

## U.S. Impotent to Contest UAW

Several weeks ago, in a Detroit federal court, the UAW was tried by a U.S. government attorney on the charge of violation of the law that prevents corporations and unions from contributing money toward the election of any federal candidate for public office. For many years corporations have been prevented (rightly, we believe) from financing any part of such election campaigns. Unions, too, were presumed to be under this law.

But the 10-woman and 2-man Detroit jury found the union "not guilty". The government's attorney did not ask Walter P. Reuther, UAW president, a single question when he was on the stand.

WHEN ASKED BY A REPORTER, we are informed, why he failed to cross-examine Reuther, the government attorney is said to have stated that Reuther was so completely armed with maps, charts, graphs, pictures, etc., etc., that his testimony would only have made an even more favorable UAW impression on the jury.

No doubt this problem will continue to be placed in the hands of the courts. Perhaps some Detroit corporation, in an effort to determine the equities of this law, may help to finance some candidate in a federal election. If so, then it should be tried in a Detroit federal court, to see if it is found "not guilty", like the union.

## Soviet Slavery Vs. U.S. Freedom

Every worker and peasant in Russia is, in practical effect, a soldier without uniform. Russia is a police-state and whatever the Kremlin commands to be done must be undertaken. All resources of men, women and materials can be mobilized to a single task.

Hence, with a crash program, the Kremlin can sometimes obtain spectacular results. But Russia's masses of people pay for her industrial and military show pieces with poor food, housing and clothing—and loss of personal freedom.

It is worth while to look at Russia on a map of the world. As a country, Russia is cold and dry. The frozen Arctic Ocean, the Scandinavian highlands and the Carpathian, Caucasus and Himalaya mountain ranges screen off most of the moisture-laden winds from the ocean.

Odessa, on the Black Sea, is as far north as Ottawa, Canada.

Little of her vast area is favorable to crops and cattle ranges. Russia has fewer cows, hogs and sheep than under the czar—and 50,000,000 more people to feed. The real income of her people is no better than 40 years ago.

The Communist worker's paradise-long promised—is in default. Russian people can't eat Spartniks!

Indeed, to preserve and extend the slave-status of the masses of Russian people, the Kremlin has made them work hard, without getting much in return. They have paid a terrific price for the existence of tyranny.

Is not FREEDOM worth a nation's sacrifice of voluntary personal effort and money?

THEN NOTE HOW FAR north Russia and Siberia are. The latitude of Moscow is that of Hudson Bay, and Leningrad (formerly St. Petersburg) is as far north as Juneau, Alaska. Russia has only one seaport that is ice-free all the year. Even

HIGH, AND AS UNLOVED, as U.S. taxes are, the menace of Communistic expansion demands that we agree to our country's leaders' program for meeting the Soviet challenge.

How can we do otherwise . . . and remain free . . . or even alive!

## Treating Citizens Like Old Rover

Ever hear of the old farmer and his hound dog? The dog was mighty clever looking after himself by catching jack-rabbits. He loved red meat.

But the farmer wanted to do more for his dog than the hound did for himself. So one day the farmer cut off a piece of the dog's tail and said: "See, Rover, old fellow, what I've done for you. Here's a nice piece of red meat!"

Rover needed a stimulant just then, so he chewed up the meat. "What a kind master I have!" he thought.

Next day, the same thing happened, and so on. Before long, Rover's tail was gone. With no tail, he couldn't keep his balance going around curves after rabbits, and they got away from him.

AND BECAUSE THE FARMER couldn't catch rabbits himself, Rover slowly weakened away . . .

Well, sir, it sorta makes us think of Uncle Sam. He cuts off a piece of our income and hands some of it back to us and says: "See, nephew, what I've done for you!"

"Course, we don't get it all back 'cause Uncle likes meat, too, and can't catch rabbits without our help.

But we go along because it sure reishes good to get back part of our income.

Next year, Uncle Sam plans to cut off 72 billions of our meat; and after taking his cut, he'll give us a piece. Are we citizens as helpless as a hound dog?

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

Every once in a while Michigan's Secretary of State, James M. Hare, comes forth with a splendid public service idea. He is fighting for better and more practical methods of cutting down traffic accidents and fatalities, among other of his ideas. Just recently he publicly praised like's plan for the creation of more U.S. students dedicated to the study and application of science—in order to meet Russia's challenge. In this praise, Hare was strictly non-partisan, unlike Gov. Williams and Lieut.-Gov. Hart. Maybe Jim Hare has

potentialities for higher public service than his present status.

We hold no brief for the presumed fact that the Eisenhower administration appears to have failed to keep abreast of Russia in the race for the best guided missiles. Yet we look with disgust upon those Democrats who now criticize like—but who conveniently forget that during Harry Truman's years from 1945 to 1951 little or no attention was paid to this problem. Here's an eloquent case of "the pot calling the kettle black."

## The Birmingham Eccentric

Published every Thursday, at Birmingham, Mich., in the Eccentric Building, 230-222 North Woodward Avenue Telephone Midwest 4-1100

GEORGE R. AVERILL  
Editor and Publisher

PAUL NEAL AVERILL  
Business Manager

GEORGE WM. AVERILL  
Managing Editor

GERALD E. JEHLE  
Advertising Manager

## Meet Your MICHIGAN

**MICHIGAN LOGGERS AT WORK**  
MAKING MORE THAN 1,000,000 PLASTIC SOUVENIRS FOR SALE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. KEEPS MANY A MICHIGAN LOGGER BUSY AT THE JULES SAUBER WORKS IN JULES, MICHIGAN. THE FIRM IS THE LARGEST MANUFACTURER OF PLASTIC WALL PLUGS IN THE WORLD, PRODUCING MORE THAN 10,000,000 EACH YEAR.

**CHIPPERS BURNING GROUND**  
LAST WEDNESDAY PLACE MANY CHIPWAGON INDIANS THE TREE THAT ONE REED MICHIGAN UPPER PENINSULA IS LOCATED ON THE SHORES OF THE LAKE MICHIGAN. THE INDIAN WISCONSIN BORDER. THE CROWNS ARE MARKED BY LOW WOODEN SHEDS ERECTED OVER THEM.

**HOW BIG BANDS GOT ITS NAME**  
IN 1899 AUTHORITY FINALLY BOWED TO PUBLIC OPINION AND MADE "BIG BANDS" THE OFFICIAL NAME OF THIS PLEASANT MICHIGAN CITY. BECAUSE FOR THE CHANGE PEOPLE HAD INSISTED ON SENDING MAIL TO RESIDENTS "AT THE BIG BANDS" INSTEAD OF TO LEONARD, THE CITY'S ORIGINAL NAME.

**MICHIGAN SANTA CLAUS**  
PLAYING SANTA FOR NEEDY CHILDREN HELPS ALBERT WORTHINGTON RETIRED ANN ARBOR CAPTAIN. BUSY AND HAPPY HE HAS BEEN HELPING AND DESIGNING TONS FOR FIFTY-THREE YEARS AND NOW SPENDS ALL HIS TIME MAKING THESE ORIGINAL TONS TO GO AWAY AT CHRISTMAS.

**LET YOURSELF GO... SEE MICHIGAN FIRST!**  
MICHIGAN FEATURE SOUVENIRS prepared by MICHIGAN TOURIST COUNCIL, No. 101



NATURE NOW by Lydia King Frehe  
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

## Figs An Important Holiday Treat . . .

Figs are an important holiday treat. We eat them as canned fruit but most frequently they are used dried in candies, cakes, puddings or just for a between meal "nibble".

Figs (Ficus) constitute a large genus with at least 600 species scattered throughout the warmer parts of the earth. We saw many acres growing in the Mediterranean area this summer.

TWO RELATED species native to the United States are the strangler fig and the banyan tree, both common in the sub-tropical tip of Florida. Neither of these bear the fruit we eat. The former often begins its life as an epiphyte growing around the trunk of a coconut palm.

The latter sends large numbers of aerial roots downward toward the earth, forming a tangle of stems and trunks, covering large areas. Alexander the Great is supposed to have camped under a banyan tree so large that it sheltered his entire army.

However, when used as ornamentals these roots are kept trimmed. The banyan is commonly used as a shade tree along the streets of Cairo.

A THIRD interesting member of this family is the India rubber plant, a favorite with many homemakers because of its adaptability and its decorative leaves.

Figs have been cultivated as a staple food in the East since 3,000 B.C. In the United States in the wide gardens of Santa Clara there were figs growing as long ago as 1792.

When the edible Smyrna variety was first introduced in California they bore no fruit until it was learned that a small wasp was needed to pollinate the flowers.

This wasp lives on a species of

which the tiny female wasp enters, her body laden with pollen from the wild Capri fig, and fertilizes each separate flower.

THIS GAVE the industry its necessary impetus and now the little fig wasp is tenderly nurtured by the California growers. The tiny female depends the pollination of the edible Smyrna fig.

This is one of the most interesting illustrations of the interdependence of plants and insects. The fig is a hollow pear shaped fruit that bears a large number of minute flowers lining its inner surface.

The only entrance is a small opening at the front end of the fig. Here the tiny female wasp enters, her body laden with pollen from the wild Capri fig, and fertilizes each separate flower.

FIG TREES are small with interesting lobed leaves which remind us somewhat of our mulberry. However, they are larger and are deeply lobed. The fruit is cooked than it is when eaten raw.

Figs can be grown here according to a recent account published in the Detroit News. However, the Mr. Ringo who accomplished this feat does so by burying the tree in winter to protect it from the cold.

TO DO THIS he digs a trench from two to four feet deep and wide enough to hold the trunk with its closely bound branches. After cutting the roots on one side he covers the tree with earth for the winter months.

Sometimes the buried trees do not survive but their place is taken by new seedlings which grow from the severed roots.

## 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  
December 6, 1907  
"Time to get that hole in your sock mended—less than a three weeks to Christmas."

"The D.U.R. will become a taxpayer in Rochester, having purchased a \$250 lot in that village."

"Ann Arbor 'dry' are circulating a petition asking the con-con to pass the proposal making Ann Arbor 'dry'."

"It was neither a bicycle nor an express wagon, but just a bang-tail 'orse, with a leg on each corner and a rider on 'is back, that made use of a Woodward avenue sidewalk."

30 YEARS AGO  
December 8, 1927  
"Patrons of the Baldwin Library were to say goodbye today to the second floor room in the old municipal building from which the library has dispensed books for 34 years, after a small wasp will be without library service for 10 days, reopening for business on Monday, Dec. 19 in the new building on Martin street."

15 YEARS AGO  
December 3, 1942  
"Birmingham now has one of those rare individuals in the theatre world—a woman manager. Miss Eleanor Stanton, comely representative of the United Detroit Theatres, arrived in Birmingham last Friday to assume direction of the Bloomfield Theatre."

"This is a strange world we are living in now. Scarcity in the midst of plenty (if money) is the ruling condition. It is a good thing prices are frozen, otherwise coffee would be \$1 a pound, sugar 25 cents a pound and other commodities similarly high."

## ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

Reader's Digest, some years ago, reprinted this announcement from a country newspaper:  
"Anyone found near my chicken house at night will be found there next morning."  
That was a public notice.  
Since the beginning of time, men have found it necessary to communicate to others, information of importance to all.  
When America was young, life was simple. People, of necessity, lived closer together. When one man had a message for several others, he usually knew where to find them.

IF THE MESSAGE must cover a wider area, the town crier was employed to inform one and all. The system was adequate.

But then America began to grow. People moved over a wider and wider area. The spreading of vital information became more difficult. For a time the accepted means was the posting of notices in public places.

If the persons concerned happened to pass the proper place, and the notice was still hanging, and they happened to read it, objective was accomplished.

BUT AMERICA grew more—and more beyond its founders' wildest dreams. Prob-

lems which used to be with land ownership, debts, estate, purchases, elections, improvements, began to arise, as America became big business.

Then was born the "Public Notice." As they always have, when needs regarding the public welfare have arisen, the newspapers of the country took on an added chore.

Today's newspaper is the chief medium for Public Notices of all kinds. Those notices are there for your information and protection and your guidance.

THEY CONTAIN news of your friends and neighbors, of public affairs that affect you as an individual and as a member of your community. They have grown out of a necessity for one man to inform others of his intentions.

They are printed in the newspaper so that all men may KNOW and be able to live together in a well-ordered society.

Some such notices are now required by law. Others are published simply because one person wants his fellow citizens to know where he stands. In any case, they are there for YOUR information—and they must be read by YOU in order to serve their purpose.

In today's Birmingham Eccentric, you will find a number of these public notices. They are identified as "Legal Notices."

LEGAL NOTICE  
Clarence Blackman, Atty., Wakeob Bldg., Birmingham, Michigan  
STATE OF MICHIGAN—The Probate Court for the County of Oakland.  
At a session of said Court, held at the Court House in the City of Pontiac, on said County on the 15th day of November, A. D. 1957.  
Present: Honorable Arthur E. Moore, Judge of Probate, and the Estate of RYAN N. NORTBROOK, Deceased.  
Percy W. Northbrooke filed in said Court a petition praying that the administration of said estate be granted to said RYAN N. NORTBROOK, the son of the said RYAN N. NORTBROOK, deceased, and that the said RYAN N. NORTBROOK be appointed administrator of said estate.  
It is further Ordered that public notice thereof be given by publication of a copy of this order once each week for a period of seven days, ending on said day of bearing in the Birmingham Journal, a newspaper printed and circulated in said county.  
ARTHUR E. MOORE, Judge of Probate.

You will find many bargains in The Eccentric Classified Columns.

**Very often the chip on somebody's shoulder is just bark!**

... JUST LIKE MAGIC  
YOUR RUGS WILL HAVE THE SOFTNESS OF FLOATING ON AIR

We have one of the finest rug cleaning plants in Michigan, staffed with well trained, capable personnel, conveniently located right next door to you in Royal Oak

Give us a call for a free estimate; our work is fully insured and guaranteed.

- Free Pickup and Delivery Service
- Tacked-down Carpeting Cleaned on Your Floor.

**CRESCENT CARPET CLEANING CO.**  
123 CATALPA DRIVE LINCOLN 3-3552 ROYAL OAK, MICH.

FOR A CAREFREE '58, JOIN NOW!

**DB&T CHRISTMAS CLUB**

Children are advised to take good care of their metal toys and games, for they are not making them any more.

**WHY?**  
"It was neither a bicycle nor an express wagon, but just a bang-tail 'orse, with a leg on each corner and a rider on 'is back, that made use of a Woodward avenue sidewalk."

Is the Four-Leaf Clover Lucky?  
Eve, on being ejected from Eden, took with her a four-leafed clover. So, if we find one, it is like "a bit of green from the Garden of Paradise." By association with happier days it is "lucky."

"Adam took with him a less happy token—the protruberance in his neck called the "Adam's Apple." A dubious distinction in male anatomy, it signifies that we have partaken of forbidden fruit, is an eternal reminder to be more careful next time.

Lawrence E. Smith  
Landscape Design and Construction  
133 N. WOODWARD  
in the Woodward Building  
Phone MI 4-2036

**THE DETROIT BANK & TRUST COMPANY**  
53 CONVENIENT BANKING OFFICES • MEMBER FDIC