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GEORGE R. AVERILL, Editor and Publisher
PAUL NEAL AVERILL, Business Manager
GEORGE W. AVERILL, Managing Editor
HAROLD R. BURGER, Advertising Manager
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Crime Rackets

When a county prosecutor fails to perform his duties, a State's attorney-general is supposed to take over. When he fails, the federal attorney-general steps in where federal laws are violated. When the latter fails, then Congress is the last resort—a situation now happening with regard to gambling on a national scale.

The recent Kansas City slaying of two gangsters has aroused public opinion to such an extent that Congress has decided to appoint a special committee to investigate rackets. Since the Democrats are in power, and this being an election year, observers do not expect much to come from the Congressional investigation.

All of which merely shows that, in practical politics, Righteousness is generally on the scaffold, evil on the throne.

Political Honesty

Our Birmingham citizen, former Governor Murray D. "Pat" Van Wagoner, has stated he will not accept an appointment to the vacancy on the Michigan Civil Service Commission.

Were he to take the post, he's frank enough to say that "I'd be fair only eight out of ten times; now and then a case or two would come up and I'd remember things that had happened in the past. I think I'm not constituted to be a Civil Service Commissioner." "Pat's" frankness is refreshing. Lots of politicians wouldn't be as honest and forthright as our local neighbor.

Union Socialism

The interchange of published advertisements between the Chrysler Corp. and the UAW-CIO, regarding the delay in settling their strike, is of more importance than appears on the surface. Chrysler, owning the property, probably feels it is entitled to determine how far it will go in giving it away.

The Union, under modern leaders, assumes that it should have the maximum in return for its labors—and when you recall that Union official Emil Mazey recently stated that "the time will come when we shall obtain for our workers the value of all they produce"—well, you can understand what Chrysler is now up against in this strike. Mazey's idea embodies the twin brother of Socialism.

Why Taxes Are High

Here are two examples of why federal and State costs of government increase. Congressman John A. Bennett, of Ontonagon, Mich., is endeavoring to get Congress to increase the tariff on copper so that copper mines in the Upper Peninsula may be able to market the mineral without competing with foreign sources. Upper Peninsula copper is expensive to mine because it comes from thousands of feet beneath the earth's surface.

Governor Williams recently pressured the federal Dept. of Agriculture to increase Michigan's bean acreage this year—even though the surplus bean crop cost Uncle Sam many millions in order to keep bean prices up by taking the surplus off the market.

Thus, you see, how high public officials, in order to retain the support of voters in their high public bailiwick, lend themselves to unsound and uneconomic causes. It must be admitted, too, that the good citizens in both the mining and bean areas (who otherwise rail at government extravagance and foolishness) are not opposed to the financial profligacy that state paternalism provides them.

Politicians are people—and many people are like politicians!

Hot Cold War Needed

The United States and certain allies are supposed to be fighting a "cold war" against Russia, the sole purpose of which is to prevent the further spread of Communism. This is being done by aid to friendly nations, so that they may reconstruct their war-torn economies, and by the use of anti-Communist propaganda, both inside and outside Russia.

Outside the Marshall Plan and similar

aims, plus efforts (feeble?) to penetrate Russia via radio, nothing of a gigantic nature is being performed—so far as the American public's knowledge of the situation goes.

In other words, compared with what we might do, we are shooting pop guns, while the Russians are using heavy artillery.

Ah, had we a Teddy Roosevelt in the White House today, there'd be a different story to tell. He would arouse the imagination of our people, inspire them to such patriotic sacrifices that Joe Stalin really would know how hot a "cold war" can be made, true American style!

From Our Point of View

In reporting the marriage of Joan Caulfield, Hollywood actress, the Associated Press defines it as "her first marriage." Need anything be said further in explanation of the AP's description of matrimonial Hollywood?

Threatened with atomic war from Russia, the various States are trying to perfect disaster precautions and relief, should the Soviet some day decide to fight us. But the States cannot do much without the program and aid of the federal government—which, to date, hasn't been forthcoming.

For many, many years the United States foreign policy included high protective tariffs. These are legal devices to protect American industry and labor against the cheap labor of other lower standard of living nations. Over the years, it has been proved that tariff walls eventually become barrier walls against world-wide prosperity. Right now the United States takes billions of the people's money and gives to other nations to help them "get back on their economic feet again." Yet our tariff barriers prevent the flow of their products to the American market. Thus we aid in keeping them poor. Shall we accept the policy of free trade... or do we want to try to keep our cake and also eat it?

The traditional belief that fishermen are "liars", is we believe, a dark and sinister libel upon disciples of Isaac Walton. Fishermen (most of 'em) don't lie about their catches, or even the ones that got away. Fishermen, succumbing to the beauty and truth in Nature, merely become cheerful defenders of the fun o' fishin'. They realize that mere words never can portray the great joy they get from their favorite pastime... so they use the most superlative phrases that come to their minds. And that's the simple truth—isn't it, fellow-Waltonians?

It is said that only 3,000 people in the United States are engaged in the manufacture of girdles. Here, then, is further proof that seldom have so few done so much for so many.

Four years in college ought to produce something besides the annual crop of educated confusion that accompanies so many diplomas.

The automobile driver who calmly awaits until the red light turns to yellow and then green, is doing more than eliminating danger of an accident. He (or she) is giving evidence of the quality of patience—and patience pays off during every waking hour.

So They Say . . .

Chiang Kai-shek, Chinese Generalissimo, on Formosa:

"Developments on the mainland have already shown that the Chinese people will not tolerate Communism."

Charles W. Sawyer, Secretary of Commerce:

"No man is brilliant enough to fix a point in unemployment which is 'critical.'"

Arthur Hayes Sulzberger, publisher, New York Times:

"Television is not a substitute for good music and the prompt dissemination of news by radio."

Alben W. Barkley, Vice-President:

"We face the most powerful and aggressive foe in our history as a nation."

Omar N. Bradley, chairman, U. S. Joint Chiefs of Staff:

"National pride and sovereignty are often paid for with the life and blood of soldiers."

Lewis L. Strauss, former member, Atomic Energy Commission:

"We would be justified in using every weapon we possess to insure the preservation of our freedom and our way of life."

Preliminary Battle Royal

In the Michigan State Police's recently released annual report for 1934 is one interesting statistic: Of a total of 67,550 complaints received, more than 18,000, or 27 per cent, were closed with the citation, "service rendered." These 18,000 cases did not involve an arrest or prosecution, but included such matters as searches for lost persons, emergency delivery of emergency messages, administration of first aid and similar services.

SO FAR IN 1935, State Police report, about 4,000 complaints have been closed with the citation of "handicraft, warrants, arrest, subpoenas or other tools of the law enforcement officer's trade." Officers, on one occasion, located relatives of a Canadian member of the command to receive a letter written more than 75 years ago.

One trooper turned family veterinarian with a furnace with service.

Looking Ahead

On a crazy island in Penobscot Bay off the coast of Maine, there once lived a thriving colony of sea gulls.

They were the full-throated Herring gull and Laughing gull families and wherever the whole colony roared over an unusually good catch of fish or insects, their screaming cacophony could be heard almost to Cape Cod.

They were powerful flyers and intelligent, industrious fish-eaters. There wasn't a scrawny, hungry gull in the multitude.

Their flights to sea as they went searching for schools of fish were beautiful to behold.

THEIR SLEEK silver-gray backs and the smooth snow-white belly feathers glistened in the bright sunlight reflected off the ocean's surface.

And upon returning to Penobscot Bay, their powerful wings and glides were masterpieces of aerodynamic art.

It was a great day indeed for any baby sea gull lucky enough to be born on the coast.

But very soon the fledglings were encouraged to hop off rocks and test their gliding equipment. Flying then came quickly.

The biggest thrill for the young gulls was the first carefully planned hunt.

INTERNATIONALLY Speaking

By Eugene Hesse, Instructor, City of Detroit

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We want our exports to be covered by imports and vice versa.

In the last two years, we have made very great progress towards that goal. After the gap had been far over 2 billion dollars.

It would, however, be rash to jubilate over this apparent success.

20 Years Ago MAY 1, 1930

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It is difficult to say what percentage would be a fair share and it will be admitted that the country is not doing its duty in this field.

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Students finally got the runner's photograph after they chased him into a blind alley.

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About 95 were present at the dinner served by Mrs. Guy Jensen and her committee.

The troop inspection, the Scouts entertained their guests with demonstrations.

The Bloomsfield township golf course opened to the public on Tuesday. It was the first of the season and the weather was just what the players needed to get back into the game.

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