

## Over 40? Then Here Are Things You Can Still Do

Dr. H. C. Lehman, of the Department of Psychology, Ohio University, reports that if you are past 40 years of age, there are few fields of human endeavor in which you can succeed better than a younger man.

Dr. Lehman prepared a paper to this effect recently for the Fifth Annual Scientific meeting of the Gerontological society, Inc.

If you are over 40, the best you can accomplish, according to Dr. Lehman, is: Become an industrialist or commercial leader, with an annual income of \$50,000 to \$1,000,000 (at an average of 60-90); become president of an American college or university (at an average of 50-54); become President of the United States (at an average age of 55-59).

BECOME AN AMBASSADOR (at an average age of 60-64); become a Senator (at an average age of 60-64); become Chief of Staff of the Army (at an average age of 60-64); become a Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court (at an average age of 70-74); or become Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives (at an average age of 70-74).

## Jefferson, An Optimist

Great Thomas Jefferson, upon approaching his 73rd birthday, expressed much of his philosophy in a letter to his friend John Adams, another ex-President.

Dated at Monticello on April 8, 1816, the author of the Declaration of Independence wrote:

Dear Sir—  
You ask if I would agree to live my seventy or rather my seventy-three years over again? To which, I say, yes. I think with you, that it is a good word on the whole; that it has been framed on a principle of benevolence, and more pleasure than pain dealt out to us.

There are, indeed (who might say nay), gloomy and hypochondriac minds, inhabitants of diseased bodies, disgusted with the present, and despair-

In addition to these possibilities, you might succeed as an architect or artist (average age 40-45); as an author (average age 40-45); in astronomy (average age of 39-44); or write light operas, musical comedies or cantatas (at an average age of 40-44).

Dr. Lehman mentions a few other fields those over 40 might succeed in, which we will not go into here.

Suffice it to say the statement that there are few fields of human endeavor in which those over 40 can succeed better than a younger man is a bit misleading.

FOR WHILE YOUNGER MEN succeed in many fields, few of us would be dissatisfied to become an industrialist, with an income between \$50,000 and \$1,000,000, an Ambassador, Senator, Supreme Court Justice, or even President of the United States.

And while younger men have the ability and strength to do a better job in most fields of endeavor, our society has traditionally favored older men with the highest and most honored official positions.

ing of the future; always counting that the worst will happen, because it may happen. To these I say, how much pain have cost us the evils which never happened!

MY TEMPERAMENT is sanguine. I steer my bark with Hope in the head, leaving Fear astern. My hopes, indeed, sometimes fail; but not often than the forebodings of the gloomy.

I have enjoyed a greater share of health than falls to the lot of most men; my spirits have never failed me, except under those paroxysms of grief which you, as well as myself, have experienced in every form, and with good health and good spirits, the pleasures surely outweigh the pains of life.

Why not, then, taste them again, fat and lean together?

Th. Jefferson

## From The Eccentric's Point of View . . .

We see that the H. J. Heinz home in Pittsburgh, Pa., where the famous friend and distributor of the pickle began his business, is to be dismantled and moved to nearby Greentree Village. It will be installed among the historic homes of Noah Webster, Luther Burbank, poet Robert Frost and the Wright brothers. What a variety!

Gov. Adlai E. Stevenson, we think, staged a valiant but futile fight in his efforts to win the Presidency. The Illinois gentleman bravely tried to overcome the handicap handed him by the Truman administration. No Democrat could have done a better job, in the year 1952.

Dearborn's Mayor Hubbard, seeking to raise \$7,500, by taxation, to help him pay a private debt, had his proposition in the ballot at the Nov. 4 election. The vast majority of the voters there turned him down, as they should have. In the meantime, Hubbard legally can't leave Wayne County until he pays the debt. Kinda tough on Dearborn, at that.

Senator Blair Moody's defeat in Michigan was, we think, brought about by the gentleman himself. Ever since he assumed the vacancy caused by the death of Senator Vandenberg, Moody has never slowed up in his outright alliance with everything

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GEORGE R. AVERILL Editor and Publisher  
PAUL NEAL AVERILL Business Manager  
GEORGE W. AVERILL Managing Editor  
HAROLD P. BUEGE Advertising Manager

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## So They Say . . .

that labor wants. Seldom did he voice his willingness to fight for the rights of management. Apparently his failure in the latter consideration caused plenty of union men, themselves loyal to their employers, to vote for Potter!

There can be no mystery why many GIs in Korea, when asked by Asst. Sec. of Defense Anna Rosenberg "What do you want?", replied "Send us Marilyn Monroe". Those American boys in the Far East are merely paying honest tribute to woman-kind in general . . . one of the reasons why they are fighting so far from home.

Some kind of record in selfishness, we believe, was established by that Detroit father who not only refused to work in order to support his family, but when he had a few dollars spent it on himself for juicy steaks; in the meanwhile, his wife and seven children had to eat boiled potatoes for sustenance. The father, finally, was sent to jail for beating his wife.

The U.S. Supreme Court has refused to reconsider its Oct. 13 action when it dismissed a challenge to Michigan's Hutchinson Act, which forbids public employees to strike. We believe the Court's attitude wholly in the general public interest—yet point out that some way must yet be found (judicially) to the problem within the law. Public employees have to provide food, clothing and shelter for their families, too.

## So They Say . . .

JOHN W. M. ROTHNEY, professor of education, University of Wisconsin:

"Children are better educated, more realistic, more democratic, more self-disciplined and there is less—not more—delinquency among them than formerly."

Nicholas Berkos, city attorney, Cicero, Ill., former residence of Al Capone:

"People everywhere think we're just a bunch of hoodlums."

## 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

November 21, 1902

If our readers take the advice of the editors they will lay in a winter supply of tubers now. A local dealer has given us reason to believe that potatoes will bring a dollar a bushel before spring.

Many a Birmingham housewife is worrying about the Thanksgiving table. Turkey right now is selling for 16 to 18 cents a pound with every indication that it will reach 20 cents for choice Thanksgiving birds. This is due to the wet summer, particularly bad for poultry.

Ewell Dudley of Pontiac goes to the Detroit House of Correction for the use of profane language on our streets. Glad to see the marshal is on his toes, looking to the welfare of our ladies and young people.

Volney Lee will have his home on Fremont street heated by means of a new furnace this winter.

FOR SALE—A nice convenient home with house, cellar, barn, woodshed, eastern and plenty of small fruit in a good neighborhood in this village. The price is set before the week is out. Only \$8000. Ask Whitehead about it at the Exchange Bank.

### 30 YEARS AGO

November 17, 1922

Milton Patch of Adams road returned Thursday from a hunting trip, bringing the first deer back to Birmingham. Patch hunted in the northern part of the lower Peninsula to get his 8 pointer.

A barricade will be built at the northern end of Bates street, just off Willis, at once. Commissioners approved immediate action because of the dangers to strangers of the 50 foot steep incline.

Trappers returning to Birmingham from their hunting fields are predicting a mild winter. Animals, they say, have made little prepara-

tion for extreme cold weather and pelts are very light. Villagers hope they can depend on the reports.

Fireman William Thornton, thrown from the truck as it sped to a fire, worried more about his hat than himself. Uninjured after being tossed into the path of a following auto, Thornton told those rushing to his aid, "I've got a hat around here someplace."

Fines totaling \$110 were paid in justice court here last week by truckers charged with carrying excessive weights over village streets. The fines ranged from \$10 to \$50.

### 15 YEARS AGO

November 23, 1937

Harry Hulbert, former warden at the Prison of Southern Michigan, Jackson, will speak at the next meeting of the Birmingham Rotary club. Hulbert will speak on his experiences and problems he faced during his nine years in office.

Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills artists will show a total of 15 pictures at the 17th annual Michigan Artists' show at the Detroit Institute of Arts. Opening last Tuesday, the affair will continue through Dec. 20, attracting lovers of art from all over the country.

The skyline in Birmingham is changing as the old water tank is removed from its present location on the wider Woodward highway. Erected in 1925, the tank has become a familiar landmark to residents and travelers who frequently pass through here.

Representing the Birmingham Council of Church Women, Mrs. John Ormond appeared before the board of education last week, asking the introduction of nonsectarian religious training into the public school system. Board members will discuss the proposal later.

Workers at the Louis Thomas home, 383 Pilgrim, were responsible for a fire there Tuesday. One of the men lit a cigarette while standing near an open can of paint remover and flames ignited.

## HORSE SENSE AND NONSENSE

BY ALICE E. MORGAN

Everyone who is old enough to remember when Christmas came in December, please hold up their hands.

Remember? We used to have Halloween, when all the neighborhood youngsters scared (?) all the grown-ups. Then, after that we had Thanksgiving, when the house was fragrant with roasting turkey, boiling cranberries and hot, spicy pumpkin pie. Then—O, happy day!—came Christmas.

Today all that is changed. You go into a store about the middle of October to buy the kiddies some spook faces and if you're not awfully careful about what you pick up, you'll get home and find out you bought some collapsible ornaments for the Christmas tree.

When you get home from buying the Thanksgiving pumpkin it turns out you grabbed the wrong vegetable and what you have on hand is the Christmas squash. You can't find a pretty Thanksgiving card because they've been put back in storage. Christmas is coming, isn't it?

NOW MAYBE WE'RE old and looking at things with a jaundiced eye, but it seems that Christmas loses a lot of its bang by hanging around so long.

We get so used to seeing trimmed trees for a month or six weeks before the day that our Christmas Eve ceremony is all shot and what we trim is a pretty sorry looking object as compared to some we have seen. Years ago every tree we hung with bangles was always by the men.

Christmas was slow enough in coming when the folks didn't start to talk about it until at least December first. Those days dragged by like months.

Double that waiting time and think how utterly horrible it must be—like the old Spanish inquisition, almost.

think what it must do to Santa Claus!

The poor old gent must be going into a regular tailspin. He once could take a quick look down from the North Pole, see the Christmas trees being put in, and know that it was time to grease the runners, get the reindeer in the corral, the moths out of his red flannels and get on the ball.

NOW, THE POOR dunder takes a quick glance into civilization and what does he see?

He sees Christmas trees in full glow. He sees Christmas greens strung through all sections of the cities while truck after truck speeds down the highway toward the tree ornaments for the Christmas tree.

Yep, Santa Claus sees all this in one quick glance, but he makes a mistake. He pauses for a second glance and that does it.

There, off in that corner, is a lady picking late fall flowers. In another section two little girls are sitting on the front steps in the sun, playing hopscotch.

Around back top and the boys are raking leaves and having a bonfire. Down the street a neighbor is putting in a few last flicks with the lawnmower.

Santa Claus shakes his head and closes his eyes. Feebly he groans: "Merry Christmas to all and to all a goodnight!"

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## ONE THING OR ANOTHER

By George Wm. Averill

Many persons—who were there have been commenting on the impressive, brief and simple dedication program held by the Birmingham Rotary club in its Nov. 11 Armistice Day presentation of its peace memorial to the city.

They also are impressed by the memorial's beautiful and powerful simplicity, as designed by Rotarian Marshall Freeland on Birmingham's internationally-known sculptor.

If we haven't already seen it, it's worth driving past the new high school to see. The memorial is located at the east end of the plaza at the building's main entrance on Lincoln avenue.

It is reported as "not being worried" about his promised trip to the Korean warfront. Maybe not, but the people are.

Sometimes when you are looking for something to do, why not carefully note in the day's events your metropolitan daily newspaper the percentage of news that is of a "violent" nature—shootings, beatings, deaths, strikes, fires, accidents, etc., etc. You'll be surprised at how much there is.

Because the French premier cancelled a visit to Dijon, the authorities were forced to dispose of 2,000 larks to local restaurants. Certainly would provide an opportunity for citizens to walk into an establishment and ask to be larked up.

Maybe the new Washington administration now will be able to determine why Maj. Gen. Walter C. Short and Rear Admiral Husband E. Kimmel, in command there that fateful day, never were court-martialed. The only real fact brought out so far is that cooperation between top Washington offices and the Pacific armed forces was not as sufficiently established as it could have been. Absolute responsibility for what happened has not been established, or if so, has not been told to the American public.

This week France claimed to

have built and flown the world's first midjet jet plane, a 550-pound 2-seater made of duralumin. Just wait till Moscow hears that it'll tell how the USSR did it first years and years ago.

Before he ran for the Birmingham city commission, Lance Minor was concerned about the inadequacy of the city's sewer system and disposal plant. (Not that other city officials weren't worried, too.)

But Minor felt the solution wasn't moving along perhaps as fast as it could. He felt that if elected, he could add his official weight to solving the problem.

On March 27, 1951, just a week before his election, Minor made this statement before a candidate's rally held by the Birmingham League of Women Voters:

"I believe that we are confronted—at this very moment with an 'emergency condition' at the sewer disposal plant."

"Is this plant—built 12 years ago to care for the needs of our city—adequately doing its job? The records show—right now—it is operating 50 to 75 per cent beyond its planned capacity."

"Assuming Birmingham was confronted with an epidemic—such a time—would this not create an extremely dangerous health problem?"

"The present sewage treatment plant is unable to event meter all of the storm and sewage water when a heavy rain occurs. I understand that during a storm, the contaminated sewage waters are necessarily diverted directly into the (Rouge) river, and the plant's pumps are shut off."

"To my surprise, I found that the area south and northeast of Oakland Hills country club—outside our city limits—now dumps its sewers into creeks to further overtax this plant."

Today Minor points out that the state water resources commission has had to step in and force Birmingham to take steps to remedy the situation, city officials having failed to move fast enough for Lansing.

"Because Birmingham didn't act of her own volition, we now have been publicly spanked and told to get a move on," Minor adds.

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