

U. S. Is a Republic, Not a Democracy

Recently we came upon the explanation of the difference between a Democracy and a Republic, uttered by Margaret Chase Smith, the able feminine U. S. Senator from Maine.

What Miss Smith said on the subject is worth your immediate reading time. Here it is:

"We talk a great deal about our American government being a democracy. It is said that we fought two World Wars within a generation to 'make the world safe for democracy.'"

"Yet, do we know what we are talking about?"

"You may be surprised to know that our government is not a true democracy. It is a republic. If you doubt this, take a look at the Constitution. Try to find the word 'democracy' or 'democratic'. Then take a look at Article IV, Section 4, which says, 'The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a Republican Form of Government.'"

"IF YOU READ the first ten amendments to the Constitution, these amendments being more popularly recognized as 'The Bill of Rights,' you will see that they directly flout the theory of democracy."

"Now what is the difference between a democracy and a republic—that are we instead of what some of us think we are? A democracy is a truly representative government in which the supreme power is retained by the people and exercised by them. So is a republic. But a

From Our Point of View

A Netherlands' fashion editor says she is amazed at the number of slips being shown by American women. Certainly she never got this impression by visiting our bathing beaches.

American military men are unsurpassable on the field of battle. But when it comes to running the business end of the military establishment in the matter of procurement of material, some of 'em aren't very successful. "Too little or too much" often summarizes their efforts. (In this phase is must also be remembered that certain predatory business interests get in their own dirty work.)

A survey of 6,000 Ann Arbor youngsters reveals that they spend an average of 19 hours weekly watching television. The U of M faculty man who made the study doesn't believe that many TV hours hurts the kids' minds, because they do it in short periods. But even half that many hours a week with their noses in good books would be more good for the future of those kids, believes Philo Homo, local savant.

So They Say . . .

Herbert Morrison, British Foreign Secretary: "Knowledge of the truth is essential to understanding between peoples."

David Cole, Professor of Psychology: "To attribute causal significance to a comes in such a thing as a juvenile delinquency may be merely putting the cart before the horse."

Frank Pace, Jr., Secretary of the Army: "We must not allow the Soviets to accomplish by alternate gusts of pretended friendship and bitter defiance what they can never accomplish by force of arms."

ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

Headings by a house committee on the state liquor control commission's "quota limit" for SDD's started Tuesday in Lansing.

Four representatives—all Democrats—are said to have brought about these hearings. They want the LCC to permit one SDD (officially designated distributor) to each 1,500 population. The LCC's present limit is one SDD to each 3,000.

Although there may be considerable publicity attending the sessions, I don't think anything will result from them.

FIRST OF ALL, the hearings are being conducted only by a house committee. On anything so important as the liquor question and its control, the state senate would insist on a joint legislative study committee.

republic, such as ours, is a restricted and limited democracy.

"The basic distinction between democracy and republic is in the degree of majority rule. Majority rule is unrestricted in a democracy while it is restricted in a republic. 'The Bill of Rights' part of our Constitution places definite limitations on the power of the representatives of the people."

"They are denied the power to abridge our freedom of speech, right of assembly, press, trial by jury, against unreasonable searches and seizures, and other individual rights—regardless of how much the majority might be opposed to such individual rights. Under a pure or true democracy, there is no protection of such individual rights against the rule of the majority."

"DEMOCRACY ACTUALLY MEANS unrestricted majority rule that our Constitution so carefully prohibits. We are inclined to think of democracy in the social sense rather than the political sense. We think of it as signifying equality among human beings. This ideal we do find expressed in the Declaration of Independence with the statement that 'all men are created equal'. But the ideal is even more basic than the Declaration of Independence. It is in reality the Christian concept of the Golden Rule."

"So that there is good reason to distinguish between social democracy and political democracy. By the sheer unrestricted rule of the majority of a political democracy, social democracy could be killed without any protection whatsoever to the minorities."

"A republic is a truly representative government. It provides representation for the minority as well as the majority. It places individual freedom and rights above majority rule. If we were really a political democracy, instead of the republic we are, the will of the majority would habitually ride roughshod over the will of the minority. A republic creates and develops tolerance that acts as a bulwark against tyranny by the majority."

"THE UNITED STATES SENATE, in which I have the honor to serve, is striking proof that our government is not a democracy but a republic. New York with a population of several million people, has no more representation in the Senate than my state of Maine—which has a population of less than a million people. Both states have two Senators each. This is a check against unlimited majority rule for the protection of the 'minority population' states."

"In short, a republic rather than a democracy is the American way, simply because this country was settled and founded upon the love for liberty and individual freedom. Our republic protects our very right to our beliefs, even though we're in the minority. It protects differences of opinion."

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GEORGE R. AVERILL Editor and Publisher PAUL NEAL AVERILL Business Manager GEORGE WM. AVERILL Managing Editor HAROLD F. BURGER Advertising Manager

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20,000. We have five SDD's now within our city limits, with two more permissible under the 3,000 quota limit.

IF THE LIMIT were dropped to 1,500, the city could have 14 SDD's. City officials also figure the average Birmingham family has 3.1 children. Assuming the 1.1 to be children who are not yet permitted to have alcoholic beverages, the city has a potential of 14,000 men and women who could use beverages from our SDD's.

This would be 2,800 persons, or 1,400 families, for each of the five present SDD's. If we had 14, it would reduce the average patronage to 1,000 adults, or only 500 families, for each of the SDD's.

Of course, an inestimable number of local citizens do not drink, thus reducing these possible "patrons" figures.

I HAVE NEVER observed any unusual lineup at any of the present SDD's, thus indicating a need for better management by creating additional SDD's. I don't believe anyone else has either.

President Truman has been informed that Oscar, the young

Costly Autographs
Illustration of a man surrounded by autographs and a camera.

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
September 13, 1901
The Watkins police came home from Belle Isle last week after spending a very busy summer conducting a search of the island for the little folks.

Mrs. Fuller has returned from a delightful time spent with old friends and neighbors in the Bay Cities. Incidentally, she attended some of the sessions of the M.E. Conference of which she was a delegate.

Anyone finding a black stain on a rug or wall at this office, its owner, a dear old soul, has called on us to help her find it. It's lost or has been left somewhere.

Henry Spicely has been very busy doctoring horses on the Fisher farm. The animals escaped their stalls, broke into the granary and gorged on wheat.

Three Birmingham biddies and one Troy girl went to Put-in-Bay one day last week and had a lovely day of it, but when the boat docked in Detroit until the last car had gone. Just like their lords and masters they went up town and hired a hack to bring them to Birmingham.

20 YEARS AGO
September 17, 1931
Mrs. L. N. Pyle, 188 Euclid, has been nominated for the vacancy on the Baldwin public library board, caused by the resignation of Mrs. Betty M. Hare. Mrs. Marg K. Wellman has been named president of the board to succeed Mrs. Hare.

A move to place restrictions on the sidewalk display of merchandise is underway here. C. H. O'Connell, village attorney, has been instructed to draft an ordinance which will regulate all sidewalk displays within the village limits.

Detroit-Edison officials have announced that their 1931-32 budget contains an allocation for the construction of a new building in Birmingham. The appropriation of more than \$200,000 is approved, but no statement has been made.

HORSE SENSE AND NONSENSE

BY ALICE E. MORGAN

SEPTEMBER BLUES. The kids going back to school are not the only ones who get the blues in September.

It's true, they aren't happy at the idea of changing the summer's freedom for the order of the classroom. They enjoy the care-free mood in a fact game of ball than they do in the competition of a well-learned lesson.

The get a bigger bang out of the well-scratched hot dogs at a picnic than they do from the noisiness but unthrilling lunch in the school cafeteria.

Yes, the average kid can come up with a hundred reasons as to why summer vacations are nicer than school—even those who do not actively dislike school.

Little Brothers and sisters find they can no longer go to school because of their little to go alone and Mommy doesn't have time to talk to them.

There is no one around to help invent games. There is no one to buy a hundred reasons as to why summer vacations are nicer than school—even those who do not actively dislike school.

IN THE AFTERNOON when the smaller youngsters go to bed for their naps the restless reality finds in around here the whole neighborhood is quiet.

YMCA Sponsors Trip to MSC-Michigan Game

Fifth annual trek of the Birmingham/YMCA to a Big Ten football game will take place Saturday, Sept. 29, when 50 persons will attend the Michigan-Michigan State football game in Ann Arbor.

A block of 80 reserved seat tickets has been obtained and a Greyhound bus chartered to take the group to and from Ann Arbor. As in the past, the group will sing college songs on the bus and have refreshments of sandwiches and milk enroute.

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