

Socialism Vs. Free Enterprise

Most Americans believe in the free competitive system in business. They argue that the only enemy of this system's continuance lies in the minds and efforts of those who would use Socialism as an alternative . . . use it by causing the government to acquire more of the tools of industrial and agricultural production.

Socialism may be achieved by two basic methods. One is to have the government actually own and operate factories and farms. The other is to use the device of taxation . . . to take from the profits of business and the farms much of their earnings, and to use this money for subsidies and comparable controls over the economy.

THE CREATION OF SO-CALLED

We See No Reason for This Exception

Although we have tried to figure out why the Birmingham city commission last week deviated from its usual policy of assessing paving costs only against abutting business property, we haven't been able to yet.

It concerned the paving of Chesterfield along the business properties at the northwest corner of Chesterfield and W. Maple. City Assessor Elmer W. Haack said he saw in this instance no reason to use a modification of the residential area paving assessment method, which calls for the corner lot to bear only a proportion of the side street cost while the remaining amount is spread in descending ratio toward the other end of the block.

HE SAID IT WAS his opinion that the

Why Old Dobbin Lost Out

Cornell University economists have come up with the real reason farmers in the United States have turned to mechanization. The economists have been studying the actual cost of keeping a horse, or horses, in operation on the farm.

According to the results of this study, it costs \$141 to maintain a horse in harness on the farm. A team of horses would, therefore, cost \$282 a year. The cost break-down is divided into two parts, about one-half is the cost of feed and bedding. Other costs make up the other fifty per cent of the total.

ONE OF THE COSTS figured by the Cornell economists is the labor cost. The

"As a Man Thinketh"

Martin Black, an eighty-four year old retired Iowa farmer, recently took a bride of seventy-two to the altar. It was no week-end romance for Black. He had known his bride for forty years.

The new Mrs. Black did not appear to be nervous during the ceremony until she was performing the cake-cutting opera-

tion. She then admitted to friends she was a "little nervous."

For all those who consider themselves finished at such immature ages as seventy and eighty, the life-begins-at-eighty for example of Black should be an encouragement. It is good to see there are still some people left who believe they are only as old as they feel.

Human reactions often are unpredictable. A 15-year-old New York lad, spurned by a girl, climbed out on a five-story roof and threatened to jump. Scores of people tried to persuade him otherwise. A happily married policeman then argued: "Don't jump, son . . . women aren't worth a dime." The lad then walked toward the officer, who grabbed the youngster.

At last mankind has developed a physical world in which he has fashioned weapons so powerful that within a few hours of the start of international combat many scores of millions of people can be slaughtered. Such an achievement is, of course, world-shattering . . . and soul-shattering, too.

Police in Toronto, Canada, have been instructed to keep their hands off women when they have to arrest them for something. It seems that some of the feminine sex who get into the toils of the law try to resist arrest by biting the hand that wants to take them into custody.

So They Say . . . Anthony Eden, British Foreign Secretary: "The hydrogen bomb, terrifying as it is, may prevent a third world war."

Robert B. Anderson, Deputy Defense Secretary, speaking of "new look" in armed forces: "The new look is a gradual and orderly shift in emphasis in certain planning objectives and in the procurement programs which support these plans."

usual business area formula should be followed: assess the cost only against the corner business on the basis that the pavement would improve parking conditions, access, and potentially increase customers.

However, commissioners evidently felt there was some benefit to adjoining businesses, therefore spread the assessment further than has been done in the past.

If this is a new policy for future paving in business areas, we can understand why it was done in this instance. But if it were a special instance, we can see no special conditions which apply only to the Chesterfield-Maple situation. If there are, the commission has not clearly defined them.

We admit policies should be improved when necessary. But in view of Haack's experienced testimony, we feel this policy has been violated, not improved.

economists arrived at a figure of sixty-two hours, which they say represents the labor required in a year to keep up a horse. This labor is figured at \$50.

In brief, this labor item means that a farm team costs approximately 98 cents an hour for every hour of work on the farm. When one considers the low cost of tractors and figures out the hourly cost of using a tractor, he can see that it compares favorably with the cost of using a team of horses, or even mules.

That, in short, is the answer to the question of why farmers have been turning from horses and mules to tractors and mechanized equipment.

There are "mothers of rice," "mothers of grain," "mothers of maize" and so on down the line. Each is regarded with a special reverence and everything possible is done to incur the blessings of these mythical folk.

Which ever belief we follow, a real mother, or one who dwells in some far-off spot, the fact remains that we are still secure in our belief as we do in ours. Mother comes security, comfort, love and a steadfast answer to our every need.

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HORSE SENSE AND NONSENSE

BY ALICE E. MORGAN

Mother's Day will be celebrated on May 9 this year. This particular type of observance, honoring the human mother, is, at first glance, a fairly new celebration. Have you, however, given thought to the various forms of "mother worship" that have been in existence through many centuries?

Some, like our own, honor the human mother, others pay tribute to mythical mothers, mothers of things rather than persons.

A familiar Bible phrase is "honor thy mother," giving our observance and the selection of Sunday as the "special" day, a religious basis.

All of us are familiar with the love and understanding, the sacrifice and encouragement which is a part of every mother. We all know that from her we learned the first steps toward being decent, honest, thoughtful, energetic citizens. It was mother who taught us all the characteristics needed to send us into an adult world, ready to face life and its problems.

IT IS THE OTHER "mothers" which are strange to many of us. A study of the mythology surrounding them is fascinating and leads one into many a strange path.

Some are old, and no longer in practice. Others, equally as old, are still the customs of those people who have not yet been touched by our form of civilization.

These, the need for food is paramount and the getting of food a serious problem. They have their appeals to the harvest gods, but they also call upon the "mothers" of the essential items, asking their blessings and support.

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ONE THING OR ANOTHER

By George Wm. Averill

Apparently, Michigan people are not as interested in legalizing bingo as first was believed. Circulating petitions have been out for a long time, yet comparatively few of the necessary signatures have been obtained calling for a constitutional amendment. So maybe we can write off bingo as being sunk-o.

Along about now is the time when some local organization should be starting plans to conduct a community-wide home decoration campaign so the area will be well lit up during the next Christmas season.

NTOLSLFMTS.

Most newspapers refuse to publish letters which come in unsigned for the same reasons rumors and suspicions do not see print. If the writer doesn't think enough of his opinions to sign for them, the paper feels they are not worth bringing to the public's attention.

The moment somebody only needs to assume you are going to do or say something he does not like, and can apply legal force to punish you for what he thinks you will do or say—then this American republic as a great nation is losing its most basic freedom.

To be suspicious, or to assume, is to

pre-judge an action. To know, to reason, to understand, one must have facts. That is the prime reason why I believe the New York state legislature should not pass a law recommended by the New York State Bar Assn. which, before a trial, would prevent publication of anything but the barest essentials.

That law would assume that all court cases are tried first by newspaper publicity, and thus prejudice a jury. That is true only in rare instances, hardly justifying shutting off reporting of the hundreds of thousands of cases each year which results in informing the public what its courts are being asked to deal with.

Most certainly if such opinions violate immorality, or are fraudulent or treasonous, the person who voices such opinions should be held accountable before the law.

From a civics standpoint, this nation each week seems to be seeing the development of more people with flat feet than those who are getting grey-headed. It should be just the other way around.

The flat feet are resulting from our constant running to government for solutions to our problems. The grey hair would come from applying our own intelligence to our local problems.

Oh yes—NTOLSLFMTS decoded is: No ties or long sleeve lengths for me this summer.

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From The Eccentric's Point of View . . .

Governor Williams has announced his intention to run for a fourth term and former U.S. Senator Blair Moody is out to regain his seat in Washington, D.C. Both these gentlemen, Democrats, no doubt will stage a vigorous campaign to beat their Republican opponents—for we think Moody will be the fall candidate on his ticket and Williams is unopposed in his party. The Republicans will have to sharpen up their ideas and their efforts to win by any decisive margin, we think.

U. S. Army Private G. David Schine will go down in American history as a more advertised figure than many a general. Although himself a minor character in the McCarthy-Army controversy, perhaps Fate used him as the device to bring out, for the benefit of the American people, whatever may be proved wrong about either McCarthy and/or the Army.

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