

Lady Expert Wants Pa To Rule!

A distinguished member of the female sex recently sounded off on the question of juvenile delinquency, the lack of order and discipline in American families, and the general deterioration of a strong family spirit among many of us. It was an eye-opening discourse.

The basis for most of the trouble, according to this analysis, must be placed upon the shoulders of the father. With this appraisal we are in complete agreement. American men, husbands and fathers, probably constitute the weakest assemblage of nonentities in the history of family life.

"There seems to be very little fatherly authority in the average American home. It is asking too much of the mother to keep house, raise the children, make and mend clothes and keep up with social obligations, and also wind a police club around the house. That is where a benevolent, wise and firm father is supposed to get into the act," continues the lady expert.

HAVING GRANTED the women equal

rights does not mean that the father of the home should abdicate his responsibilities and turn over all of the obligations and responsibilities of raising a family to the mother.

There is nothing wrong with many youngsters today (and we do not believe the younger generation is going to the dogs) which the firm hand of a man in the house would not correct.

It is suggested that fathers should take a little more time with their families, exert a little leadership, and enforce a little discipline as far as family chores, responsibilities, behavior, tradition and custom are concerned.

The Europeans may be behind the United States in many things but one field in which they lead us is in the realm of balanced family life. That may be partly because there are not as many distractions and diversions, and less per capita wealth, but another reason is that family life is still cherished and father is still father and knows how to manage his family and wear his trousers.

Productivity Must Balance Wages

It has been stated: "America is not overproduced; it is 'underconsumed'."

Why? There are millions of homes without both tubs; millions of farm homes without coal or oil heat; and all our people want all kinds of gadgets. If their cost is low enough, they buy; too high—no buy.

Efficient production without strikes brings lower prices. Constant strikes for

higher wages louse up the production machine. The unions say, "The higher the wage, the more the workers can buy." That is only one side of the coin, for every wage hike is an added cost at the stores that is paid by the workers' wives.

Whenever wages are forced up faster than the productivity of workers, everybody pays more.

Attleboro Sets Student Pattern

"Hit the books or hit the road." This is what the North Attleboro, Massachusetts school board and superintendent are telling boys and girls who are loafing their way through school. Either make full use of whatever abilities you have, or leave school.

Just how this policy may jibe with compulsory school attendance laws in that State, or elsewhere, we don't know. But otherwise, it is a refreshingly new idea. It might help solve the problem of crowded school buildings. Certainly, every public school child has an obligation to work hard in return for a free education at the taxpayers expense.

Not every child has an aptitude for "hitting the books," yet succeeds along other lines. Many have. But if he does not

TRY to learn to the limit of his ability, he has no claim on public funds.

THIS ATTLEBORO policy should stiffen parental authority with respect to "home work" so that the child can stay in school. It should also help solve juvenile delinquency.

Delinquency and laziness are first cousins. For both show the lack of a sense of moral responsibility. "Idleness is the mother of vice," as the old proverb says.

We have a Herculean task to sweep back the rising tide of mediocrity that has flooded so many of our schools.

Many things need doing. Congratulations to North Attleboro for suggesting one of them!

From The Eccentric's Point of View...

Although it never has attained the sensationalism of sports, the existence of debating groups in our educational systems is recognized as excellent training for youth. Each school year a subject is chosen and pro and con sides are selected for the competition that ensues. There certainly is plenty of good topic material at hand for these debates—not the least of which are subjects related to the problems and solutions of the individual's civic duties and responsibilities. Besides, debating tends to sharpen one's mental alertness; it also provides an outlet for the surging, crusading urge that so often motivates young men and women.

No other nation has the amount of credit that belongs to the United States of America. No other nation can carry on

with its national debt soon at 280 billions of dollars. . . and we can credit this to the ever-lasting faith of our people. (Of course, other nations, from time to time, have helped us get this credit balance.)

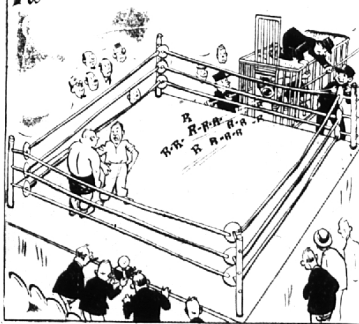
Oh, for at least a few days of the absence of so much national and international unrest and friction! People middle-aged or later may have become used to this earth's confusion—but what a tremendous pattern of confusion can confront the younger generations, these days. They certainly have great problems to meet.

Nice 53-year-old Bing Crosby's 23-year-old recent bride announces that she expects a baby in August. This will give Papa Bing another opportunity to re-instate himself as America's No. 1 crooner.

The Birmingham Eccentric

Published every Thursday, at Birmingham, Mich., in the Eccentric Building, 220-234 North Woodward Avenue Telephone MI 4-1100

GEORGE R. AVERILL
Editor and Publisher
PAUL NEAL AVERILL
Business Manager
GEORGE WM. AVERILL
Managing Editor
F. S. SYBELDON
Advertising Manager



"He's up for this match."

"Always Chasing Rainbows"



NATURE NOW Nature and History Tell 'Spicy Story'

By Lydia King Frehse
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

Every kitchen cupboard holds its own supply of spices which are characterized by a sharp taste and odor. They are derived from various plant parts. Pepper comes from the fruit, cinnamon from the bark, cloves from the bud, nutmeg from the seed, ginger from the root and sage from the leaf.



Mrs. Frehse

Spices are considered a more important place in the menu for the early Eastern and European cultures than they do with us today. The Egyptians used a variety of spices not only in cooking but as a source of perfume and embalming oils. Last summer in the Cairo museum we saw an amazing collection of these spices, some in jars, seeds and leaves, although they were packed in the tomb of King Tutankhamen in the year 1300 B.C.

TODAY, the bulk of our spices are produced in the tropics. Of these pepper is one of the most valuable. It was first brought to Europe from the East by precarious ship on caravan trails routes. Today most of this spice comes from a climbing shrub cultivated in the Malay peninsula. Our black pepper (Piper Nigrum) and our white pepper (P. alba) are made from the dried and ground berries of another species.

Next to pepper, your scrub's hand reaches most often for the cinnamon leaf. This spice which was known in China as early as the year 2300 B.C. is made from the dried and ground bark of young branches of the Cinnamon tree (Cinnamomum of India and Ceylon). It is a small evergreen with stiff, glossy leaves and tiny yellow flowers.

THE CLOVE was one of the first of the Eastern spices to be introduced into Europe in the 15th century. It is the dried flower bud of a large evergreen tree (Caryophyllus) a native of the Spice Islands of the Malay peninsula. The long cylindrical stem of the clove is not hard, the dried spray of the red flower which is never allowed to bloom. It is surrounded by the four web-like lobes of the calyx holding the infolded petals. During the hey-day of the Roman empire the clove was used as a preservative to an all-time high of \$700 an ounce.

When I visited the Federal Exotic Garden, Los Angeles, near Puerto Rico, I was intrigued with the nutmeg tree. It belongs to a family of plants native to India, Australia, and various Pacific islands. The small flowers produce a rather strong size of a pea. This opens into two shagbark halves, disclosing the red, spongy ground to make out nutmeg. The external fibrous covering of the same seed is the source of mace, another familiar spice.

GINGER is a root, aromatic, root-stalk of a tropical herbaceous plant (Zingiber). The unscraped and dried root-stalk produces a black knobby, striped root, white ginger. When preserved it is much used as an accompaniment to other foods, especially in the Orient. The wild ginger (Asarum) is native to our Michigan backwoods, woods of another family.

Allspice is made from the dried purple berries of the Pimenta tree native to Mexico and Central America. It produces large, shiny, lanceolate leaves and small flowers which grow in a flat cluster. This spice is supposed to combine the flavor of cinnamon, nutmeg and cloves.

MUSTARD, so familiar an herbaceous plant in our flora, is widely cultivated in Europe for its seed which is used when in a beaked pod. The ground seeds of black mustard (Brassica nigra) and of white mustard (B. alba) are the familiar varieties which, mixed with other spices and vinegar, are dished over your hot dog and hamburger.

Many aromatic herbs whose leaves are used as spices, such as sage, peppermint and marjoram, occupied an important place in your grandmothers' garden.

UNTIL the middle of the 15th century the spices of Europe and Venice were great and powerful because they were the center of the spice trade with the East. Had not Columbus set sail over unknown seas to discover a new route to the precious spice lands of India, America might have lain undiscovered for another century.

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
March 20, 1908
"The What-Sin-Name, Methodist station at the Riverside farm of Bert Quarter, just north of our city, was the most successful affair of its kind in a long time. Thirty dollars was the result and twenty enjoyed themselves. It took 48 dozen sandwiches and 300 doughnuts to satisfy the people—but they were all satisfied."

"President Roosevelt advocates Women's Suffrage. At the Women's Mothers' meeting, he said, 'It is the mother only who is a better citizen even than the father who fights for his country.' Pity these best citizens can't have a voice in making our country's laws."

"We are pleased to announce that Pope's Honey and Tar, for coughs, colds and lung troubles is not affected by the National Pure Food Drug Law as it contains no opiates or other harmful drugs, and we recommend it as a safe remedy for children and adults."

30 YEARS AGO
March 22, 1928
"Louise Taylor, six years old, claims the distinction of being the youngest child in Birmingham to have a permanent wave in her hair. Louise, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Taylor of Merrill street, had the wave put in because Mae Murray, her favorite movie actress, favored the same coiffure."

"Action was taken Monday night by the village commission on paving and other street improvements in Birmingham. . . . No objection having been presented to the plan for widening Pierce street from Martin to Brown street to 40 feet between curbs, the assessor was asked to make a special roll and present it to the commission. This is to cost \$24.15 for the property owners while the village at large will pay \$458.50."

ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

If Michigan's house of representatives passes a Senate bill now before it, and Gov. Williams signs the measure, the odds on your life and mine are going up.

This will happen because the state's 72 circuit courts then would have to conduct hearings on driver license revocations and suspensions. Already these courts have jammed dockets, and the public is critical of the delays, which are months behind.

The secretary of state already has procedures to handle the yearly load of license hearings, which totalled over 28,000 last year. Some licenses were revoked, some suspended, some drivers warned. All these decisions, remember, are subject to review by the courts if the driver feels aggrieved.

Can you think of the mess if 28,000 or

more of these driver license hearings are added to the circuit judges' tasks?

WHY, WED NEVER BE ABLE to handle the president! Many of the hearings would not be held. And that would leave on the road the accident-prone, consistent traffic violator to take more chances with your life and with mine!

Contact Representative Farrell E. Roberts, care of the State Capitol, Lansing. Let him know that you will vote against any change in present methods of handling these dangerous drivers.

Let him know you want them taken off the road, as they now are being removed.

Don't let the odds against your life be made any higher!

Final and Comparative Costs of Birmingham's Four Municipal Parking Lots

As reported to the city commission by the city finance director:

	Lot 1	Lot 2	Lot 3	Lot 4	Total
Land Acquisition	\$249,556.55	\$198,418.76	\$119,862.82	\$100,467.33	\$668,305.86
Land Development	57,547.80	45,585.89	13,296.63	19,967.43	131,437.75
Motor Cost	11,001.61	9,425.02	2,772.67	3,255.43	26,754.73
Other Costs	4,339.84	1,915.81	3,653.67	2,274.79	14,614.13
	\$322,435.80	\$255,349.48	\$139,585.19	\$125,905.98	\$844,316.29
COST PER CAR SPACE:					
	231	475	53	66	Average
Spaces	\$1,400.33	\$1,142.32	\$2,643.67	\$1,922.23	Cost
Land Acquisition	249.12	249.96	256.53	301.63	\$1,272.96
Motor Cost	50.22	22.15	52.32	49.32	59.96
Other Costs	18.70	28.27	28.32	34.45	27.84
	\$1,108.42	\$1,463.12	\$2,928.79	\$1,907.63	\$1,608.21

Engineering, costs in connection with issuing bonds and special assessment proceedings.

Is your car keeping you bankrupt?

Make the Switch to **Rambler**

First in economy, tops in resale value

Rambler's selling like hotcakes. Sales up 66%. Here's why: Rambler 6 with overdrive holds 3 NACAR Economy Records, less than 16 a mile for regular grade gas. Rambler's easiest to drive, turn, park, tops in resale value. And only Rambler gives you the best of both: American big car room and comfort plus European small car economy and handling ease. Come in!

New Rambler AMERICAN
as low as \$9.25 PER WEEK

Weekly payments based on registered price of only \$1,797 at Ann Arbor, Michigan, with federal taxes paid. State and local taxes, 1-year automatic transmission, white-walls and other optional equipment, if desired, extra.

AMERICAN MOTORS MEANS MORE FOR AMERICANS

Birmingham Nash, Inc. 666 S. Woodward, Birmingham, MI 6-2900

RAMBLER 6 AND V-8 • AMBASSADOR V-8
RAMBLER AMERICAN • METROPOLITAN

Folders - - - ?

YES . . . IN BLACK
AND WHITE OR 4 COLOR PROCESS

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

The AVERILL PRESS INC. of Birmingham
A COMPLETE PRINTING SERVICE—FROM TYPESETTING TO MAILING

FORMERLY THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC PRINTING DEPARTMENT