

Kennedy & Kennedy—How Nice!

Ever stop to think how nicely arranged is the relationship between Massachusetts Senator, John Kennedy, and his brother, Robert; the latter being chief counsel for the McClellan U.S. Senate Committee investigating racketeers in labor unions?

You may recall that the Senator is also a member of that committee and also a potential Democratic candidate for the Presidential nomination when his party meets in Los Angeles next year.

THE SENATOR IS TRYING HARD to get the support of the labor leaders—of course, with the exception of the teamster's president, Jimmy Hoffa, whose

union has been almost the sole target of the McClellan committee for a good many months.

The Senator appears willing to try to prevent the McClellan committee from going into any parts of the labor group that might affect Walter Reuther or George Meany and their labor satellites.

In other words, it looks to us as though this "Kennedy and Kennedy" team on the McClellan committee is beautifully rigged along partisan political lines. Incidentally, we would say this if the Kennedy's were members of the Republican party. Labor legislation ought to be a non-partisan subject.

France Found Its "Strong Man"

General de Gaulle is the new President of France.

De Gaulle seemed embarrassed by the size of the votes for his program. He didn't squeeze through; he galloped to victory. The French Communist took the worst beating ever known in the French Republic. This must have been a big jolt to Communism all over the world.

Let's take a closer look. Before the French elections, the Reds had 349 seats in the last National Assembly; in the next, they'll have 10. Other leftist groups took a similar wallop while de Gaulle's party (Union for the New Republic) and the conservative independent Republicans, between them, collected 320 of the 465 seats

allotted to Continental France. Now France has her chance to become a strong nation again.

FRANCE WAS LUCKY. She had a man who refused to quit. May the defeatists in the U.S. take notice! Weakness cannot cooperate with anything; only strength can cooperate.

Should England, France, West Germany, Greece, Turkey, Belgium and the United States ever dis-associate, then Russia will add millions more to her captive slaves, now nearly one billion.

The old heavyweight champion, Bob Fitzsimmons, said: "Never give up the fight because you can't tell when the other fellow is going to quit."

From The Eccentric's Point of View...

Let us agree on this point: The Internal Revenue Service is composed of men and women who, for the most part, are average, reasonable, and co-operative public servants. They have to apply the tax laws given them by the Congress. If taxpayers don't like these laws, then they should work on their lawmakers for them being changed. Your individual lawmakers are as close to you as your telephone, telegraph or post-office.

The U.S. government now pays storage on enough surplus food stocks to provide each American family with 24 bushels of corn, 19 bushels of wheat, 4-1/4 pounds of

dried milk, 3-1/2 pounds of cheese and 2-1/4 pounds of butter. The U.S. government, it appears, is already the world's greatest hoarder.

Most everybody knows that the number of employees on the federal government's payroll has increased vastly during the past quarter century... but you also know that during the past 10 years the overall cost of this payroll has increased from \$162 to \$255 per family?

It's been a long time, as history goes, since so many victors in a civil war wore whiskers as Castor's Cuban followers do.

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ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

Everybody has his own opinion on why the Republicans are having so much trouble winning elections from the Democrats.

The Democrats, of course, want things to stay this way. They hope the Republicans stay as confused as they are.

But the Republicans haven't faded away yet. As this is written, the GOP has an executive committee evaluating prospects for new national party chairman, to succeed Meade Alcorn.

Leading contender—and reportedly President Eisenhower's personal choice—is Kentucky's Senator Thruston B. Morton.

(Monday morning note: Morton was named GOP national chairman Saturday).

IF MORTON adheres to his present ideas on how to get the Republicans back in the national saddle, I'm afraid things will be little better than they are now. Probably be worse.

Columnist Victor Riesel recently interviewed the Kentucky senator. Riesel asked what approach Morton would use with the millions of working people, which comprise the backbone of the Democratic election majorities.

Morton told Riesel: "We've got to point out the record... We've got to get out... with a program which is factual, not propaganda... We've got to convince the labor people."

"I'd take the Kennedy bill and get a moderator who has a reputation for fairness and have an informal panel discussion and I'd take that bill and analyze it."

IF THE REPUBLICANS WANT to go on losing elections, why Senator Morton seems like he'd be a good leader.

The Republicans have tried and tried and tried to win elections with fact, with logic, with argument.

Has it got them anywhere?

Very seldom in the past two decades.

Certainly not on a state level. Most certainly not on a national level.

The great political leaders of the past didn't win their offices merely on logic, fact, and argument. These political leaders also had personality, color, life—ingredients which attract the electorate's attention, which the electorate tastes and savors, and then shows its appreciation by putting the candidate into office.

WASHINGTON, LINCOLN, Teddy and Franklin Roosevelt, Grant, Jackson—these are personalities who captured the imagination of the public because of something they had done, something they were.

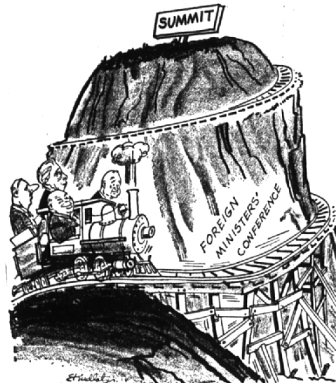
Did Eisenhower become president because of his logic, because of his facts, because of his arguments?

Or was it because of his personality, something he had done, something he was—and which captured the imagination of voters?

For the life of me, I cannot understand why Republicans don't apply the art and principles of salesmanship to politics!

The Republicans can sell more soap with a slogan than a personality needs to keep clean and healthy. But those same Republicans have been dismal failures at arguing their way into public office!

"First, We Must Cross This Bridge"



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

Bird's Nest Makes Cradle, Not Home

The nesting cycle with its attendant ceremonies and responsibilities is the chief concern of birds throughout the spring. In some species, such as the English sparrow and the goldfinch, repeated nestings extend well into summer.

The male bird begins the nesting cycle with his first spring songs which proclaim to all his rivals that he is defining his territory. After a mate is selected she usually has the final "say" about the location of the nest.

Nesting materials show great variety. For this use nature supplies nutritious plant parts such as roots, leaves, stems and the down attached to seeds. Also used are hair, skin, feathers, shells and skeletal fragments of many animals. The crested flycatcher is one of several species which makes a habit of incorporating a snake's skin in its structure. Regardless of its construction, a nest is a cradle and not a home.

THE HUMMING BIRD'S well-camouflaged nest is only an inch and a half in diameter. It is made of fine twigs and nature's most delicate materials laced with spiders' webs. In contrast, crowing some tall tree or crag, is the large acorn of the eagle; which is nothing more than an accumulated pile of debris.

One of the most unusual nests is that of the cave swift. It is made of the bird's saliva which hardens on exposure to the air. From it the Chinese brew a much-prized "bird's nest soup" which supposedly tastes like chicken.

Once the eggs are laid, the length of the incubation period varies from that of the English sparrow, which averages 12 days, to that of the ocean-flying albatross which extends to 80 days.

The smallest egg is laid by the smallest bird, the ruby-throated hummer. It is also the size of a navy bean. The largest egg laid by the largest bird, the ostrich, holds about three pints. The egg of the extinct elephant bird of Madagascar had a capacity of two gallons

mobile in Birmingham. It is a white roaster and has been in service, one place and another, 15 years.

15 YEARS AGO
 April 13, 1944
 Birmingham's new mayor is Ray B. Light. He is expected to appoint the mayor and commissioner John E. Martz, who declined another term on the grounds that he had served long enough and he believes the commission should rotate the office often.

Birmingham Community House launched its annual Roll Call fund drive. The goal is \$16,000.

Manufacture of parts for Army bombers are to be made here. The city appeal to approve the McAlister company's proposal to employ about 60 persons in a building on S. Woodward. Parts will be shipped to Willow Run for installation in planes on Ford Motor Co. assembly lines.

The city's Victory Garden desk is about ready to begin plowing and discing of garden plots. Owners are asked to be sure plots are free from tin cans, glass and other plow-hindering objects.

Did you know... Baldwin public library has a complete file of Birmingham Eccentrics, dating back to May 2, 1878?

Happenings of Long Ago

50 YEARS AGO
 April 16, 1909
 "Protect your trees from worms and crawling insects with tree tanglefoot. For sale at Shan's."

30 YEARS AGO
 April 11, 1929
 "The distinction of being the first villagers to swim in Oakland County lakes this spring goes to Jack Thatcher of Chappin street, and Jack Gibson of the Warrick Inn. Both are 14 years old. They were on a hiking trip to Walnut Lake last Thursday. "I dare you," said one Jack. "You're on," said the other. "I'm in," was the reply. And even though the temperature of the air was only 66, "I said the water was fine."

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