

'Real Cost' Is The Big Thing

The number of dollars or pounds or rubles, or any other currency a worker earns is not in itself important. What is important is what they will buy. Thus, the price charged for any commodity should be measured by what is known as "real cost"—that is, the amount of time that must be worked to earn enough to buy it.

there is intense competition all along the line, and the consumer has complete freedom of choice.

HOW DO THE TWO diverse systems compare, in actual physical results? In Moscow, the average worker must work 117 minutes to earn the money to buy a pound of choice beef and 168 minutes in the case of a dozen eggs—in New York the figures are 22 minutes and 21 minutes.

You might keep this in mind next time you go shopping—and mentally give free enterprise a little of the credit it deserves.

There Aren't Enough to Meet the Costs

Does anybody still believe that we can maintain the government by soaking the rich, as the old-time agitators used to claim? Well, here is what the Tax Foundation has to say about that. If the federal government took 100 per cent of everybody's taxable income above \$10,000, the gain in revenue would be less than \$5,000,000,000 which wouldn't pay government's costs for a single month.

If it took all taxable income above \$4,000—a figure which is certainly a far cry from riches these days—the Treasury would benefit to the tune of \$13,000,000,000. But that's only one-fifth of our current annual federal spending.

'Accident' Is The Wrong Term

Omaha does not believe in "prettifying." Police Chief Henry Boesen says his city will have no more traffic accidents. Instead they are to be reported as "collisions."

lack of caution, courtesy or disregard for the law. "Collision" is a much more accurate description of what happens when two cars come together.

Waste Is Criminal

An official of a farm equipment company warns that "Waste in whatever amounts is criminal in free enterprise..." It would be a great blessing to humanity and to civilization if governments were under the same compulsion to cut costs as is private enterprise.

There is no legislative body to cover losses at the expense of helpless taxpayers. The result is that inefficient management is speedily replaced.

Practicing Pioneering

When children at play imitate the activities of their grownups, they have fun and they also learn a good deal. This sound psychology underlies the program of the State Teachers College at Oneonta, N. Y., where a course is given on the life of the pioneers.

of pioneer life. The students will recite folk songs and folk tales of early days. They will learn how the people of the time worked and played. They will spin baskets, weave cloth and cut shingles.

From The Eccentric's Point of View...

British engineers have perfected a new turbo jet airplane engine that develops 11,000 pounds of thrust, equal to the pulling power of seven locomotives. Or, to put it another way, equal to the vacuum created by the utterances of 11,000 politicians' pre-election promises.

labor unions should be required to make public statements relating to their income and expenditures. It is one sure way of letting the rank and file membership learn details of a subject that, alas! some union leaders are very lax about. Union members who favor the idea ought to tell their lawmakers so.

The Birmingham Eccentric

Published every Thursday, at Birmingham, Mich., in the Eccentric Building, 220-222 North Woodward Avenue Telephone Midwest 4-1100

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Spring-Time?



HORSE SENSE AND NONSENSE

By ALICE E. MORGAN

A white-faced, shaken Uncle Abern walked in the house the other evening and without a word hung up his hat and coat, put his rubbers away, and went to sit in his chair by the window. Not even the thrusting nose of the old dog got any response.

The family stood around wondering what had happened. Was the old gentleman ill? Had something gone wrong on his beloved farm he had just visited? Had he seen a bad accident on the way home—one that possibly involved someone he knew?

UNCLE ABERN... "ONLY WHEN I call came to dinner did he move, then to get up slowly, absently pat the dog's head, and take his place at the table. The meal proceeded in utter silence until the coffee was poured.

"I thought I had a little boy with a member of the family." "It was coming in over Adams road," the old gentleman continued. "I saw some boys playing by the side of the road and I slowed down to hit 'em, but I drove far enough that I couldn't see 'em, when I felt a pretty bad bump by the rear right fender.

UNCLE ABERN paused and... "I TELL you little 'unsnowballs was bad enough when horses were used, but with cars it's a whole lot worse."

Happenings of Long Ago

Bits of News Gleaned From Old Files Of The Eccentric—The Items That Merit Attention In The Historical Background Of The Birmingham Of Today.

50 YEARS AGO... Mrs. John Tombs and daughter, Mrs. Abbie Jenks, are off to Washington, going on Governor Warner's special train which left Detroit in honor of the inauguration ceremonies. They will be away visiting Mrs. Tombs' sister for a month or so.

The B.P. boys tendered Seymour Adams a reception Monday evening in honor of his marriage, which took place Wednesday evening. He was entertained in the manner usually adopted by the B.P.s on such occasions, and he was presented with a beautiful double carving set by the lodge and various other presents by individual members of the order.

The Ladies' Library Society offers to give to the village their 2,300 books, and a site for a free public library, provided the voters will vote a one mill tax for its support.

The graphophone has scored a new success. Mitchell sent a young girl graphophone out to a farm on the hillside and a few days later the lady of the house called Mitchell up by phone and said: "Not an egg have we had all winter from a large flock of hens, but yesterday we got six nice, fresh eggs. The hens heard the music and thought it was spring, so they got busy right away."

30 YEARS AGO... It was a cold day and a blizzard was at its worst, with a snow so deep it covered the fences and the buggies kept slipping over and throwing us out in the snow. Finally one old farmer along the road came out and notified us that instead of being in the road we

The Old Times... "When all is said and done, too many people keep on saying and not doing!"

ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

On February 17, just about five miles from here, another name was written on the long and growing list of victims because of this nation's emotional instability. That name belonged to nine-year-old Kathy McLaughlin of Franklin Knolls, a smiling, friendly girl who was brutally beaten and stabbed to death by 16-year-old neighbor boy Floyd Diamond.

This crime substantiates my growing conviction that this nation, while physically obese, is suffering from emotional malnutrition. Such malnutrition, I claim, would disappear if love and affection were made the most important part of a family circle.

Girls and women who haven't shapely legs are expected to stay away in droves from the newest gimmick in ladies' legware. These are new shades in colors that will stick out like a knobby knee—poppy red, rose, primrose, pink, turquoise, moonstone blue, pale leaf-green, and clear sun-yellow.

If the United Nations should succeed in effecting a cease-fire in the battle between the Chinese Communists and the Nationalists it will rank among the most significant accomplishments of any body ever organized to prevent war.

The Chinese Reds have said time and again that Formosa is rightfully theirs, that they intend to take it away from the Nationalists. Further it is their position

that Chiang is a traitor and must be eliminated as a symbol of resistance to their authority.

It will be difficult for the Reds to back down if they want to and they have in no way demonstrated any such desire.

CHIANG KAI-SHEK MAY BE equally difficult to persuade of the desirability of a cease fire. Ever since he came to Formosa he has worked with one purpose in mind—a return to the mainland.

He is convinced that if he ever should stage an invasion many Chinese who are in disagreement with the Communists would rise in revolt and join his forces. As matters stand now a cease fire would mean that the Reds would have to abandon any idea of taking over Formosa while the Nationalists would forfeit any chance of returning to power in China.

Neither side appears to be willing to accept a cease-fire on those terms and any other terms would be merely postponing conflict until a future date.

DESPITE THE DIFFICULTIES involved it is the job of the United Nations to try to find a formula for peace that will end the threat of a possible major war in that area.

If the negotiations should fail we must not be too critical of the U.N. for it is tackling an enormous undertaking. It is better to fail in attempting a great task than to turn from such an attempt because it looks impossible.

LEGAL NOTICES... NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS OF CENTRAL BUILDING SPECIALTIES, INC. To THE SHAREHOLDERS OF CENTRAL BUILDING SPECIALTIES, INC. You are hereby notified that a special meeting of the shareholders of Central Building Specialties, Inc. will be held on the 15th day of March, 1935, at 11:00 o'clock A. M. in the City of Detroit, Michigan.

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