

### Is Future To Give Us Boredom of Leisure

A Philadelphia engineer named Robert T. Sheen has built a remarkable house in St. Petersburg, Fla. It comes about as close as anything yet built to being the automatic house of the future.

in almost every room. There is even an automatic waterer for the house plants, not to mention an outside sprinkler that tends to the lawn.

MANY A HOUSEWIFE would doubtless consider the Sheen home an answer to a dream. And so it is. It provides a foretaste of the luxury and ease that may become fairly common in the future.

But before we become too immersed in such automatic living, it might be a good idea to ask a couple of questions. What shall we do with the leisure time when it comes? Will it breed indolence or a richer, fuller life? Now is the time to search for answers.

### U. S. Citizens Are Modern "Economic Atlas"

You've heard of Atlas, of course. He lived 2000 years ago and held up the heavens and all the stars. Never got tired. Never had a day off, or a night out—not even a coffee break. He just held and held.

We invited ourselves into it. Any time any one of 63 nations is "aggressed," we've got to shoulder arms.

These figures come from Admiral Combs, U.S. deputy chief of naval operations for air.

And Secretary Dulles tells us that the President—any President, just one man—can put us into war without even Congress declaring war. It happened in Korea, you know, where 35,000 of us were killed. This is called government of, by, and for the people.

Looks like it is more important than ever what sort of man we have for President, today, tomorrow and the day after.

HOW DID WE GET THIS JOB to defend more than half the world's people?

### U. S. Is Babe In Woods To Soviet Diplomacy

A former member of the British Secret Service, E. H. Coadridge, has written a book about Soviet espionage. It is called "The Net That Covers the World." The author warns us against being too palsy-wally about Russian visitors.

ably accompanied by an agent of the Cheka (Soviet Secret Police), or some resident secret agent is detailed to look after them" in the country they visit.

THIS MAY BE OVERDRAWN. But maybe it is not. It may seem hard to believe that a Russian collective farm superintendent, who leans on the fence of an Iowa hog lot and chews the fat about feed and breed, is a spy.

But when he is in Moscow who selected him to come here? And to whom must he report when he gets back?

### From The Eccentric's Point of View...

More than a thousand male students of the University of Maryland last week raided several sorority houses, seeking "panties" and similar feminine lingerie. Why not inaugurate a practical method of allowing the young males to acquire custody of such wearing apparel—like having the girls, annually, bundle up some of their cast-off stuff and place it in some central area where the boys can take their pick—sort of like a rummage sale. (Of course, we do not expect this suggestion to get anywhere... it does not contain within itself the ancient notion that in the getting of such "souvenirs" there must always be the element of adventure.)

Cohn has a tremendous record of public service for Detroit. Leonard is an honest and able man. But from where we sit, it doesn't look as though Don will be able to beat Al. However, the contest between the two men should be good for better government.

"Rain, rain, go away..." why not defer your next visit to some weeks later, may well be the question asked of this agency of Nature—for certainly Michigan has had its plentiful portion of this otherwise precious liquid!

On the national level, Presidential candidates appear in the persons of Stevenson, Kefauver and Harriman. The first is the intellectual type. Kefauver personifies the opportunist who, we believe, would be all things to all people in order to get votes. Harriman (whose name originally was spelled Averill—not "... ell") appears to us to be a rich man's son who is espousing the Give-Away-State as a psychological criticism of the manner in which his railroad-tycoon dad made his dough. If we had to vote for any one of the trio, we'd either accept Stevenson or cast a sentimental vote for Al Smith.

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**Ticklers** By George

"This here paper calls us Americans a bunch of dollar chasers."

### Diet or Camouflage?

*I'm Reducing!*

SOVIETS' ARMED FORCES REDUCTION

### NATURE NOW Writer Describes Point Pelee Visit

By LYDIA KING FREHSE  
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

To crowd the wonder and rapture of life newly born into one short month, this is the business of nature in May-time. The catkin-bearing trees sit their weight of pollen on the careless wind, the first bees and butterflies search for a flower not yet opened, new lambs tatter on the hillside and every member of the bird chorus calls, demands and makes the very life is seeking.

And yet the business of the naturalist to look out areas where he can observe a bunch of the same as they are crowded into four short weeks. One of the closest of these is Point Pelee, a finger of the Canadian shore line, six miles wide reaching nine miles southward into Lake Erie. As yet it represents one of our very virgin. Temporarily by the surrounding waters, it is a harbor, many species commonly found far inland.

POINT PELEE is in the direct line of the north and south migratory flyways. A small strip of scattered island affords a connecting link with the Ohio shore and serves as a stop-over. This the Point becomes a focal area where birds can feed and rest on their migration flights.



Mrs. Frehse

Generally speaking the terrain is marshy, the northern section dotted with small lakes and ponds. Along the eastern shore many marshes and cut swamps support water plants, rushes and grasses. The latter in cludes will rice, one of the largest and most striking of its kind. The area makes an ideal home for many species of water birds. Here ducks and geese mingle with such rare birds as the double-crested cormorant.

The western sand beach is generally higher and supports such restraining shrubs as fragrant sumac, low growing juniper and bearberry.

AMONG THE TREES of the timbered area, the red cedar (Juniperus virginiana) is dominant.

### ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

Got a hankerin' for a top level job somewhere in our industrial or commercial stream?  
Nothin' to it today. The management openings are running ahead of last year by 60 per cent, so there's plenty of opportunity.

Of course, just three or four qualifications are valuable possessions:

- 1) A strong, continuing ambition (which studies shown only one in every ten people have enough of; that after five years with their company, they study and work harder and accept heavier responsibilities in order to advance).
- 2) Plenty of physical and emotional stamina (that permits taking of crises in stride, wards off despondency and fear of failure, and unflinchingly receives criticism).
- 3) Readiness to make personal sacrifices (such as giving up much of your social life, time with your family and hobbies), and
- 4) Willingness to take risks, on your own decisions.

But my emotions are not under such control but what I have been known to be upset by a crisis or two, more often become disappointed even to an occasional despondence, and my skin is not thick enough to halt all critical bars.

I'M NOT A NATURAL gambler, either. I've got to work at it.

But the most effective deterrent to my becoming a business tycoon—if perchance I met the other three qualifications—is my strong attachment to my family. I like 'em. I love 'em. I don't think they will be a balanced family unless I am an active member of it.

Wall Street and the World never will hear about me, because my goal is Main Street and My Neighbors.

A woman who finds the way to a man's heart by way of his stomach probably shouldn't take issue with the course of his waistline.

ALL THESE ARE MIGHTY important aspects of this economy of ours. If we didn't have risk-takers, with physical and emotional strengths, who thought more of business than their personal interests, we'd be troubled with traffic problems, water shortages, inadequate airports or uranium huns.

If I may be permitted to evaluate myself against these "standards of success," I'll not be much more than "moderately" successful.

I still figure I've got plenty of studying to do yet, and am in much-better-than average health.

The state highway department, with the aid of our local police department, might better direct northbound Hunter traffic onto Lincoln avenue by posting one of those expressway-type guides, "Lincoln Traffic Keep Right". (Lincoln traffic must angle off to the right onto Adams, then turn either right or left on Lincoln.)

A recitation of a tullyho fox hunt probably would turn out to be a leaps and bounds description.

In one-bathroom families, it's not so much a problem of "his" and "hers" as it is "his" and "them".

And over all through the misty morning scented the poignant note of the white-throat, blending notes to match the mood of any listener. Its delicate chromatic, its purity of tone, the pause and swell of a single note; in these were both heartbreak and delight.

Several streets in southeast Birmingham are soon to be "off limits" for commercial trucks. City commissioners have approved for posting against truck traffic these points: Croft and Peniston, 14-Mile to

### Catalogs

THEM

Three Detroit Salesmen . . . TR 5-2629 . . . Plant MI 6-2000

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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  
May 25, 1906

In the meeting of the common council held Tuesday evening it was moved and carried that a survey be made by Ritz & Sherman of the village, to find the expense of a system of sewers. This will give an idea of the cost and then the subject will be decided by a vote, sewers or no sewers. We want sewers. Nothing will improve us better for longer than sewers.

In our village, the Detroit suburban telephone company has just leased a fine large room from Whitehead & Mitchell now used by them as a crockery department. This stock will be closed out by them at once and in its place will be established two new up-to-date 100 drop switchboards starting out with at least 120 subscribers. Farm lines are a specialty. When the new names are all cast in then Birmingham will have all night service as well as all day Sunday service, making 24 hour service a day every day, 1 week.

30 YEARS AGO  
May 20, 1926

Desiring to retain the present character of Bloomfield Hills, a group of residents, late last week began circulation of a petition for the incorporation of a village municipality to be called Bloomfield Hills Village.

To the tune of "Maryland, My Maryland," a Rotarian introduced to the local club a song which he wrote:

The southern store we would tell, Birmingham, My Birmingham, And let it ring over hill and dale, Birmingham, My Birmingham. May all the sons be well told, And let the girls be well beheld, Birmingham, My Birmingham.

Now call the sons for thee to repeat, Birmingham, My Birmingham. And may their tongues oft speak Birmingham, And may their hearts be true to thee, Birmingham, My Birmingham.

15 YEARS AGO  
May 2, 1921

A drive in Birmingham to sell the new U. S. defense bonds and savings stamps was OK'd by the City Commission.

Acquisition of a new rectory and general improvement of the church property is planned by the Holy Name Catholic parish. The new rectory is on Woodland avenue, just around the corner from the present structure.

You can have your cake and eat it, too, with a home food freezer. Bake three, freeze two. They'll stay oven-fresh for months in a home freezer, or a two-in-one refrigerator freezer. No wonder smart homemakers say:

"You can Live Better . . . Electrically"

SEE YOUR ELECTRIC APPLIANCE DEALER

**THE OLD TIMER**

"Sometimes a clear conscience can be nothing more than a short memory."