

Federal Power Projects Need Plenty of Tax Support

A short time ago the President directed the Atomic Energy Commission to sign a contract for electric power with a group of business-managed, taxpaying utilities. The power thus obtained will supplement TVA power for AEC's huge Kentucky plant.

It was inevitable that the public power groups would scream to high heaven over this, and they have. They charge that the President's action amounts to blocking the TVA's growth, and that the power will cost the government (the taxpayers) more than if the TVA expanded and supplied it all.

Thurman Sensing of the Southern States Industrial Council has answered these arguments in a forthright fashion. He writes, "The growth of the Tennessee Valley Authority should be stopped, and the power would actually cost the government (the taxpayers) less than if furnished by the TVA."

THIS HIGHLIGHTS THE FACT that

How to Lose Your Liberty

If you think the menace of super-government is new in the world, read this: "The way to have good and safe government is not to trust it all to one, but to divide it among the many. . . . What has destroyed liberty and the rights of man under every government which has ever existed under the sun? The generalizing and concentrating all cares and power into one body, no matter whether of the autocrats of Russia or France or of the aristocrats of a Venetian senate."

TVA's allegedly cheap rates are made possible by virtual freedom from taxation, along with freedom from paying interest on its \$800,000,000 investment in power facilities. In a late year, for instance, TVA paid no federal taxes and but \$3,418,110 in lieu of local taxes.

Had it been operating on the business basis required of investor owned utilities, its tax bill would have been \$76,205,028 greater. On top of that, interest and amortization payments on the investment would have come to \$34,839,185.

Even more important is the question of the philosophy the TVA represents. Mr. Sensing dealt with it vividly when he wrote: "If the TVA is good for the Tennessee Valley area, then similar operations would be good for all the rest of the United States. And if public power is good for the people of the United States, then public railroads and coal mines and steel mills and grocery stores and newspapers and all other forms of business enterprise would also be good for the people of the United States."

That was written in the early days of this Republic, by one of our greatest statesmen, Thomas Jefferson. What Jefferson fought and argued for was true liberalism—as contrasted with the phoney "liberalism" of today which urges all-powerful government—the kind of government that has brutalized and enslaved hundreds of millions of people in the last 30 years.

Here's a Fine Example of Foreign Aid by USA

Greek farmers in the tiny village of Antelless recently unveiled a bust of Walter Eugene Packard, of Berkeley, California, in recognition of his contribution to their local economy. The 70-year-old United States Soil authority turned an alkali soil in the Antelless region into a rich rice-producing farmland.

Packard required six years to do the job he went to Greece to accomplish and is soon leaving Greece to return to his home in California. Until he transformed the Sperkhios River district into a rich rice-producing region, Greece was forced to import about \$5,000,000 worth of rice annually.

PACKARD FOUND THAT he could wash out the alkali acres with fresh water from the Sperkhios River, thus making it

suitable for rice production. After six years, Greece now exports roughly \$5,000,000 worth of rice annually, rather than importing a similar amount.

The difference, after the work of Packard, is a difference of \$10,000,000 in Greek foreign exchange funds a year. Greek farmers look upon Packard's work as a miracle, and the former U. S. land reclamation director rightly deserves their thanks for transforming this community into a fertile farm valley.

These are the things through which genuine international understanding and friendship are developed and if the United States had more ambassadors of the Packard variety, it would have the support of more and more of the world's peoples.

Problems Have a Billion Years for Solution

Evidently not over-impressed by the problems and perplexities which confront the human race, forward-looking astronomers sometimes speculate on what will eventually happen to the globe that we call the earth.

The experts generally agree that the most likely fate is that the sun will explode, shattering the earth in a sudden, hot death.

OTHER LESS LIKELY fates include the cooling of the sun so that the earth

will be frozen waste-land, the destruction of the earth because of a smash-up between our sun and another star, the destruction of the earth through a collision with a comet and the possibility that the moon might come so close to the earth as to create tidal waves and volcanoes to wipe out the habitation of man.

While people seem to be interested in the effort to understand the future, there is no occasion for anyone to become excited. The experts do not think that the sun will explode during the next billion years, or more.

From The Eccentric's Point of View . . .

Long ago recognized as "The Heart of Birmingham", the local Community House regularly receives "thank you" letters from various persons who have benefited by its variety of services. Which is a good reason, annually, to contribute financially to its support.

That Greenville, S. C. woman who, when a neighbor's dog barks during the night, grabs a megaphone and loudly shouts through an open window: "Shaad up!",

presents a quite practical, albeit amusing, rebuttal to the canine's nocturnal disturbances. Certainly, if a dog has a right to keep the neighbors awake, a paid taxpayer ought to have the same right—especially if she directs her own "Shaad up!" to the dog's owner. Anyway, that's our own opinion unless the U.S. Supreme Court comes through with an opposite one.

If you have any doubts about the value of prayer, remember what a famous American, Abraham Lincoln, once said: "Many times I have gotten down on my knees . . . because I had no other place to go."

So They Say . . .

Charles S. Thomas, Secretary of the Navy: "A nation united behind the President and Congress need fear no foreign foe or agnostic creed."

George W. Flood, traveler's aide: "The worst people to handle are the intelligent ones. They don't pay any attention."

Asador Bagdazian, Californian who recently celebrated his 191st birthday: "Don't worry about things. It doesn't do any good."

Can't Push Him Too Far



HORSE SENSE AND NONSENSE

BY ALICE E. MORGAN

Thinking back on two pictures which ran in The Eccentric last week, it comes to mind that only a duck could successfully duck out on his family. And, having ducked out, the duck is no longer a duck but a cad.

Here we've been sitting on the front steps every evening feeling sorry for this poor lonely joker who was flying around all by himself. We listened to that "honk" and thought about the poor bird, lost and confused, flying around in the evening hours trying to locate familiar territory.

SINCE LEARNING of the deserted family, we find the "honk" has all the accents of a Bronx cheer!

How could that unspeakable and walk out so heartlessly on his good wife and their nine children? How could he leave them to the mercy of humans, notorious noted for their fondness of roasting ducklings, whether from Long Island or not?

He's a bouncer to even think of such a thing and to actually do it, words fail us. Just think of those nine infants, facing a forlorn future with no papa to guide them. How about his boys? They will have no daddy to instruct them in the proper manner to pop down into the mud and come up with those little tidbits so delicious to ducks?

WHO WILL teach them the fine art of catching frogs? Who will be around to help them develop the athletic build that little boy ducks must have in order to swim and dive well enough to thrill little girl ducks?

This high-flying individual is probably telling himself that nine children are more than a man can stand. He's probably saying the words "I'm crowded him out of the house."

ONE THING OR ANOTHER

By George Wm. Averill

In this column recently, I stated my conviction that fluorine ought never to be placed in our local water supply.

I suggested that if it were so beneficial to our health to add this substance to the water, then perhaps it also would be advisable to dissolve and add vitamins A to Z, the elements from actinium to zirconium, and have it come in seven delicious flavors.

One reader, with tongue in cheek, agreed with my position that complications and arguments would be certain to arise and that the best procedure seemed to be not to let it get started in the first place.

Among other comments, he said in his letter: "And while we're about this return to old-fashioned goodness, and individualism, let's eliminate the state taking care of the roads. . . . You take care of your road and I'll take care of mine. There's no use in helping the concrete manufacturers to sell their products."

Well, Sir, I think you have a reasonable point there—particularly about "you taking care of the high road, and I'll take care of the low road."

From what I read, the political dopsters in our nearby metropolitan press, say one of the problems about Michigan roads is the distribution of gas and weight monies. The formula now lets our northern Michigan cousins put concrete and asphalt on back country roads while down around our metropolitan centers we drive back and

forth over holes which are lined with old concrete.

Maybe it looks like the theme song here is "We'll pave the high roads, and bounce along the low roads?"

Yes, sir, you will be want fluorine in your water. Well, I'd like chocolate in mine.

"I'll drink your fluorine if you'll take it chocolate-flavored."

And you other folks—what'll you have? Social reformers are concerned, among other things, about the availability of what they term "immoral literature," particularly the 25-cent paper bound novels to be found in almost any drug store, passenger terminal, etc.

These individuals and organizations have an overpowering task ahead of them. And the legalizing of such lotteries as bingo in Michigan will not make their goal any easier.

Three of Birmingham's city-commissioners are non-smokers.

They are Mayor Charles Renfrew, and the two new commissioners elected last April—Bob Navin and Bill Roberts.

Of the other four, Jim Allen smokes a pipe and cigarettes; Dean Beier and Dick Patterson, cigarettes; and Bud Watkins, cigars.

Incidentally, City Manager Don Egbert stopped smoking last Christmas.

Realtors Promise Aid in Policing Sign Ordinance

Full cooperation of the Birmingham real estate board in assisting the city to enforce its ordinance prohibiting unnecessary and illegal signs was promised this week by Board President Ralph Maner. He pointed out to City Manager D. C. Egbert that the past, the board has attempted to do such policing, even to the extent of calling the ordinance provisions to the attention of non-local realtor who accept listings in this area.

Bargains galore in Want Ads.

FURNACE SERVICE

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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

August 2, 1894
 "Visitors at Lone Pine for the past week: Mrs. C. C. Larkie, of Greenville, Miss. and Mrs. Phipps, of Otisville, and Claud Riley, of Greenville, Mich., who is enroute for St. Louis, Mo. for a fair."

"Szeley Peck has a wire case about 20 feet by 12 feet and 6 feet high, in which he intends to raise pigeons for market. He has nearly 150 of the birds now."

"Mrs. Fanny Shain hospitably entertained the croquet club last week. Refreshments were served and everybody was happy indeed."

"Lost—In Birmingham Tuesday morning last, a small heart-shaped gold brooch, with enameled flower design. Finder please leave at this office and receive reward."

"Last June all the shrubs at the cemetery blossomed freely and the most of them are laden with seed pods which must be removed in order to give strength to the shrub and to insure the bloom for the next year. If each lot owner would attend to those on or near his own lot it will be a great help."

"Mrs. J. E. Munro and children are visiting Dr. Raynolds, Emory Lee Mansen and Robert J. McClellan were accepted into the Birmingham Rotary club bringing the total membership to 22. The president of the Detroit Rotary club and two other members discussed Rotary International."

C. W. Mellic was sponsored by the committee on candidates of the Oakland County Law Enforcement League to represent that district as a contestant for the office of state senator.

The school board set the opening of school on Tuesday, September 27. The first vacation comes at Thanksgiving time with two days' vacation, Thursday and Friday, and the next vacation comes at Christmas time. The holiday vacations start on Friday, Dec.

15 AND ENDS ON MONDAY, DEC. 29.

"There can be no use trying to stretch it, the board has decided that nine days is enough for anyone."

The First State Savings bank acquired the \$25,000 bond issue secured by heating plant in the Barium school.

Miss Lucille Avery, whose first term as Register of Deeds for Oakland County expires, will probably be re-elected the Republican nominee at the September primary.

For 37 years a subscriber to The Eccentric in the 62 years it has served this community, and a resident of the Birmingham area for 75 years, is the proud record of James McBride, of 556 West Frank street.

At the annual meeting and election of officers of the Birmingham Student Loan Fund, which was held last Friday night, Mrs. Robert W. Chasius, 1168 Cedar drive, was elected president for the coming year.

Birmingham City Commission Monday night agreed to change the name of Edison avenue, located north of Oak street, adjoining a branch of the River Rouge, to Willow Lane.

Lightning that struck the roof of Bert Morley's home on Lone Pine road, Bloomfield Hills, last Friday afternoon, July 28, at 2:45 p.m. caused fire that resulted in an estimated loss of \$700.

One of the largest affairs of the summer and one which was of particular interest to members of Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills society was the breakfast Sunday morning at which Mr. and Mrs. James Vernon, Jr., entertained at their country estate, Eagle's Nook, near Lapeer.

My recipe for CRANBERRY AND APPLE PIE . . .



always successful in my

ELECTRIC RANGE

With husband Sid, talented Lucy Corbett writes cook books and cookery columns. She's a reporter, too. Lucy's also a popular hostess, famous for yummy pie like this—always baked to perfection in her electric range. Lucy depends on her electric range. It's so fast and accurate she can work, have time to rest and still entertain.

CRANBERRY AND APPLE PIE: The Filling
 3 cups raw cranberries
 3 cups diced cooking apples
 1 cup sugar
 Cook cranberries and apples with water till tender. Remove from heat and add sugar. Let stand until cool.

FRENCH WHIP PASTRY: The Crust
 1 cup shortening
 1/2 cup boiling water
 1/2 cup milk
 1 tbsp. lemon juice
 2 unbleached egg whites
 2 cups sifted all-purpose flour
 1/2 cup sugar
 1 tsp. salt

Foods look so beautiful, taste so good because an electric oven provides controlled heat and controlled moisture. All the guesswork is gone . . . all the watching and waiting, too. Try electric cooking, and discover how wonderfully easy meal-getting can be.

SEE YOUR DEALER or Detroit Edison

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