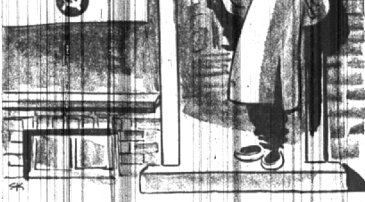


Let the Buyer Beware

CHOU EN-LAI LAUNDRY

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT
PEACE WORK
OUR SPECIALTY



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

April 10, 1903
A treat is in store for our people. The YMCA gives club of Detroit will give a grand concert at the Baptist church on Friday Evening, April 22. All are invited.

30 YEARS AGO

April 11, 1923
Dr. Proctor is a new M.D. who has located in Southdale as he is an aspirant for practice. His office is at Charles' Bimmon's house. All calls will be answered promptly.

15 YEARS AGO

April 14, 1938
John E. Martz has been elected the first vice mayor of the City of Birmingham. To the north of us, Bloomfield Hills commission, named Lester D. Allen to the same office.

10 YEARS AGO

April 6, 1943
Clark Green, former member of the Birmingham fire department, was appointed night officer by Manager Harry Starr Monday night. Green was employed here two years ago as a motor cycle officer. A resident of Pontiac, he will move here soon.

TOWN LINE—A disagreeable row took place over a horse on Monday. Whiskey was the cause and a razor was flourished. The main actor in the affair has left town for which all are deeply grateful.

30 YEARS AGO

April 6, 1923
There will be free movies for Birmingham school children at the high school tonight. There will be three reels of industrial pictures plus some fun comedies.

30 YEARS AGO

April 6, 1923
Frank L. Doty has been named village attorney in the city of Gadsden. The newcomer is well known throughout this area and is a successful attorney in Pontiac.

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ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

With some of the strapless evening dresses being sold today, the manufacturer of designer ought to include a "Daisy" in the line.

Journalism students at South Dakota University recently had some fun inventing punny names for proposed newspapers in certain Dakota cities.

In looking for possibilities in Michigan, how about these: Sandia, Chilly, Adair Devil, Alaska, Bright, Now, Augusta, Wind, Curtis, Sec, Boon Doggie, Danken, Doughnut, Maran, More, Pigeon, Lake and the Ramsus Taz.

You take over from here.

Enterprise of the railroads in finding owners of lost articles (which last year totalled about 250,000) has won favorable comment from many police officials.

The "technique" involves most sleuthing aids, including follow-ups on sales slips, identification marks, clothing tags, pictures, prescription numbers and manufacturing labels.

It was a manufacturing label which set one passenger into trouble.

On a milk can turned into a railroad fat and found department was a tag. "To Lois with love, From George."

The railroad involved learned from the manufacturer the name of the store which had sold the can. The store gave the railroad the name and address of the purchaser of the milk can.

The "technique" went through the roof when the garment was delivered to her.

Her name was Patricia.

If this Florida test in which six-year-old Edna tried out a newspaper proved satisfactory, The Eccentric's Advertising Manager Hal Buerge would like to see if ordinary grass will provide the same results.

"If it does, then I could buy an 18-hole golf course, collect the grass cuttings and kill two birds with one golf ball," he explained. "Only thing to be careful about is to keep any divots from getting on page one."

Michigan's Upper Peninsula Development Bureau officials can hardly wait till the new bridge is completed across the Mackinac Straits.

For 30 years they've been advising such a link between the state's two peninsulas, believe that estimation of average waiting and crossing time of from 1 1/2 to 2 hours will, in effect, result in moving every U. P. commodity at least 100 miles closer to Lansing and the manufacturing center of downstate Michigan.

B'ham Board of Education President Ernest W. Seasholt reports that the \$2,300,000 school expansion bond issue, sold only a few weeks ago, "were sold to investors like hotcakes" and none were left after a couple of days.

Last year a local chap was driving into the country when an owl hit the car windshield and was killed. The fellow stopped, picked up the dead bird and put it in the car.

When he got home, he still was undecided as to what to do with it. So he put it in the family's frozen food chest.

I understand it still is there.

Which leads to this thought: What other extraordinary objects would a survey show are being kept in Birmingham frozen food chests?

As he enters the B'ham board of education meeting room at Hill School, the visitor sees two flags—the American and the United Nations. The American flag is at the right; at the far end of the room, the UN flag at the left.

According to Congressional regulations regarding display of the National Emblem, the flag, if on a platform should be at the speaker's right. If on the floor where the audience is, then its place of honor is at the audience's right.

The American flag in the B of E room is behind the speaker at the left. The audience also sits on the same floor level. The question is: are the two flags in the proper position?

MY BELIEF is that their positions should be reversed. Since they are behind the speaker, they can be considered as being on the platform. Otherwise, the two standards would have to be advanced to a point between the board members and the audience before it is proper to display the flag at the audience's right.

Any experts in the crowd on the display of the American flag?

To buy or sell a used automobile, read and use Eccentric Classified Ads.

State Department Lingo—What Does It Mean?

The State Department's press releases have long been a source of curiosity to us. Perhaps the lingo of the officials and the official documents of state must contain some elements of austerity, though we are not even sure of this.

In trying to be dignified, however, we must be careful not to appear too affected.

For example, when the Soviet Air Force jet fighter attacked a U. S. Strategic Air Command weather observation plane, near the Siberian Peninsula recently, the State Department announced that it had "vigorously" protested to the Foreign Office in Moscow.

WE HAVE LONG WONDERED what a vigorous protest is that a normal one did not have. We have wondered whether it meant that the diplomat, calling at the Moscow Foreign Office, walked upstairs vigorously, or whether it meant that he handed the paper over vigorously.

Or, perhaps, it meant that those who prepared the document, in our State Department in Washington, acted vigorously in its preparation. Just how the United States protests vigorously, in other words, has managed to elude us.

From time to time the State Department's press releases have reflected a current wave of popularity in the use of certain words.

AN OLD STATE Department standby is "periphery." For a time, almost everyone in the State Department was speaking about this country's security and defense periphery. Another State Department standby is the word "categorical."

About one out of every two denials issued by the State Department is termed a categorical denial. To the average newspaper reader, in the United States or anywhere else, the word "categorical" might as well be left off.

In the first place, more than half of those who see it in print probably do not understand it and, in the second place, it adds nothing to the denial anyhow.

BUT IT SEEMS to be a favorite word of the State Department's press section and so, we must learn to live with categorical denials—since we are making a lot of them these days.

All of which talk, on words, adds up to little. We can't help but feel, however, that a little more straight talk and a little less fancy phrasology, would be a good policy for the press relations boys to follow.

All Must Prosper If We Are to Remain Free

President Eisenhower's state of the union message contained two paragraphs on government and labor which should be read and reread. The President said, "The determination of labor policy must be governed not by the vagaries of political expediency, but by the firmest principles and convictions. Slanted partisan appeals to American workers, spoken as if they were a group apart, necessitating a special language and treatment, are an affront to the fullness of their dignity as American citizens."

"The truth in matters of labor policy has become obscured in controversies. The very meaning of economic freedom as it affects labor has become confused. This misunderstanding has provided a climate of opinion favoring the growth of governmental paternalism in labor relations."

"This tendency, if left uncorrected, could end only by producing a bureaucratic despotism. Economic freedom is, in fact,

the requisite of greater prosperity for every American who earns his own living."

HERE IS A RARE combination of statesmanship and plain common sense. It offers a way to break the pattern of strife that has periodically come near to crippling such basic enterprises as the coal industry.

Repeatedly, both in war and in peace, the country has been faced with coal shortages while politicians and autocratic union leadership made a cynical game of labor-government-management relations.

A wicked cycle of strikes, nationalization, and government-forced wage increases has threatened the jobs of thousands of workers and the competitive position of the coal industry. This is one example of how "the vagaries of political expediency" of which the President spoke have worked against the public interest.

Our Curtain of Gloom

What this country needs is a Sec'y of Gaiety. A vast and cheerful Dept. of Cabinet status. Unless Pres. Eisenhower sees his way clear to creating such a Dept., his may be the only grin remaining in this land.

Capitol Hill specializes in dire warnings about pitfalls, treason, dangers. The voices of famous radio commentators pierce our eardrums with approximately the serenity and thoughtfulness of a burp.

Little boys refuse to go to bed if they can't take along their disintegrating-ray pistols, for they would not feel secure without them.

From The Eccentric's Point of View . . .

Develop a situation where neighbors, and friends are afforded a visible opportunity to give aid, and you seldom will be disappointed. So many times this has happened within your own observation. For example, a nearby Farmington family was burned out; both parents and five children became homeless. The father, badly burned, is now hospitalized. But friends and neighbors are pitching in together to build a new home for that family . . . for free, too. Isn't that wonderful?

So the Eisenhowers like kids well enough to revive the Easter Egg rolling program on the White House lawn . . . that's fine, and we fondly hope that the only shell game Ike's administration will ever stage.

The Birmingham Eccentric

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So They Say . . .

Usher L. Burdick, Member of Congress from North Dakota:

"If there ever was a time when the people should have clear minds, it is now."

Abraham Shusterman, rabbi:

"People must arrive at their faiths intellectually, as well as emotionally, so as to understand their own responsibilities to do their part."

Horse Sense and Nonsense

BY ALICE E. MORGAN

Can't help it—this time of year we ewe the winter and are lucky enough to live on a farm.

The winter with its snow and sleet and blizzards and ice storms and automobiles has just passed. The maple syrup and sugar season is still sweet memory and spring is here with all its wonderful new discoveries.

There are lakes through meadow and pasture, the ground wet and springy under foot. There are rushing little rivers where, in a few short weeks, ferns or smartweed crops will be growing. Right now, though, they are ideal for scouting little frog books along the meadow to the creek, where there's usually a fascinating little whirlpool.

Along the swampy edge of the pasture creek the pussy-willows are shedding their brown jackets and coming out in all their silvery softness. The tender shoots of seaweed grass still covered with water, are bristling green heads toward the sun. Here and there a little silver cotton-cowslip has uncurled a leaf or two.

IN THE WOODS the leaf buds are fat and getting ready to burst. It was always fun to break off a twig and bite into the plump buds. Some were bitter, others sweet, some puckered the mouth like alum, but all tasted like goodness.

Along the edges of the wood lot the birds were beginning to poke about. Looking for building material. The long strands of bark clinging to the cedar fence posts were pulled and carried away, along with bits of moss from rocks and tree trunks.

A rainy day doesn't mean staying cooped up in the house for a farm youngster.

Out in the barns there are usually some fairly "new" calves, always ready to snort, stamp their feet and shake their heads. Details when you play with them. Always ready to eat, too, and what a nuisance when they get the happy tongue of a hungry calf!

Usually you can find some kittens, soft balls of fuzz in assorted colors, eager to chase a bit of string or one piece of straw.

THE NEARLY empty hay mow, and the provide of straw, or if you are a truly modern small farm, sugar beet molasses, are well underfoot. It's a maybe even moon crater!

Gentle horses to trot and canter, war-steeds they are, they are spry in their stalls daily cleaning their ends. Perhaps absent or for some reason they are not in the stable.

Under the eaves there's the sound of the spring rain drumming away on the roof while below you hear the soft rustling that is a part of a barn full of peaceful animals.

In the shed are the wagons, cultivators and tractors. Ideal spots for hanging your imagination and taking young minds on far away jaunts.

Yes, this is the time of year we envy youngsters lucky enough to live on a farm. Just thinking about the fun they have, and the joy there are to do, we're getting a little homesick and we never lived on a farm in our lives!

Apititude Tests

IF YOU are having trouble with YOU can be successful in, or the kind of work you should do, (for men and women, boys and girls.) Vocational Counseling Institute, Daniel L. Buege, Director, 958 Woodward Bldg., Temple 1-1851 Woodward near Water.

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Telephone Midwest 4-3810

Do you worry about forgetting to turn off the tank?

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You'll enjoy the best hot water service possible with an automatic electric water heater. An electric water heater is clean . . . dependable . . . thrifty . . . durable . . . as well as worry-free and work-free. Select the right-sized heater for your family needs at your electric appliance dealer's or your neighborhood Edison office.

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