President and came across with the Lincoln. Truman had the elephant memory, so even today he rides a Lincoln whenever he can. Sure source of congressional fireworks are the coming hearings of the sub-committee of the Joint Committee—the Economic Re-

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Internationally Speaking

By Eugene Hess Many people don't quite understand the background of the latest, apparently completely unnecessary French cabinet crisis. The Foreign Policy Bulletin of October 14, 1949, gives a very clear picture of what played behind the scenes. The crisis occurred at a moment when France was making remarkable progress in industrial recovery and foreign trade. The political tensions arose from conflicting interests of the parties represented in the cabinet.

These tensions were suddenly aggravated by the devaluation of European currencies on and after September 18th. The cabinet crisis was then precipitated by the workers' demands for compensatory wage increases.

Have You Met . . .

M. and Mrs. Reed O. Griffith of Rochester, N. Y., their son Harry who are making their home at 1779 Graefefeld. Mr. Griffith is with General Tire and Rubber Company.



Our streets are full of good picture possibilities like this unposed shot of a friendly little conversation.

Street Scenes

I KNOW a lot of people who seem to think that the only good summer snapshot subjects are beautiful landscapes. They dig their cameras out only when they are about to begin a scenic vacation. But there is one of our most pleasant subjects of our most pleasant subjects, that is, the street scene. But we're overlooking some good bets if we don't consider the possibilities in everyday street scenes. They just about include picture opportunities, for the traveleer and stay-at-home alike.

There's an endless variety of activity on the streets of your community. And there's an endless variety of ways to picture it. You can find people everywhere—working, playing, buying, selling, hurrying, or loafing. You'll find patterns—traffic patterns, architectural patterns, patterns of pedestrians synchronized to the rhythms of the modern city. Pictures like these can round out your whole vacation series, or give you a new look at your old home town. The important thing to remember in snapping people on the streets is to keep your camera inconspicuous. You may find an attractive scene where a group of workmen is busy