

Mankind Still Awaits Great Moral Reformation

It is a gloomy moment in history. Not for many years—not in the lifetime of most men who read this—has the world been so much grave and deep apprehension; never has the future seemed so incalculable as at this time.

winter without employment, and without the prospect of life. In France the political cauldron rages and bubbles with uncertainty; Russia and Germany as usual, like a cloud, dark and silent upon the horizon of Europe while all the energies, resources and influences of the British Empire are sorely tried, and are yet to be tried more sorely, in coping with the vast and deadly disturbed relations in China.

From Our Point of View

A paratrooper, after jumping out of a plane in Korea, reached the earth, put a cigarette in his mouth, then turned to the nearest soldier and asked for a light. The "soldier" happened to be Lieut.-Gen. Ridgeway, commander of the U. S. 8th Army there. The paratrooper got the light pronto, and both he and Ridgeway made the front pages of American newspapers the next day. Such episodes improve public and military morale, that accommodating light flamed world-wide.

IT IS A SOLEMN MOMENT, and no man can feel an indifference which happily, no man pretends to feel, to the issue of events.

Of our own troubles (in the U. S. A.) no man can see the end. There are, fortunately, as yet mainly commercial; and if we are only to lose money, and if our painful poverty to be taught wisdom—the wisdom of honor, of faith, of sympathy and of charity—no man need seriously to despair.

And yet the very haste to be rich, which is the occasion of this widespread calamity, has also tended to destroy the moral forces with which we are to resist and subdue the calamity.

A British book collector comes up with one of Shakespeare's old volume note books, and says the small volume is worth a half million dollars. That will be good news to the British Labor government, which no doubt will place a nice tax on it. Wonder if the notes ever got into the Bard's "Much Ado About Nothing."

THE PRECEDING WORDS you have just read did not originate with us. We quote them as they appear in Harper's Weekly, Vol. 1, Page 642, of the October 1, 1857, issue—or more than 93 years ago.

In three generations the world has progressed so little morally and socially so that these words of almost a hundred years ago still apply to conditions today. The only difference is that we are doing the same things faster, thanks to the great strides of science.

The world still awaits its great moral reformation. Unless it comes, conditions will repeat themselves so that one hundred years from now, writers will use articles the hundred years old to describe the state of affairs in 2057.

Even though Republicans on a State level won more votes in the recent election than the Democrats did, that does not mean that Michigan has returned to the GOP political column. So the Republican boys and girls need not become jubilant. The real test will come in the fall of 1952, when a Presidential election occurs. In the meantime, what our current Republican legislature does in Lansing will also affect future votes.

Proves What Can Happen

Padding of its enrollment records, in order to get more State aid for education, has been admitted by the man who headed the Litchfield, Mich., public school system. That is bad—but in no way should it reflect upon the educational field in general. Even the long school history in small Litchfield is not previously clouded with such practice.

The Nizam of Hyderabad, India, is going to get twenty-one million dollars worth of his rare gems, proceeds from which will be invested in government bonds; the government will use the cash to develop Hyderabad. Prior to Britain's freeing of India, the Nizam and others like him could hoard their wealth, for Britain "played along" with those Indian princes. But now it is all changed. The masses are on the march on India.

But it does prove what can happen in public life when lack of honesty is shown by a public official. Poor, little Litchfield! You are ashamed of what your superintendent did, and you fired him. You won't let it happen again.

(A thousand little Litchfields would never match the apparent corruption of even a few segments of the federal government—for the evils revealed in Washington are being played bad influences upon the whole nation.)

During the Kefauver Senate investigation, FBI's Hoover and U. S. Attorney General J. Howard McGrath were televised, both seated at the same table. We certainly admired the forthrightness, the honesty, of Mr. Hoover in his scathing indictment of crime and criminals. Wish we could say the same for Mr. McGrath. (Politics most assuredly can and does tie the hands of many law enforcing officers in this country.)

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ONE THING OR ANOTHER

By George Wm. Averill. Last year the board of trustees for the South Oakland Hospital Authority (Woodward General Hospital) sent out a card questionnaire to its fund contributors. These donors were asked what they would like the SOHA to do with the money in view of the current Oakland Hospital-Woodward controversy. In the minutes of its Dec. 5, 1950 meeting, the SOHA board passed a considerable number of remarks which accompanied the return of these cards. The comments in one way or another, favored the Woodward General Hospital project. You may see how others feel on the subject, here are some representative examples, as they appear in the SOHA minutes: "It's held out for a hospital in our own locality if it takes fifty years to come in time."—Harry C. Konigsmark. "Do not care for a hospital connected with a smaller hospital."—Stanley Seyforth. "Build a smaller hospital than planned with open staff."—George S. Dixon. "Why not, if sufficient people are in favor, have another drive

By George Wm. Averill

SOME OPINIONS ON THE HOSPITAL QUESTION to raise funds."—Martha Broden. "It is common knowledge that Adams Rd. site is a political issue. Surely the great need for human welfare should be supported and 13 Mile be the proper site."—Mrs. R. Miller. "When you start the hospital I will start my pledge."—Mr. and Mrs. H. Kinney. "Let's quit playing politics and build a hospital on the original site."—J. Mandel. "Let's build our hospital if we start with only one bed."—Otto P. Dallow. "I feel the people of South Oakland county got a poor deal from the Greater Detroit Hospital Fund. Congratulations on your efforts to contribute going to a hospital in Birmingham."—Mrs. John Anthony. "Royal Oak needs this hospital. Let Birmingham finance their hospital. We'll finance theirs."—My contribution was for a hospital on 13 Mile Rd., where it should be. I am in the situation of S. O. county, not one in Birmingham to assist the money man in Bloomfield Hills

Dangerous Waters



gentleman of the court, who, on the court, undergoes a transformation of personality, and cites among others, the following examples: "In times of stress, which are frequent," says the author, "a basketball coach may do anything. He may kick over the water bucket, break up his chair, fling his money out on the floor, or grab the ball and throw it up into the balcony." "Simple trappings, in which a coach bounds from the bench with the cry of a wounded lion, his face dyed anything from a fiery red to a deep purple, are commonplace. As a class, there is nothing to equal them in sports—or probably anywhere else. It is partly the nature of the men and partly the nature of this pesky game they coach."

minutes had elapsed during which time Pittsburgh caught up and forged ahead. George Keegan was like a wild man for a few minutes and seized the timekeeper's gun, held it to the timer's head, and pulled the trigger. Witnesses say they are sure if he knew the gun wasn't loaded, but they are sure that at the time he wished it had been. Another incident is told about Coach Ken Oosterlinck, of Philadelphia LeSalle College, who keeps harping at officials during a game when he thinks they are calling them wrong. After one game in which he was particularly aroused he was seen to grab the officials and march off the court with them. When questioned later as to what he was saying to them, he replied, "I believe I was questioning their legitimacy."

Kansas State's Coach Gardner likes to tell at the time the college president sat on the bench alongside him. "The referee would call off the court on our boys and the president would let out a howl and jump out on the floor. Look what the game does to college presidents."

THE AUTHOR SAYS there are no unemotional basketball coaches, and most of the exhibitions are utterly spontaneous. "Why do men of high intelligence—which most basketball coaches are—get steamed up over what, after all, is just a game?" he goes on. "Well, then it isn't just a game. It is the most fascinating science in the world. The average coach is ready to talk basketball around the clock and around the calendar. He devises offensive and defensive tactics with the single-minded intensity of a general mapping battle strategy. Then some club-footed forward or glass-eyed referee messes up everything. It is a rare man who can hold himself in check under such circumstances."

Happenings of Long Ago

Bits of News Gleaned From Old Files Of The Eccentric—The Items That Made Us Famous Of The Birmingham of Today.

50 YEARS AGO—April 12, 1901. Easter was observed in the different churches last Sunday with a profusion of flowers. There were a number of little folk who did awfully well in their parades.

You will soon have a chance to vote for a new school building and when the time comes don't fail to vote "Yes" with a rush. Our children demand such a building. There will be many more of them to come to have it and why not?

Our village board with President Rundel at the head are out for an Electric Light Plant. Mr. Rundel has been very quiet and quite a deal of thought and attention and the prospects are fair that we will soon have a right smart electric lighting system.

Master John W. Crawford, Jr., a fine specimen of young America, a ten pound lad, arrived at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John W. Crawford in Southfield last Wednesday morning.

The telephone business is constantly increasing. We are informed by Miss Florence King that one day last week she had 48 messages from the outside world. Besides many more of locals that outnumbered the paying ones.

20 YEARS AGO—April 16, 1931. Wayne county police chiefs, at their meeting here, Thursday, went on record as approving a proposal of establishing whipping posts as punishment for criminals. The bill has already passed the Senate for consideration.

Bloomfield estates have volunteered to aid Detroit's unemployed families by a special garden project. There will be 15 estates taking part, planting seeds for emergency crops for these people.

Upon the suggestion of two city officials, a conference will be held here by local Boy Scout leaders to have the troop members build a rustic bridge over the River Rouge.

in the park this summer. It is believed the plan would be a public benefit as well as provide Scouts with a civic project.

Leon Gotting, 29, formerly of Pontiac, and Grant Springstead of Clawson, have been appointed to the local police force by Chief John P. Hackett. Both men have had previous experience on departments in their former communities.

William Steery, Bloomfield Hills village clerk, has been appointed village assessor to succeed Perry A. Vaughan who was recently elected supervisor for Bloomfield township.

5 YEARS AGO—April 18, 1946. James R. Adams, president of MacManus, John and Adams advertising agency and a resident of Birmingham, has been named to the board of directors for the American association of advertising agencies. He will serve the group as director-at-large.

Birmingham's fifth drive for the Red Cross war fund has gone over the top. The quota assigned was \$13,300. When the final tabulations were made Birmingham's citizens had contributed \$16,500 to the fund.

Quarion lake this summer may not appear on its surface what it has appeared for more than 20 years. On or about May 15 the city will begin to drain most of the lake in preparation to cleaning and deepening the body.

Robert F. C. Copeland was named president of Bloomfield Village Protective association at its annual meeting last Monday night. The meeting was more than a hundred guests in attendance. This is the fourth of this non-profit civic organization.

Birmingham residents received additional bus service to Detroit last Thursday and Monday when extra buses were placed at their service.

PEOPLE'S COLUMN

The Eccentric welcomes letters for this column. All must be signed, but signatures will be confidential upon request. Letters must be limited to 500 words.

To The Editor: The purpose of this letter is to protest the recent action of the Birmingham board of education and the superintendent of public schools in its failure to renew the contract of its basketball and track coach and assistant principal (Baldwin High). It is very apparent to this observer that basically the cause of discord and inharmonious personalities, arising from the fact that the coach, a head of a department objects to act in the capacity and is not allowed to do so.

THIS IS NOT the first case of its kind in our school system and will not be the last, as long as this attitude is condoned. A school superintendent should realize that this dictatorial type of leadership does not strengthen the system; therefore, it would seem that the democratic principles which are taught in our schools should be brought into action.

An interested taxpayer, citizen and parent To The Editor: The March 29th issue of The Birmingham Eccentric carried a statement by Dr. Ireland, head coach Cooper, "I just cannot control himself." An interesting article by Harry Paxon, brings out some interesting facts.

The article points out that all sports coaches are under pressure, but that in basketball the strain is intensified beyond all measure, since the collective emotions of players, coaches, and spectators are packed into a comparatively small enclosure. A close-fought game is just one climax after another. The minute the ball is thrown in every few seconds until even the spectators are almost out of their minds.

TO GO FURTHER—When I attempted, by telephone, to present my views to the President of the

Advertisement for Frigidaire refrigerators. Features include: 'There's No Hold Up On Spring', 'It's time for Authentic Western Denims for Boys', 'TUFFLES COWBOY PANTS', 'MULHOLLAND'S Men's and Boys' Department', 'YES! IT'S MADE FOR ONCE-A-WEEK SHOPPING!', 'The gorgeous new master model Frigidaire', 'SUPER-FREEZER COLD!', 'SUPER-SAFE COLD!', 'SUPER-MOIST COLD!', 'Frigidaire's Master-Mixer mechanism protects foods with SAFE Cold all over!', 'It's the simplest refrigerating mechanism ever built. Powerful, quiet, and produces oceans of cold on a tickle of current. Warranted for 5 years!', 'CRAIG APPLIANCES, Inc.', 'Birmingham's Exclusive Frigidaire Dealer', '112 S. WOODWARD MI 4-2525'