

Another Hitler-Stalin Pact

Would You Trust a Thief?

If you lived in a neighborhood where many robberies had and were occurring, and the thief was known and lived in your town, would you trust him?

If he said: "Now listen, friend, I solemnly promise you that I never will enter and steal anything from your home—so why don't you leave your doors and windows unlocked?" Certainly, you would not believe him, and you'd use your locks and have plenty of insurance on your property.

Well, isn't that exactly the situation

with regard to Communism and the free world? Isn't Communism's record of thievery and enslavement and slaughter of other peoples sufficient reason not to believe anything her rulers promise?

KNOWING THIS, why didn't the Truman-Acheson administration "keep the nation's doors and windows locked"? We believe the new Eisenhower administration will handle Communism just as she is... an international thief of the most despicable character.

of the growing incidence of this disease.

MANY LOCAL UNITS, including the Oakland county chapter, before the end of the year found themselves operating in the red because of the alarming increase in the cases brought to them for treatment.

We hope Birmingham streets tonight will be illuminated by unbroken rows of porchlights, signals of hope for those who have been or will be touched by this dreadful ailment.

Light Up the Streets

In a one-hour period tonight, Jan. 29, residents of Birmingham will clearly indicate just how much interest they have in the treatment of, and preventive research into, polio. For in this 60-minute interval, the "Mothers' March on Polio" will be conducted. Women of this area will stop at homes which have the front porch light burning, an indication that the family within wishes to contribute to the campaign fund.

During the past year, national polio funds have been almost depleted because

Not For Sale!

J. Edgar Hoover, he of the FBI, has turned down a 10-year contract, at \$100,000 per annum, to become chairman of the International Boxing Club. He would rather remain where he is, at about a tenth of the larger salary.

Why? Well, we presume that the FBI chief is, first, too much interested in the

welfare of his country to leave it in this hour of need. Second, he must have some idea of the artificiality of the offered job, and its lack of contribution to national character values.

In brief, J. Edgar Hoover and the splendid reputation he bears are NOT FOR SALE.

Your Biggest Dependent

Ask the average man what his chief family expense is, and he'll probably reply "food."

But he'd be wrong. The Chamber of Commerce of the United States points out that the average family's tax bill is greater than its combined food and clothing budgets.

For fiscal 1952, the total tax bill is around \$86,500,000,000, of which \$62,100,000,000 consists of Federal taxes and the rest state and local levies. That amounts to \$500,000,000 more than the Department of Commerce says we spent for food and clothing in 1951. Prospects paint a darker picture for 1953 when the Federal tax alone may jump \$7,000,000,000.

SO MANY OF OUR TAXES are collected as a hidden part of the cost of all the things we buy that most people don't realize the magnitude of the load. In 1939 all taxes averaged less than \$400 per family—today the figure is close to \$2,000.

The Federal debt now totals \$260,000,000,000, which means that the average Federal mortgage on each family is \$5,860, in addition to state and local debt mortgages.

We will never be able to reduce our debt mortgages and tax liability until government cuts wasteful spending and keeps expenditures within the limits of its income. Amen!

From The Eccentric's Point of View . . .

If a straight line is the shortest distance between two points, then why is it that some folks fail to follow it when they start out for the goal of success?

With more frequency we read, in various newspaper editorials and special articles, that American faith in the value of the United Nations organization to defend world-wide freedom is weakening. This, alas, too bad. To be sure, the idea of international get-togethers is a good one... it's only the human element in the subject that makes it small bad.

It is rumored that many a local dad would like to take junior's little red sled out and enjoy an old-fashioned "belly flop" . . . two little juniors were talking about this, and one said: "I know my dad would . . . but now he's got too much belly."

Retiring Secretary of Defense Lovett spoke volumes about one phase of federal extravagance when he said: "If an official wants prompt action on something he should make 30 copies; if he wants very prompt action he should make 80 copies. If he wants doggone prompt action, he should make one copy and take it to the proper office himself."

Helen Keller, she of great fame, is without hearing or sight . . . yet has proved to be one of the most loving and lovable persons of this century. Do you suppose

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that her inability to see and hear most of this material world helped her to develop the spiritual side of her life? Many do. Which suggests that the whole aim of spiritual teaching is to enable human beings to place less value upon materialism, if one "would be born again".

It is not to be presumed that the majority of a people in a democracy are capable of solving all the problems that arise in that type of society. They must of necessity depend upon a comparative few to lead and make them secure. But this majority can, and should, be able to evaluate those good characteristics that alone can prove leaders to be safe people to sustain and follow. Failure to demand this high type of public service results in a deterioration of the structure of democracy . . . and our freedom always is menaced by the possible dishonesty of those who win the posts of leadership.

The fortunes of American politics are as whimsical as the nature of the vast U.S. electorate. Many a good and able real Democrat now will have to be content with a minor role in the nation's affairs, just as comparable Republicans have been "smothered" for the past 20 years. But this is our type of self-government. We tend to abide by the rule of the majority.

Over in Ottawa, Canada, a woman is mayor of that capital city. Her name is Charlotte Whitton. Recently she made this observation: "I wouldn't be surprised to see a woman in the White House within the next decade. The Americans may have to do it for publicity's sake, in competition with the gracious Queen on Britain's throne."

So They Say . . .

George Meany, president, American Federation of Labor: "To meet the challenge that confronts us in the World today, we must think and act in terms of tomorrow, not of yesterday."

Judy Canova, comedienne: "Opera is where a man is stabbed in the back and instead of bleeding, he sings."



Happenings of Long Ago

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

50 YEARS AGO January 20, 1903 Sliding down hill is not fun all the time. Last week a young visitor of Dean Johnson, one George Gaston, by name, was run into by a fellow-slender and his head cut quite badly. He took three stitches to make the young hero as good as new.

Mrs. John Bodine is home again from Chicago, where she passed the winter—with Mrs. Quivivie Pease who came home with her. Mrs. Bodine will spend a few weeks with her daughter Ida at Ann Arbor and then will return again to Birmingham.

The Real Estate business under A. Whitehead's careful eye is moving very nicely. He is selling several pieces of property and showing a nice profit for the owners as well as a nice commission for his own pocket.

In the absence of Rev. Sutcliffe the services last Sunday at Big Beaver were conducted by members who presented papers on subjects that are of much interest, interspersed with special music.

Anyone wanting a horse will do well to visit the place of F. E. Broock. He has horses of all kinds and sizes and you can't get left if you buy any one of them.

30 YEARS AGO January 26, 1923 A complete and modern building due for Birmingham, believed adequate to care for local needs for many years to come, has been approved by village commissioners. It was prepared by Commissioners Pratt, Olsen, Holm and Manager Starr after many weeks of hard work.

Birmingham residents will get a chance to express their opinions on the water works plan at the annual election, March 12. This will be the fifth time in a little over two years that Birmingham has been asked to vote on water extension. Four have been defeated.

Motorists are warned that if they do not carry their 1923 license tags mixed to cars by Feb. 1,

HORSE SENSE AND NONSENSE

BY ALICE E. MORGAN

It won't be long now. With mid-January past most folks are getting ready for their first attack of spring fever. Ours came last Wednesday. That machine felt so good and the air was so wonderfully fresh and clean that we had a longing to take a nice walk.

Oh, sure! There's going to be plenty of cold weather between now and the real spring, but the blizzard hasn't been blazed yet that can make us stop dreaming about those softer days to come.

In talking with numerous people around town, the question of skating was often come into the conversation.

Mrs. Phyllis Jackson, chairman of the Birmingham recreation board, last week reported on the school board's approval of roller skating at the new high school.

"Well, barring blizzards that won't let the youngsters reach the school, we can do them one kind of skating, anyway. Ice skating has been a miserable headache for the whole board this year."

The weatherman seems not to care whether we skate or whether we don't, and we've certainly had a mighty little cooperation from him.

This is one of those weeks when I wish the weatherman had never been thought of—especially for me.

The week has been very busy, but not a single idea popped through to write about. Funny—the way things work. One week you're too busy to think and the next things are so dull you slide off into a mental slapor.

they will be taken into custody by the Birmingham police should they drive on the streets. Justice P. S. Buck said Wednesday that sales are slow.

George Blackmer, former proprietor of the DUL confectionery, has been issued a permit to open a pool room here. He will use the entire floor of the Parks building on E. Main for a bakery and recreational headquarters.

Office seekers are warned that only a short time remains for them to file petitions if they wish their names to appear on the March 12 ballots. Saturday, February 17, is the last day.

At a joint meeting of the Birmingham Lions, Exchange and Rotary clubs, Capt. D. S. Leonard of the Michigan state police said public cooperation would be a big step toward the lessening of crime.

Ralph A. Wilson has been elected president of the Birmingham golf club for the ensuing year. Clarence Simpson, Arthur Elliston and Edward Roberts were also named to office. New board members are Dr. Wyman Cole and Aubrey Flood.

Dr. Rudolph Lindquist, recently appointed director at Cranbrook school, will be the guest speaker for many years to come at the meeting of teachers of English held Feb. 8. Dr. Lindquist's topic will be "English and the High School Curriculum."

David H. Ladd has been appointed to head the 1938 Community House Roll Call, according to Mrs. Charles Shain, executive committee head. Ladd will have Mrs. R. W. Whissas as associate chairman.

W. E. Hodges took first place in the finals Sunday of the January tournament conducted by the Bloomfield Hills Sket Club. Third place also went to a Birmingham man, Randall E. Clark.

ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

Left to my own devices, I never would look at an advertisement promoting women's fashions. My interests run to new cars, men's clothing, and similar categories. But like most men, from time to time I am subjected to at least glancing at women's fashion ads. This is because the wife trusts one under my nose and in an attempt to get a line on how fat or thin the family purse happens to be, asks a matter-of-factly as possible, "How do you like this dress, dear?"

I KNOW what she is after, and my response is given accordingly. "Don't like it" means "Wait a while." "Not bad" and she knows if she really likes it, why, then get it. "Pretty nice" or "looks good" is the same as telling her, "Sure, buy it—you haven't had a new dress in a while."

However, my glances at these women's ads have not been so casual or fleeting that I have been unaware of this fact: The models in these ads look like nee-poles.

THEY ALSO look like they have water in their veins, and certainly would not cause any of the blooded American male's heart to beat faster.

I know the idea involved is to sell clothes, but one has yet convinced that these rails now being used are the best means to that end.

An Average American Male prefers a Healthy-Looking American Girl. He is not attracted to the roomatics currently employed as models.

It's true that the male is not the purchaser of very much of the ladies' wearing apparel. Maybe twice a year he buys a small item or two—for the wife's birthday and at Christmas.

There are those who try to tell us that women dress only to receive the admiration or envy of other women.

BUT WHO can prove to me that women do not try to include the effect on men as each gal does her costume programming? I can see no objection to the use of normal-looking American girls as models. They would present a truer picture of the way the product will appear on the Average American Girl.

Too, the featuring of normal-

healthy-looking girls as models would not encourage daughter to strive herself each day so she can imitate the bony appearance of current models.

It's about time the women's apparel trade got back to nature. For don't forget that the average American woman is only slightly over five feet tall, and more often plump than skinny.

Thus I feel the tendency to stress thinness is all out of proportion. Convicted of giving 'tonic' secrets to the Russians, 41-year-old British scientist Dr. Allen N. W. recently was released from prison. He had served 6 years 8 months of a 10-year sentence, which was reduced for good behavior.

He still clings to his belief he has done no wrong and has revealed no important attitude. This might indicate Dr. May was not permitted a long enough time in jail to think over his disloyal acts.

The Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D. C., says the giant squid may be nearing extinction. An ominous-looking creature, it sometimes grows to a length of 35 feet. Smithsonian officials recall that sailors, before the turn of the century, infrequently reported sighting the giant squid. Since then, few reports have come in. Also, few of the giant squid have been washed ashore in the past 50 years.

These two facts lead Smithsonian officials to believe the squid is disappearing.

This creature has a 30-foot long, cone-shaped body with seven or eight tentacles extending in front.

two projecting backward from its head. The giant squid is extremely secretive and elusive, seldom comes to the surface.

However, I am convinced as Koko, the Lord High Executioner said in the "Mikado," "they never will be missed." Neither have similar awesome and terrible creatures of the Brontosaurus and Pterodactyl.

At the beginning of 1952, America had 35 million homes equipped with television. At the end of 1952, the figure is 21 million, according to David Sardo, board chairman for the Radio Corporation of America.

This 40 percent gain in a single year still leaves about 35 percent of the nation unable to receive television programs. But this is expected to be reduced to 15 additional TV stations now that 135 additional TV stations have been granted construction permits.

This year, therefore, is expected to see the end of the television drought in all large areas and the country truly and thoroughly "televized" from coast to coast.

It is hoped by today's television viewers, that the TV industry can then forget its current emphasis on quantity and replace it with some productive ideas on program quality.

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