

Your Wages Are Given Away

Slowly, but surely, increasing wages, salaries, income of Americans is being given away to other countries. It may be only a few millions here, then several hundred millions there, with the occasional billion or so, for example, to England.

All this American wealth is going abroad because, so our leaders tell us, "if we don't help other free nations they will fall to communism, then we'll follow them." With the free world so upset, menaced on all sides by totalitarianism, plenty of harm can come to us, of course.

THERE'S NOTHING WRONG about helping, within our own means, other nations to help themselves. It is one thing to give away just enough, and quite another to give too much.

All of which only means to Americans that if they want more frugality practiced by the people who tax them and then give away part of the taxes, they had better put some new managers in charge of the project.

That can be effected only by changing managers . . . by kicking out the New Deal gang and letting others take over. In this case, the "others" will have to be Republicans and Jeffersonian Democrats.

How Much Is a Billion?

Today, when we talk in terms of billions rather than millions, perhaps we should stop and consider just how much difference there really is.

Alexander Sumner, president of the National Association of Real Estate Boards, gives this graphic illustration.

"A million dollars in crisp new \$1,000 bills would make a pile eight inches high. But if we tried to pile up a billion dollars, we'd find that it stretched up in the sky 110 feet higher than the Washington monument."

ANOTHER WAY of viewing a billion dollars is to lay them end to end. Allowing two \$1,000 bills to a foot, a billion dollars would extend approximately 94 miles.

Now all you have to do, in addition, is to multiply the number of billions the federal government extracts from this nation annually by 94, and you can gauge the distance.

Your Pay for It!

There is not a single service rendered by any unit of government that does not cost the taxpayers money.

For example, every time one or more Birmingham residents make demands on the city for additional services and gets them, that raises your taxes.

When the city itself originates new or increased services, the money comes only from you, the taxpayers.

IT SHOULD NEVER be forgotten that

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ONE THING OR ANOTHER

The bosses' Utopia: where everyone does exactly as he is told just as soon as he is told to do it.

Women always will claim they can run the world better than men—until they've had to do it. And until the women have had that chance, no man can prove the women wouldn't do better.

Walt Fauser, local Michigan Bell manager, wants to make a deal with the federal government. He wants to give the government the part of his pay check he takes home, and take home the portion the government now gets.

If you're not sure just what is detachable around your house get someone to bring their two-year-old baby along on a visit—and you'll see dead end!

The Eccentric's filing system works wonderfully half the time, but is loused up for the remaining

REMARKS AT RANDOM

half. The compliments that come to the editorial staff seem to be filed in good order, with only one or two occasionally slipping through to me. On the other hand, the complaints come directly to my desk like I was the one who personally answered the phone or opened the mail.

Here's a sure test whether a man or a woman is doing in the basement washing clothes or in the kitchen changing the baby's diaper, or a man is under the shower or taking a nap, and the telephone call turns out to be the wrong number.

Principal fault I find with gossipers is not that they know what you are doing, but what you are going to do.

As you listen to foreigners speaking their native language, sometimes you wonder if they aren't just gibbering. But

maybe they feel most of our conversation in English is gibbering. To make certain it isn't, why not think twice before speaking?

If a columnist talks about dogs, cats, mothers-in-law or some other touchy subject, he can count on receiving one or two letters from readers who object to his comments, whichever side he is on. Otherwise the daily mailbag is empty. On the other hand, tens of thousands of persons (according to their Hollywood agents) write to movie actors and actresses every week. I'd like to know who these writers are, and what they say. I'd like to see 10 of them sometime.

If a photographer wants a picture of REAL attainment, then he should be on the golf course to record the look on a golfer's face when he makes an awe-inspiring and hits the ball a mile.

government, in and of itself, does not produce a nickel's worth of tangible wealth to the community or a nation.

Government is supported by taxpayers, who are government's employers—which is eloquent reason why government always should be the servant, the taxpayers the master!

From Our Point of View

• The U. S. Agriculture Dept. has just requested that all Americans plant and tend home gardens in 1952. It also declares that a record crop is expected from American farmers, too. This will enable the government to buy more and more farm products (to keep the prices up) so that the products can be kept in caves, refrigerator plants, made into fertilizer, or given away to other nations. In other words, so that the tax spenders in Washington can subsidize, with your money, more votes for the 1952 election. Since the party in power is the so-called Democratic . . . well, you get the picture, don't you?

• Did you ask: "Who will occupy Little Harry's shoes in the 1952 election?" Well, maybe Harry will . . . he's the one who got them all dirty with the mud and slime of corruption in high governmental places, didn't he? What a mess they'll make when he gets back into the renovated White House next year!

• All over European and Asiatic areas where Soviet Russia wields power have been or are being erected colossal statues of Stalin. It is part of the Kremlin's plan to capture and hold the minds of communist dominated nations. Some day, when anti-Soviet conquering armies take over those areas, a lot of bronze, iron and marble will be available for demolition and re-use.

• Seventy-five so-called world scholars are about to launch into the job of compiling six heavy volumes, telling the story of mankind since this form of life first appeared on earth. The project, to cost \$600,000, is sponsored by UNESCO, the literary, dreamy part of United Nations. The volumes are intended to strip bias and nationalism from history, as we now know mankind's long earthly travels. When completed, who can say that 75 writers, representing all nations, aren't going to be biased and nationalistic? Looks to us like a whopping WPA program.

So They Say . . .

Henri Bonnet, French Ambassador to United States:

"France is carrying a very heavy burden and there is need for help."

Alcide De Gasperi, Premier of Italy:

"Peace must recognize the dignity of the individual."

Robert A. Lovett, Secretary of Defense:

"Despite a flurry of recent reports of sensational new weapons, no magic way of winning wars is yet at hand."

Francis Cardinal Spellman, New York prelate:

"Peace is founded on faith—faith in God and in one another."

John Kieran, son of famous educator:

"Knowledge is not only power but justice, as well."

Easy Come—Easy Go

ANOTHER
WAGE
INCREASE

ANOTHER
PRICE
INCREASE

Happenings of Long Ago

Bits of News Cleared from Old Files Of The Eccentric—
The Items That Make Up The Historical Background
Of The Birmingham Of Today.

50 YEARS AGO

The good brothers of Birmingham Lodge #4, E. & A. M., are proud and happy over the completion of very necessary repairs to their lodge room in the bank building. The ceiling, once a thing of shreds and patches has been repaired and painted and is now a thing of beauty and a joy forever.

Owners of horses should remember that there is a state law about cruelty to animals. We feel that leaving a horse on the street four hours, without a blanket, comes under the heading of cruelty and hope that something will be done to change this practice in Birmingham.

Mrs. Rose came from Royal Oak Monday afternoon, accompanied by her niece, Mrs. Barnum, to Birmingham to get relieved of a tooth from which she had been suffering severely.

Big Beaver patrons of the De-

troit, Rochester and Romeo railway want a waiting room at the point where more people get on and off the train than at any other point on the line.

J. S. Spaulding of the Hupp farm is all right again, and was downtown Tuesday for the first time. His whole family has been in a siege of illness and were brought through by the able ministrations of Dr. Raynolds.

20 YEARS AGO

The Rotary club is backing a drive to raise \$700 in Birmingham for the benefit of crippled children. Headed by Dr. H. E. Roehm, local pediatrician, the campaign will get underway next month.

Major crime was at a minimum here during the past year according to the annual police report. Only 41 arrests were made on felonious charges and eight for grand larceny. A total of 2,256 were arrested on traffic violations.

Village commissioners will meet on the 1932 budget at their Monday night meeting. Plans are

HORSE SENSE

AND
NONSENSE

BY
ALICE J. MORGAN

IT'S A SCIENCE

During a recent period of wool gathering, our eye caught a flash of action in a store window nearby and set us off on a trail of remembering.

We remembered and compared window displays of today and years ago and were somewhat astonished at the changes which have been made in a comparatively short time.

During our younger days we worked in a couple of stores. Like most stores of those days, trimming the windows was "something that had to be done, and as a thankless job was relegated to the newest employees.

In the first place, there wasn't much stock that had any more eye appeal than a pair of well-worn bedroom slippers. In the second place, there wasn't much space in the window. In the third place there were few supplies for "creeping." In the fourth place we didn't have the slightest idea how to go about the job in the first place.

WE'D STRUGGLE and sweat, trying to get a "representative" selection of stuff to put in the window. We knew, as we went along that no matter what we selected the owner wouldn't like it, although he never had a suggestion to start us off with.

We'd get packages of crepe paper and back of strips of it with a pair of scissors which should have been donated to a Civil War scrap drive.

This was the initial step toward complete insanity. The paper was supposed to turn into ruffled garlands, ending in rosettes. It didn't. Finally, after a series of broken nails and pricked fingers, to say nothing of runs in our hose, we had some semblance of a trimmed window. We wiped a grubby paw across our weary face and stepped outside to examine our enterprise. The whole blamed thing over again.

TODAY, the modern store has a trained man or woman on contract. The window dresser is scheduled to appear at a certain store on a certain date, if not a regular employee of the shop.

There are all manner of items which are prepared in advance for the dresser. Figures of men, women, even animals, all jointed to be pushed into the window. There are trees, animals, benches, flowers, a horde of other items. He works with the old crepe paper (it obeys him) as well as with the new, and other transparent materials.

He has shadow boxes, mirrors and painted backdrops at his fingertips. When he gets through and sees a display is off angle, it is because he planned it that way. Window dressing, like many other haphazard enterprises of the past, has become a science—well, a profession, then.

underway to cut about 30 per cent in operating expenses with other budget reductions scheduled where ever possible.

A grass fire in January is unusual but not impossible, as Birmingham firemen now know. It is believed that small boys playing in a vacant lot on Puritan started the blaze which called the local department out Thursday morning.

Dale Weitzel, 15, 523 Labview, suffered injuries to his back Tuesday evening, when struck by a car. Dale was riding his bike at the corner of Southfield and Merrill when struck by the car of L. E. Reuter, Dearborn.

5 YEARS AGO

January 16, 1947
Suzanne and Dick Saunders, children of the Earl Saunders of Berwyn, received marionettes for Christmas and promptly put them to good use. They prepared a show for playmates and this week turned in \$1.50 at the corner of Southfield and Merrill when struck by the car of L. E. Reuter, Dearborn.

Building permits were issued here during the past year for \$2,004,629. It was announced today by the building inspector's office. The total nearly triples the \$732,685 recorded last year.

Ernest Anderson has been named valedictorian of the January 1947 class to be graduated from Baldwin high school. Salutatorian honors are being jointly shared by Janet Walser and Roland Watson.

An army of 2,600 volunteers will start this weekend collecting funds for the proposed Woodward General Hospital. Herbert H. Gardner, Birmingham, presided at the first of three opening meetings which was held in Royal Oak last night.

Swirling snow and continued cold weather has most of the city's youngsters on skates these days. Rinks are being maintained by the city's DPW and the Junior Chamber of Commerce, and are in almost constant use as boys and girls go home only long enough for food and sleep.

Preferred containers for rubbish pickups are metal bushel baskets or tapered 20 gallon cans with handles. However, wooden containers are allowed. City officials urge that containers which are rusted or otherwise deteriorated should be discarded. Nail kegs are not acceptable.

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