

Teachers Lose if Debt Too High

For many years this newspaper has pointed out the fact that citizens are willing to spend considerable of their earnings for necessary public improvements, including the educational program of the public schools.

We also have commented on the dilemma of the teaching staff when its members find themselves paid less than they should be—especially when the taxpayers begin to resist paying higher taxes for their local educational program.

At this time the board of education comes to face to face with two economic facts: the requirement to pay off interest

and principal of the bonded debt, and the desire to out of the compensation of the teaching staff.

IF ONE CONDITION must be penalized, it will be the teachers. You cannot repudiate a public debt. It is first claim on the school's treasury. So teachers, who make the most valuable contribution to education, are "hurt in their pocketbooks". Bonds are paid. Does the instrumentality of education then suffer—students deprived of needed instruction? Most educators, of course, will answer "Yes" to this last question.

100 Vs. 200 Million Dollars

New York state citizens currently are living under a Governor (Averell Harriman) whose fortune is said to be about 100 million dollars.

Harriman, a Democrat, will be opposed this fall by a Republican worth 200 million dollars. His name is Nelson A. Rockefeller, of the famous family by that name.

Both men are, however, "liberals".

though Harriman so far is presumed to be more liberal with the taxpayers' dough than is Rockefeller.

The latter, though, has had lots of personal experience in handing out the Rockefeller dollars, which ought to give Nelson a fair chance, if elected Governor, of raising New York state's budget to something approaching new and "hair-curling" highs.

Workers Now Can Sue Unions

Now a worker can sue a union and recover damages. The U. S. Supreme Court says so and you can't sue the Court.

Two decisions were handed down recently by the Court. No. 1: If a worker is prevented from working by union pickets, he can sue the union and collect in State Courts. No. 2: A union illegally expelling a member can be sued for reinstatement and damages.

Industrious workers now have some rights beyond any given by the N.L.R.B., which is not empowered to award damages for anything but lost wages. The assumption is that some members of the "Earl Warren" Supreme Court have been reading the papers and understand that the public, stirred up by the McClellan Committee's disclosures of corruption and

strong-arm methods over workers, are fed up.

IN THE FIRST CASE, it was Walter Reuther's United Auto Workers that applied the strong-arm methods. A jury awarded the worker \$10,000 damages.

This is bad news for Walter. The thought that many other workers who have been manhandled by goons, can now file similar actions for damages, and win them, will pinch the pocketbook nerves of labor bosses.

But it is good news for the country. However, Chief Justice Warren, and Justice Douglas, don't agree with the majority of the Court.

It becomes plain every day, we think, that Warren's appointment is one of the greatest mistakes of the Eisenhower administration.

From The Eccentric's Point of View . . .

Unceasingly, regardless of which political party is in office, the national debt continues to get larger. We do not believe that this debt ever will be reduced substantially—unless a terrible panic-inflation (which heaven forbid!) should overtake us, at which time the debt would be repudiated via worthless dollars. This debt will continue, its interest paid investors regularly, just like the British are handling their national debt of many years standing.

Most Americans bravely boast that they live in a country where the citizen is King. Which no doubt is why the Congress continues to take king-size portions of one's wages.

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ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

That, two can live as cheaply as one was never truer than it is today. The reason is simple: you have to.

When the time comes, most of us won't have to worry about taking it with us. We will have spent it years before.

Birmingham merchant Jim Couzens

Suburban Sentiment

LOSING A DAUGHTER

The bride is coming down the aisle, Her Mother wears a beaming smile; Dad knows best what he has lost, For he has to count the cost.

—Lynn Carter.

has a trim cruiser which he berths in Mt. Clemens, uses whenever he gets the chance. The boat's called "Seven C's", named for Jim, his wife, and the five little Couzenses. For some time now, Jim's been thinking of a new name for the cruiser. In a little while, there's gonna be eight in the family.

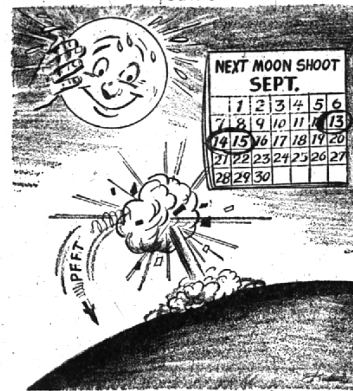
People devote the first years of their lives to getting established in a career. Then they spend the remaining years trying to accumulate enough money to get out of it.

At today's prices, it's perfectly normal to cry over spilled milk!

You have to hand it to some people. If you don't, they'll come after it.

Do you suppose that drinking instant coffee would make the coffee breaks shorter?

Breather



NATURE NOW

by Lydia King Frehse
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

Versatile Tomato Has Long History

The tomato is one of our most versatile fruits. Botanists pronounce it a true berry but it is most generally used and regarded as a vegetable. It shines in either role.

The tomato was known to the Indians in prehistoric times. For it grew wild in the temperate ranges of the Andes. Many native and cultivated species still abound in Peru, Ecuador and Bolivia. However, because of the highly perishable nature of the fruit it seems likely that it remained negligible as a food item until the arrival of the white man.

The first records show that the Italians were using this fruit by the year 1580. Early explorers gradually carried it over the globe so that by the middle of the 18th century it was an accepted food item across Europe and England.

THOMAS Jefferson, gentleman-farmer and statesman, was the first white man to cultivate the tomato in the United States. The year was 1787, a time when European people considered the fruit as poisonous. It was called the "love apple" and was used only as an ornament. Not until 1850 was this versatile fruit generally accepted and grown as a worthy food item.

Now esteemed as a flavorful food and highly prized as a source of vitamins, we have become addicted to the tomato that we demand it as a year round table delicacy. A large part of the winter's supply is grown under glass and sold at fancy prices.

In addition to its use as a vegetable tons of the fruit are made into tomato juice and ketchup. Smaller fancy yellow and red species are pickled and made into preserves.

IN LINE with modern methods of processing food, nothing is wasted. The refuse of tomato canneries is made into a meal for feeding stock. Even the seeds are profitably used as the source of an oil which is employed in the manufacture of soap and the mixing of paints.

The tomato owes its previous bad reputation to the fact that it is a member of the nightshade family. This group is known for the narcotic and poisonous compounds found in certain of its species such as belladonna, jimson weed, deadly nightshade and tobacco.

HOWEVER, these dangerous plants are counterbalanced by many useful species. Here included besides the tomato are such valuable foods as the potato, egg plant, ground cherry and red pepper; such condiments as cayenne pepper and paprika; such cultivated flowers as petunia and the fragrant nicotiana. Also present in the nightshade family are such obnoxious weeds as the nettles.

The nightshades (Solanaceae) are widely distributed both in temperate and tropical regions. Some 2,000 species include herbs, vines and a few trees.

AMONG our fruits the tomato is a true berry with seeds scattered throughout its juicy pulp. Our "so called" berries—the strawberry, blackberry and huckleberry—are not "true" berries from the botanist's point of view.

In keeping with its structure the former is classed as an "accessory" fruit whose external flesh only is studded with one-seeded fruits. The latter two are called "aggregate" fruits. Each of these is made up of a group of small fruits individually centered with a hard seed.

Happenings of Long Ago

Bits of News Gleaned From Old Files Of The Eccentric

50 YEARS AGO

September 4, 1908
"Communicated This is what a 'dry' town means for Birmingham. You can't get a bowl of brand and milk at any time at any price. The hotel and restaurant are closed and the traveling public are warned to keep away. Plans were made and the money was ready to build a 15,000-story brick hotel which would have meant as much for our town as the Ponce de Leon in Cadillac are for Detroit. What have the prohibitionists done to offset this condition of things?"

And the farmers go down to the Wayne county limits and get drunk, when they used to come to Birmingham, get a glass of beer, if they wanted it, and go home to their families sober and contented."

30 YEARS AGO

September 6, 1908
"Birmingham these days has more paying apparatus on its streets than anywhere else in the world, it seems. But they are welcome sights when one considers the number of downtown streets that are awaiting attention."

"Now that the mountains in front of The Eccentric office have been moved, it is possible for visitors to gain entrance to the building. Visitors are more than welcome at all times to inspect the largest combined printing and publishing house in Oakland county."

15 YEARS AGO

September 2, 1913
"Mrs. S. L. Shilders of 832 Davis street, has a cucumber in her garden which measures 24 inches in length and she believes it is the longest one in the area. Who can surpass it?"

"C. C. Bonnet's is a grandpappy—that's the reason he's been looking so proud the past few days! If we had a contest, no doubt he would take the prize for being the youngest-looking grandfather in town."

"Dick Wilson, son of druggist Ralph A. Wilson, recently returned from a vacation at Hot Springs, Arkansas, with several souvenirs to commemorate his trip. One of the more prized possessions is a new and ultra-fancy pair of cowboy boots. Dick says they are comfortable, so don't let us surprise you if you see him wearing them to work in his father's drug store."

River deltas are so called because their triangular shape resembles the Greek letter, Delta.

WHY?



Shake Hands With The Right Hand?

When prehistoric man wanted of fighting strangers at night, he dropped his spear and extended his right, or weapon hand to show peaceful intentions. If the stranger did the same, friendship could be established.

Later, when men wore their weapons on their persons like articles of clothing—dinks, stiletts, swords and six-shooters out West—they shook and held each other's right hand long enough to make sure neither could draw his weapon before peaceful intentions were insured.

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