

The Political Stench Is Terrible

In the whole United States there are only 96 U.S. Senators, two from each of the 48 States. The U.S. Senate wields tremendous power, its members in a sense hold in their hands the destinies of all of us. Two of its members, Bricker of Ohio and Capehart of Indiana, recently have said some fatal things about the Truman administration.

As members of the Fulbright Senate Committee investigating the RFC, Bricker and Capehart released a minority report of the committee's findings. They

asserted, among other things, "that President Truman does not understand the definition of 'honor' in government."

Continuing their report adds: "In all fairness, it is not entirely a matter of 'government by crony' as some would have it. We believe, rather, that one of the primary faults is a complete ignorance of ethical standards, a reliance on skirting the illegal act, a defense of legal immorality."

THOSE ARE STRONG WORDS, coming as they do from two U.S. Senators.

To be sure both Bricker and Capehart are Republicans; but even Senator Fulbright, a Democrat, has been very critical of White House tolerance of RFC activities. And Democratic Senator Douglas, of Illinois, is so disturbed by Truman's suzerainty of Peckelgaster politics in high places that he is working on a code of ethics to regulate those who handle the public's affairs.

Truly, these United States are filled with the stigma of evils that spawn from the federal government. The stench is becoming unbearable. Only the clean, fresh air of a real American election can clear the atmosphere.

Does Not Always Work

Nearly everybody has heard about the "truth serum," which was supposed to make those submitting to the test tell the truth. Even those given a surreptitious dose, it was claimed, would reply truthfully to questions asked.

Now a leading authority in psychiatric research warns against the reliability of sodium amytal, especially as evidence for or against the accused in court cases.

He says that, contrary to popular belief, people taking the drug do not always tell the truth. Many persons, he says, under the influence of the drug are able to withhold information and others are able to lie effectively.

THIS MAY BE bad news to those who expected some drug to reform humanity. It would be nice, of course, if people told nothing but the truth. There is a way to attain this high goal but it is through the spiritual development of individuals and has nothing much to do with physical things.

As Others View Us

How effective, in moral inspiration, do you suppose current American political leadership is?

We all know that the Truman administration has been exposed as one filled with lack of ethics, even corruption. If we were to read, for example, that the leaders of Great Britain, France, and other free nations were as graft-ridden as Truman's group is, would we have respect for and faith in them? Certainly not!

Which is only another strong reason why, in 1952, it is hoped that the United States will get a political cleansing—not only for our good right here at home, but for our potential ability to lead other free nations in the crusade against communism.

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ONE THING OR ANOTHER

By George Wm. Averill

REMARKS AT RANDOM

Headline: "Carpentry Skill Makes Bird Houses 'a Success'." Don't you have to have birds, too?

Detroit police still are hunting the person who smashed a night club pianist's piano with an ax. They probably haven't hit the right key.

After ransacking a Saratoga Springs, N.Y., home, burglars escaped with a piggy bank and two milk bottles filled with \$8,000 in coins. That sounds like the work of a Grade A hog.

Way down in Sydney, New South Wales, an essay contest winner was guaranteed four free ice cream cones a day for a total of 7,300 free cones. That's the only contest I have heard of where the winner takes a licking.

Six stories up in a Dallas office building, a Texas lost his specimen bird in a water truck. The spec was fished out unbroken. This is further proof that Texas birds are the world's greatest showoffs.

Time flies. And how they make the most of it during the split second the screen door is open.

Remember that bloke who went up to the top of the Ambassador bridge to see the whiskey? He was committed suicide. But, may be was just thinking of using the river as a chaser.

At least one woman's bank account is never over \$1. It's merely that her husband is unemployed.

Yes, sir, the fellow who keeps smiling during these unsettled times is a fellow with brains, courage, wit, resourcefulness . . . or is he?



Happenings of Long Ago

Bits Of News Gleaned From Old Files Of The Eccentric—The Items That Make Up The Historical Background Of The Birmingham Of Today.

50 YEARS AGO
August 30, 1901
James Woodson "Little Boy" of Clarkston, smiled on his old friends Tuesday of this week. We are delighted to say he is prospered.

Howard King and Guy Blair lead their team in batting and all around playing in the Canadian league this year. Rumor for the Yankee boys and the stars and stripes.

Lyman B. Peabody is not well and unable to be in his store. Meanwhile his business is cared for by Elmer Evans and Mrs. Hattie McBride. We hope Lyman will soon be as well as ever.

Ray Hamlin has threshed his wheat raised on the McVittie farm. The result is 30 bushels of fine grain to the acre. Geo. A. Johnson did the threshing and also run out 730 bushels of oats.

A law was passed by the last legislature raising the minimum age of teachers from 17 to 18 and the country between eight and 15 in and in city between 7 and 17 to attend school.

20 YEARS AGO
September 3, 1931
Herbert H. Gardner, 172 Aspen, has been named president of the proposed club at Royal Oak. His office will become effective immediately upon the acceptance of the Guardian bank at Royal Oak by state banking officials.

Completions of the American Press association show The Birmingham Eccentric leads all weekly papers for the amount of advertising literature carried during the first six months of the year. More than 11,000 weekly papers were considered in the judging.

A mass meeting will be held tonight to decide what action should be taken on the alarming number of grass fires in the township. Carelessness in burning yards and handling rubbish fires is causing

HORSE SENSE AND NONSENSE

BY ALICE E. MORGAN

RESPONSIBILITY
The responsibility for the safety of your child during the school year is a four-way affair.

It begins, of course, in the home. During the years the child learns the rules of crossing streets safely. He should have learned to look both ways and not to start until he is reasonably sure he can cross safely.

His own responsibility lies in learning these rules and applying them. He must realize, to use a trite phrase, that "mother knows best" when it comes to crossing streets.

Once he reaches school his teacher and the Birmingham police take over.

Teachers instruct the children in street crossing and, with the use of modern traffic lights, show them how to read and obey signals.

THE POLICE department maintains a traffic safety division, headed by Lt. Henry Timm.

Through the use of charts and movies, Lt. Timm carries on the program of traffic safety through out the entire school year. He visits each school in the district inspecting and reviewing the proper way to travel through traffic areas.

In addition to this, the schools provide patrol boys whose duty it is to help youngsters at school crossings. These boys are under the joint supervision of the teaching staff and the police department.

The responsibility of the motorist to drive safely at all times is a self one.

All of us are tempted to exceed speed limits, especially in the rush hour. We see no youngsters on the roadside, although the area is marked as a school zone. We forget that it takes only a matter of seconds for the kids to come boiling out of the school. It takes even less time for our cars to


Desires to Erect Service Station, Hotel-Dining Room

A desire to erect a "Colonial style one stop service station together with a high class hotel and dining room" at the southeast corner of W. Maple and Cranbrook roads in Birmingham Highlands subdivision was stated in a letter to the city commission last week.

H. W. Vanhorn of Highland Park said he recently acquired the property and wishes to develop it in the most fitting way, harmonizing with that area.

He said that in order to erect and operate the building and provide for off-street parking for the service station, more drive-in space is needed. He requested that 40 feet more be vacated on Maple and Cranbrook roads to make the circular property line between these streets 40 feet

closer to the corner. The city commission referred the request to the plan board for recommendations. Approval of building plans by subdivision officials will also be needed.



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