

Oh, for Men Like These of 1776!

There was a time when we thought that the McClellan Senate Committee investigating racketeering and corruption in American labor would achieve something beneficial, not only to the rank and file of labor, but to the general public as well.

As the days go on, this committee brings before it more and more racketeers and crooks, many of whom take the Fifth Amendment as a self-defense mechanism. Each day more and more crookedness and corruption are revealed—as the committee obtains evidence that certain labor leaders have resorted to every kind of coercion and compulsion—some of it very brutal, in order to control competitive labor organizers.

UP TO THE TIME we are writing this, nothing has been accomplished in the United States Senate or House of Representatives to combat this national menace. This condition of apparent Congressional helplessness presents a fair picture of the lack of statesmanship, of patriotic decency on the part of the Congress; and, dear reader, do you know why nothing as yet has been achieved to combat this labor crookedness?

The answer is easy and it's as old as the word "politics". What our country needs in high places are a few of the type of patriots who staged the Boston Tea Party and were present at Lexington and Concord.

From The Eccentric's Point of View...

Let it be herewith recorded that recently over in Southwestern Michigan, near Dowagiac, a farmer named Stanley Yankus finally paid the United States Department of Agriculture several thousands of dollars because he grew some grain on his farm which in turn he fed to his chickens. Yankus, you see, was a raiser of poultry. But Uncle Sam told him that he had raised more grain than for the law allowed him to raise and so, for a period of three years, Yankus operated under the cloud of a condition which told him what he could do with his own property. Yankus's crop, of course, never reached the open grain market directly, although of course it could be argued that the grain did in the form of edible poultry. Anyway Yankus had to sell his farm in order to pay up the Government's claim, after which he said that he was going to take his family and "go down under" to Australia where he felt a man still had freedom.

For 20 years rock-ribbed Joe Martin was leader of his party in the House of Representatives in Washington, D. C. When the Republicans were in control of the House, he was Speaker; just recently, when the new 86 Congress convened, Joe Martin lost out to Indiana's Charlie Halleck, who is sponsored by the less conservative group of Republicans in the House. Martin, 74 years of age, says he will not run for re-election and will go back to his small daily newspaper in Attleboro, Mass. One thing about American politics—it doesn't guarantee permanence to those who depend upon votes for public office.

It is doubtful if any person living today in the United States will ever see this country's national debt reduced to any considerable degree. So long as the majority of the American people want to see Uncle Sam dressed up like Santa Claus, it naturally follows that Congress will always be dominantly free-spending. It also naturally follows that the politicians will levy as high tax rates as they think they can get away with. Government, like an individual, is only as powerful and influential over other people as the amount of money it has at its disposal.

The Birmingham Eccentric

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ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

Many a proposal has turned into a proppuzzle.

that a man can't fix—with a check-book.

There's nothing around the house

A woman who's too tired for words still has some with which to tell you about it.

Suburban Sentiment

LO, THE WINTER IS PAST
Of ice and snow
We're pretty fed.
What cometh next?
The mud instead!

—Jean Payne

A small accomplishment is greater than a big plan.

Be it ever so lonely, there is no base like home.

Cheer up fellows! The women won't win equal rights in everything. Who ever heard of a woman father?

An Accomplishment



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

Cross-Pollination Aids Nature Goal

Nature is primarily concerned with the behavior of plants and animals. In other words, function is her key word and survival is her goal.

Consider her motivation in evolving the plant kingdom. As a human you may be captivated by the form, color and fragrance of a flower or by the minute perfection of its smallest detail. To nature on the other hand, these characteristics are only important as they relate to seed production, which in turn represents the continuation of the species.

Through endless experiments, nature has found that cross-pollination strengthens the plant strain. By thus mingling the characteristics of two flowers, the resulting individual plants have twice the choice of those traits which will increase both their efficiency and their chance for survival.

THE IMPORTANT function of cross-pollination is accomplished chiefly by the wind and by insects. The former is an ancient and wasteful method. But our earliest blooming trees use it almost exclusively, since very few insects are abroad in late March and early April when the willows, silver maples, red maples and elms lead the flower procession.

Because these blooms hang high over our heads and are devoid of showy petals, they are likely to go unnoticed. The willows bear male and female blossoms on separate trees. The elms have perfect flowers, each blossom producing both pollen and ovule. The maples show great variety, having three kinds of flowers, male, female and perfect growing in various combinations on the same or on separate trees.

But whatever the arrangement of the sexes, all wind-pollinated trees bloom copiously, their flow-

ers growing by the thousands in flexible catkins or generous clusters where their ripened anthers are readily exposed to every waft of wind. Our ancient conifers are also wind-pollinated, their male flowers taking the shape of temporary cone-like structures, while the female bloom ripens into the well-known permanent cone.

THE AMOUNT of pollen discharged by a single tree is so enormous that it defies the imagination. Only one of these minute grains is needed to fertilize a waiting ovule. The rest are nature's provision for insuring the future of the species.

The period of pollen dispersal is frequently less than a week in duration. But each species ripens in response to the increasing length of the day. Hence the tree flower on a consistent schedule, waiting only for the signal of the first dry wind to carry away pounds of their precious freight.

On any walk in the country you may now see the grey "passies" on the willows. These are the male flowers. When the catkins ripen their "fur" will be crowned by a mass of yellow pollen. On another tree are the waiting female flowers which will ripen into seed-filled catkins.

TODAY WE looked up to see the red maples along our shady street already opening their flowers. By the time you read these lines the sidewalks will be cluttered with male blossoms. The wind will have performed its pollination rites and the now useless blossoms will be discarded. The fertilized female flowers will remain on the tree or drop into the well-known double-winged fruit.

Thus two seeds will be sent on their way to a possible growing site. Although only a small percentage of their kind will become new trees, nature has nevertheless achieved her goal.

Happenings of Long Ago

Bits of News Gleaned From Old Files Of The Eccentric

50 YEARS AGO April 9, 1909
"Found, a pearl watch charm! Call on Walter Allen, prove promise, pay 25c for this advt. and be happy."

"Have you noticed Taylor Bros. new electric light sign? This is the very first electric sign ever displayed in Birmingham and it certainly is a beauty."

For sale at a bargain, a three year old cult-city broke, a good as new Dunlap-top buggy and a good single harness. To examine and get particulars see Henry Spicer, or call phone number 70."

30 YEARS AGO April 4, 1929
"Perhaps the most unusual of April Fool stories comes from Bloomfield Hills. Three times Monday morning J. O. L. Voorhees' ambulance was called from Pontiac to my hospital accidents in Bloomfield Hills. But Birmingham had its own little April Fool joke. Monday evening village police were called out to arrest a drunken driver, but not even a whiff of liquor rewarded their search."

"Another March came in like a lamb and went out like a lion, with the usual Easter parade to witness its blustering exit. The Wanderer's wonder is to imagine the lion isn't wearing a prolonged stay this year. The havoc of Monday's wind storm would indicate this."

15 YEARS AGO April 6, 1944
"The mail must go through. Yes, Birmingham mailmen are do-

ing their bit through the uncertain spring weather and mostly they are delivering letters, papers, packages and other mail right on time. They're a faithful lot, those mailmen."

"No love, no nothin' goes the song one hears so much on the radio and in the theatre just now. But a new song recalls there should be no dishes to wash. Most everybody dislikes washing dishes and to them a maid in a Birmingham home points out that one can make almost without any dishes at all. Just make them in your hand and then eat them from your hand and eliminate that dish washing job altogether."

LEGAL NOTICE
STATE OF MICHIGAN—in the Circuit Court for the County of Oakland, in Chancery.
GREGA KOSSEL, Plaintiff, vs. HERBERT O. KOSSEL, Defendant.
ORDER TO APPEAR
Suit pending in the Circuit Court for the County of Oakland, in Chancery, on the 19th day of Feb., 1945.
That the defendant, Herbert O. Kessel, is not a resident of this state but that he resides in Detroit, in the State of Michigan.
That the plaintiff, GREGA KOSSEL, Carl F. Ingraham, Attorney for Plaintiff, do hereby enter his appearance in said cause and that he does hereby request that the date of this Order; and that, within forty days from the date of this Order to be published in the Birmingham Eccentric, the defendant, Herbert O. Kessel, and all persons claiming under him, be and are directed to file with said court, and publish same in the Birmingham Eccentric, a true and correct copy of a deed, within a period of six (6) weeks in succession.
That the Court is held at Birmingham, Michigan, at the Court House, Room 4-4212, A. TRUIX, Clerk.
CARL F. INGRAHAM,
CARE OF INGRAHAM,
928 South Adams Road,
Birmingham, Michigan
MIDWEST 4-4212
DANIEL T. MURPHY, JR.
Qualified County Register of Deeds
By WILFRED S. COONEY, JR.
Notary
1945

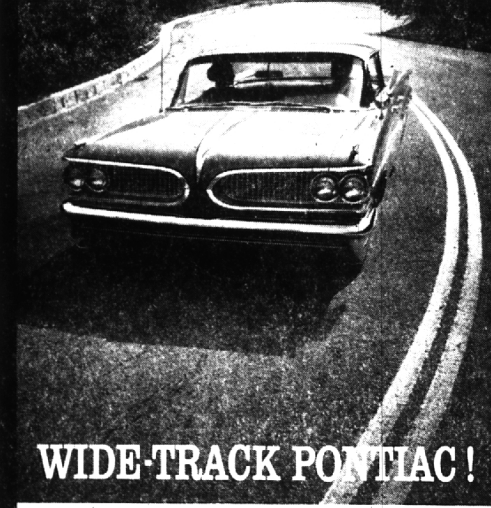


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