

Congress' Palace—Fit For A King!

Anyone who thinks Congress will be careful with his tax dollars without prodding from the homefolks needs only to look at Capitol Hill to be disillusioned.

The House of Representatives is going ahead with a new \$4-million-dollar office building which will house only part of its members. This figure has been worked out at \$192,000 a room, and each representative will have three rooms.

And so each representative's quarters will cost about as much as three dozen new homes that his constituents might build to house their families — if they could afford it.

OF COURSE, IT'S unfair to compare office building costs with home building costs, so look at it another way. For little more than half what the congressmen are

spending on their quarters (46 million) Union Carbide is putting up a block square 52-story office building on New York's plush Park Avenue. But, we suppose such austere quarters wouldn't be good enough for our lawmakers.

It seems they must function amid splendor in the capital, even though the old front porch may be good enough office quarters back home.

When Congress is so indifferent to prodigal spending which it can view from the windows of the Capitol, is it any wonder that federal money wasted in such places as far-off Laos fails to excite our lawmakers?

It looks like the voters are the ones who will have to get excited. — (Sarasota (Fla.) News.)

A Book You Ought To Read

Hugh Baillie, son of a great political reporter, grandson of another, and president of the United Press for many years, has written a book entitled "High Tension." It is forty-five years of current history, and it is top-notch reading, from every angle.

There are only a few top reporters in the world today. Baillie dedicated his book to the reporters of the free world, and he gives them an inspiration and an example which will do much for the reporting trade.

We recommend this book, not just to reporters, but to every thinking American, for it tells a story—without prejudice or bias, as nearly as this can be done—about people, things and news events, and it tells the story straight. As Baillie says in his preface, "There is no Bibliography, because I saw and heard all this stuff myself."

THAT SENTENCE BEST expresses the

and value of the book, which begins with Baillie as a reporter in Los Angeles in 1910, and continues on right up to the Eisenhower era. He covers the story of major news events from the time of Clarence Darrow, fighting for his professional life, continuing with the Wilson era, then the Depression era, then the era of Hitler and World War II, which he watched and reported from Europe, the post-war period, and up to the present.

For those who like to think, and for those who care, a little bit, about what the world is all about, and what is really going on, the reading of "High Tension" is highly recommended. Only a reporter can write current history as it is written in this book. Only a newspaperman, usually, can be as objective, as forthright, and as truthful. This great book, "High Tension," should be read by millions of Americans, and it should be "must reading" in many colleges and in all journalism schools.

From The Eccentric's Point of View...

A short time ago the 46th anniversary of the U.S. Income Tax occurred—and that "baby tax" enacted in 1913 certainly has grown! When first installed, the tax was from 1% to 6%; now it is from 20% to 91%. The per capita tax averaged 82 cents in those former days, while now it has attained the gigantic sum of \$397 per U.S. human being. Do you like it? Do you like it? . . . of course you do—, unless you have written your Congressman to demand federal extravagances, you don't care about it enough to "do something about it."

Two American Titans appear to be engaged in terrific combat. One is the U.S. Senate, the other is Jimmy Hoffa, presi-

dent of the Teamsters' Union. For over two years the McClellan Senate committee has sought to prove that Jimmy isn't competent to run the world's largest union; it has exposed a variety of alleged wrong-doings of Hoffa and his hierarchy. On the other hand, Hoffa has publicly revealed that he and his union rightfully enjoy all the privileges and protections of American citizenship, and that "no Senate Committee is going to tell me what to do." To date, the contest appears to be a stalemate—at least no laws to regulate Jimmy and unions has yet gone on the federal statute books. (What has become of the pomp and circumstance and glory of the U.S. Congress?)

The Birmingham Eccentric

Published every Thursday, at Birmingham, Mich., in the Eccentric Building, 220-224 North Woodward Avenue Telephone Midwest 4-1100

GEORGE R. AVERILL
Editor and Publisher
GEORGE WM. AVERILL
Managing Editor
PAUL NEAL AVERILL
Business Manager
HAL P. BUERGE
Advertising Manager

ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

When it comes to existing in a cigarette or smoke-filled atmosphere, I've got quite a bit of natural physical tolerance.

Perhaps this is because for 16 years I was a tobacco smoker myself.

However, one thing I cannot stand is the discourteous and inconsiderate habit of some smokers who don't seem to know where they are going to exhale each smoke puff.

To do it into someone else's face is the extreme in rudeness.

Anyone who's been on a hot seat too often is likely to develop cold feet.

Life wasn't complicated in the old days. No morning or evening traffic jams to wait through, no sink garbage grinder to get out of whack.

No complicated formulas to have to work by.

Take the surveyor who wrote the boundary document for the 228-acre Knob Creek farm where Abraham Lincoln lived from 1811-19. That surveyor described the farm's boundary line thus:

"Beginning with two sugar trees north

19 degrees, east-141 poles to a dogwood tree and ash tree corner to a 100-acre tract.

"NORTH 48 DEGREES, west 74 poles to a beach tree. North 29 degrees, west 65 poles to a poplar tree on the east side of a hill.

"North 68 poles to an ash tree. South 76 degrees, west 105 poles to a white ash tree. South 117 poles to a stake.

"South 31 degrees, east 169 poles to a sugar tree. South 70 degrees, east 54 poles to the beginning."

Of course, that farm has been the subject of several litigations, but that just made more work for some lawyer.

Come to think of it, life then and now is pretty similar.

That garbage grinder makes more work for plumbers and repairmen, the waiting cars using up gas provide plenty more work for everyone from oil well riggers to service station attendants.

Guess the world hasn't changed much—except to become more complicated to give the additional millions of people something to do.

For Real, Or a Mirage?



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

Related Ideas Key To Nature Training

Family camping offers many opportunities for enjoyment in the out-of-doors. Provided you have some interest and desire to further your knowledge and appreciation of nature, how do you begin?

We know that connecting a response with a pleasurable experience is one way of learning. Camping offers this opportunity to an unusual degree. We are free from city pressures, there is no confining schedule or curriculum limit. All the out-of-doors can be your laboratory.

Both my formal and informal teaching have led me to suggest that an effective approach is to begin with general and related ideas rather than with disconnected facts and names. Sun, sky, stars, air, water, soil, rocks; which do these have to do with living plants and animals?

How does each of us fit into the plan of the universe which is our home? What is the source of our daily bread, our shelter, our clothing? How is nature related to the arts; music, painting, poetry, sculpture?

MANY PARENTS can answer general questions about the out-of-doors or can suggest them when they arise in the days experiences. Many children have already developed a nature interest in school or group activities and are prepared to go further.

To check your daily life for ideas with dependable books which you already own or can "vacation loan" from your library can be a pleasurable follow up experience. The "Golden Nature Guide Series" edited by Herbert Zim, is well illustrated, inexpensive and easy to use in the field.

Names are necessary tags and labels but when used as such they seldom delight the average child. If one is a novice in so large and bewildering a field, names can better become a by-product of a larger experience more closely connected to one's living.

THAT THE NECTAR of red clover blossoms is a rich source of the honey we enjoyed for breakfast and street plan.

Happenings of Long Ago

Bits of News Gleaned From Old Files Of The Eccentric

50 YEARS AGO
July 16, 1909

"That leather-back turtle in a big tub in Charles J. Shaw's window is one captured by John Bortle. They are a curiosity in this country."

"A hay field opposite the John Shaw place in Bloomfield Hills had a decided Masonic appearance the first of the week. Every haycock was covered with a little white apron."

"Ask Luther Tolles to give you a true account of his first auto ride. He went out lately with White as 'chthonian.' The auto skidded, crossed the road three times in two seconds and ditched the whole business. Luther's hair still stands on end."

30 YEARS AGO
July 11, 1929

A 35-page report by nationally-known climater Arthur C. Comey was presented this week to the village planning commission. It contained "no radical proposals that will startle our citizens," but did outline a proposed zoning ordinance and street plan.

Ray A. Palmer and Guy W. Jensen easily outdistanced the only woman candidate, Mrs. Cora Farr, for three-year term as mayor of the Birmingham board of education.

"Taxpayers of Birmingham, as far as their ability and willingness to pay their annual . . . taxes are concerned, stand well among the foremost communities of this . . . country; therefore, if prompt . . . is a standard of prosperity, this community is one of the most prosperous in America. This is the opinion of Charles Plumsted, village treasurer, who

reports Birmingham tax payments exceed the amount paid in by the same time last year.

15 YEARS AGO
July 13, 1944

Only 18 people attended the Birmingham board of education meeting, which also saw Lee E. Joslyn, Jr., named B of E president.

"The Birmingham water department has just passed through one of the longest sustained droughts usually recorded for this area of Michigan, and has passed the crisis with flying colors, according to . . . Vernon G. Chief of the water department." Other Michigan cities had to limit use of water, but Birmingham had almost 2 million gallons of additional water the city wells could have supplied.

An unidentified Birmingham man was observed walking home barefooted after Sunday's heavy storm, his shoes safely wrapped and dry in a newspaper.

STRICTLY FRESH

Fellow across the desk from us tells the children that he's not afraid of thunderstorms, he LIKES to lie under the bed.

When someone says, "of course I'm not," but "what he really means is that you're a fool if you don't take his advice on the subject."

"There's nothing wrong with 'coffee' served by some waiters that a little coffee wouldn't cure."

Grab Eight Youths in Cranbrook Pool

BLOOMFIELD HILLS—Seven 1932 Altadena; Mary K. Lendon, Royal Oak teenagers and a Pontiac, and a juvenile from Royal Oak. All were fined \$10.

Bloomfield Hills police Captain Walter Sluiter said that anyone passing on private property Friday before Bloomfield Hills Judge A. 2424 Eastman; Frederick J. Leslie, 17, of 2408 Linwood, and Anthony M. Bauman, 18, of 1405 Woodboro, all of Royal Oak. He said parents should warn their children about using the pool.

Caught swimming in the Cranbrook pool Thursday night were Patrick J. McLaughlin, 18, of 1304 Vinetta; Robert C. Lyons, 17, of E. Glynn, 17, of 228 Chandler.

ALSO CONVICTED was Michael He said parents should warn their children about using the pool.



SAVE UP TO 25%
Weather-tested
HOUSE PAINT
SALE PRICE \$5.95 gal.
white and colors



NEW WONDER PAINT
CAN'T BLISTER OR PEEL
dries in 20 minutes
RAIN or SHINE
paint with formula
"99"
PRICE SALE \$6.88 gal.
exterior trim . . . wood siding . . . all
beige shades . . . stucco . . . brick
board manures . . . plastic . . . all
board manures . . . cinder block.

PLASTIC GARDEN HOSE
5-Year Guarantee
50 ft. \$1.77

Outdoor Tropic
TORCH Reg. \$5.95
2.44



glamorizes your grounds at night . . . kills pesky bugs and insects . . . 20 hours on one filling . . . provides illumination . . . gives off bright amber torch flame—



No excuse for crabgrass. Now you can end it fast—with CLOUT. Simply fill the



Scotts Spreader, set the dial to 7, and go for a walk. The job's done—and you're their



hero! Nice work. CLOUT® to treat 5000 sq ft. \$6.95

Need a Scotts Spreader? Save \$5.00 right now and reap the benefits year-round. CLOUT (\$6.95) plus \$35 Spreader (\$16.95) together now only \$18.90.

ELGIN-6-7300
OPEN SUNDAY 10 to 4
FEDERAL HARDWARE & SUPPLY
SOUTHFIELD at 12 Mile Rd.
OPEN THURSDAY AND FRIDAY TILL 9 P.M.
KE 7-8150