

Union Leaders & Unemployment

To have a handy "whipping boy" upon whom one can try to shift blame for whatever needs blaming at the moment is a nice possession.

For example, the current U.S. unemployment situation has brought forth all manner of criticisms, chiefly by certain labor leaders and certain Socialist-minded politicians.

We can think of nothing more pertinent to the subject than a recent editorial from the New York World-Telegram, titled: "Memo to Meany & Co." Here it is:

The AFL-CIO is preparing to hold a massive rally tomorrow in Washington. The subject: unemployment. The purpose: to demand that the administration and Congress extend more aid to jobless and provide more jobs.

IT'S EASIER TO POINT the finger of blame at government than, say, to ponder certain immutable laws of economics.

We wonder if George Meany and his colleague Walter Reuther have ever reflected on how many of today's unemployed millions have actually been priced out of jobs by greedily irresponsible union leaders.

Have they considered how many jobs

are casualties of senseless strikes, unreasonable wage demands and outrageous featherbedding practices?

When labor costs exceed productivity, when wages eat so deeply into profits that reinvestment capital and a reasonable return to shareholders are jeopardized, management has three choices: raise prices, cut costs or die.

RAISING PRICES is no longer an easy way out—not with fierce foreign competition at home and abroad. So generally it's economize or perish. Some businesses have perished; others have discontinued or curtailed operations made unprofitable by labor costs; the rest have had to economize—chiefly through automation and elimination of expendable jobs.

The net result for the labor market: higher wages, but fewer jobs. Yet some labor leaders already are clamoring for a new round of wage increases—proving that some people refuse to learn anything.

Instead of finding handy scapegoats in the White House and in Capitol Hill, organized labor might find it illuminating to look soberly in a mirror when assessing blame for unemployment.

Don't Pick Him Up



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

Crayfish Reside In 'Snake Holes'

When as children we wandered afield in low swamps and meadows, we frequently came upon deep holes in the ground marked with a clay "collar" or chimney. With the imagination of Tom Sawyer, we envisioned these as "snake holes", frightening ourselves with the thought of some mysterious danger lurking therein.

We are still seeing this same type of burrow but now we know it is the home of a common crustacean, the swamp crayfish. Along the Mississippi valley, this creature is so abundant that it makes holes in earthen dams and its burrows destroy cotton and corn crops. There are numerous species of this fresh water crustacean and its cousin to the lobster and crab, all belonging to the genus "Cambarus."

As they like all crustaceans are creatures with jointed legs and bones. They carry their skeletal structure on the outside as a chitinous shell. Attached to the rigid head and thorax is a seven-segmented abdomen. This exoskeleton, which is strong and light and colored to blend with its surroundings, serves as a protective suit of armor.

THE BURROWS of the swamp crayfish are one to three feet deep, ending in a water-filled cavity. Here the creature lives, escaping its natural enemies and plant and animal matter or to journey to a nearby stream, there to live in wait for fish and fresh water insects.

These it tears to pieces with its powerful mandibles. After the food is crushed and swallowed it is finally ground to pieces in the stomach by a gastric mill equipped with teeth. Many more species of crayfish live in ponds and streams, hiding under stones or debris by day and foraging by night. All are similar in structure and life history.

Our crayfish, which at most is only six inches long, looks very

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From The Eccentric's Point of View...

Martin Carl Weinrich, 155 Vorn Lane, son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert J. Weinrich, is a Birmingham high school senior who recently won a scholarship "in the largest and most rigorous scholarship competition" in the school's long history. Young Weinrich, befitting modesty, says that "my winning the scholarship would have been much less likely without their (teachers') help, or without a good educational program." He thus pays rightful tribute to the environment surrounding his educational adventure. A Lathrup Village student, Linore Hobbs, also won a Merit scholarship. Our hat is off to both these students. They are credits to their parents, teachers, and most important of all, to themselves!

other adults within your little world haven't convinced you that other virtues have been responsible for America's material abundance, and America's basic freedoms, then no editor can do the job to your need's satisfaction.)

Seems as though some of the professors at Michigan State University are opposed to what they term "dictatorial" methods from their top bosses, the Board of Trustees, via the University's administrative officials. The profs don't like to have so little to say about salaries, tenure, curriculum, promotions, and appointments. Thus, Dear Lady, even among practitioners of so-called higher education there appears to be a lack of applied intelligence.

Twenty-six years ago George F. Pierrot began the first program of "World Adventure Series", designed to increase public attendance and appreciation of the various exhibits at Detroit's Institute of Arts. April 19 saw the millionth ticket sold for the Series, which consists of various colored motion pictures of adventure and travel experiences from every part of this earth. Pierrot's Series also includes TV programs. As one of countless thousands of interested viewers, we applaud Pierrot's program, and his personal dedication to the cause of good entertainment.

National Geographic Society experts now assert that to have others say that "You eat like a pig" is no stigma or disgrace—for pigs, they declare, never overeat. Well, that's that. Now if the Society, or some other reputable group, can prove that to be called a "fool" is no stigma or disgrace, then maybe the human race more quickly may rise to higher levels of civilization.

Stevenson, Kennedy and Symington—in that order—are reported to be favorites among Democrats for nomination to the Presidency, come 1960. "Soapy" wasn't even mentioned—but I'll bet he'll be remembered by most of the square dancers he called for.

"Why should I break my back trying to work hard all my life, when I can get a fairly good living by getting into a job where powerful labor leaders and socialist-minded politicians will see that I get enough to keep me and the family I may raise", asks a young high school graduate of a newspaper editor. (We'd answer thusly: If your parents, your teachers, and

Just imagine how thrilling, though, to be a State of Michigan unpaid employee—sorta nice to recall in later years that "I once failed to receive my regular pay check from one of the greatest among the fifty States!"

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ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

The nation's annual cleanup campaign is well under way.

There will be more unused, unwanted items lining curbs in the next few days than at any other time of year.

(Chances are there's just as much being saved (?) but which will go out NEXT year.)

But in this accumulation of odds and ends, there might be something your public library would be interested in... historical treasures, we mean.

Every year sees the destruction of old letters, diaries, journals, photographs, newspapers which have historical value. Some of them even have monetary value.

These should be preserved where people can refer to them. That's where your local librarian can help. Check with him (or her) before destroying any old documents, photos or newspapers your spring-

cleaning urge uncovers.

A housewife's sewing basket is just a collection of odds and mends.

No question about it—you CAN buy cheaper coffee in Brazil. But look at the fare!

If we ever ask you "Who do you think we are?", please don't tell us.

These days the easiest entertainment you can provide your guests is to listen to them.

We wish more people would take "Gee, that's too bad!" as a statement, not an agreement.

Some women take things to heart. Others take them to court.

Happenings of Long Ago

Bits of News Gleaned From Old Files Of The Eccentric

50 YEARS AGO
May 23, 1909

"If you are in arrears for telephone tolls or rentals now is the accepted time to pay up. Do it now. Manager Mitchell is aching to have a list of all paid up patrons—just once."

"Birmingham will look its prettiest now for the next six weeks, and then comes the dust, the hot sun and everybody longing for fall weather. Won't have to long very long this summer."

"The art of conversation consists in knowing where to begin, what to say, and when to stop."

"The family of L. G. Peabody has been entertaining a relative from the East."

30 YEARS AGO
May 23, 1929

"The Eccentric this month celebrates its fifty-first anniversary."

"All signboards must be removed from along the highways in Bloomfield Hills by the next six weeks. It was decreed by a unanimous vote of the village commission at a special meeting Tuesday."

ing. It was a real cleanup, he declared, one of the best the city ever had."

STRICTLY FRESH

If you don't think that children pay attention to grownup's conversation, send them on a stop kaffeeklatch of small fry.

Nicest thing about golf is that it keeps our neighbor away from home all weekend.

Show us a man who spends every spare moment tending his yard and we'll show you a determined wife.

Fellow across the desk from us plays the horses only in summer; he doesn't miss his shirt as it sits he doesn't miss his nature as it smiles, as feasting in shirt as the soles on children's shoes.

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF REVIEW OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLL OF BLOOMFIELD HILLS TO THE OWNERS OF OTHER PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED LOTS AND PARCELS OF LAND:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT A Special Assessment Roll has been prepared and is on file in the office of the Township Hall in the Township of Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, for the purpose of reviewing said special assessment roll and hearing any objections thereto.

ROBERT H. DUDLEY
TOWNSHIP CLERK

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