

This 'Watch Dog' Scolds Foreign Aid

The Comptroller General of the United States is the top-dog auditor of our tax money. He holds office for 15 years, which means that no President can pressure him very much.

It is his job to report to Congress whether 78 billion dollars of public funds are "economically and efficiently administered and expended." Unfortunately, the money is often spent and gone before an audit can be made. However, the Comptroller General is not a member of the executive branch, and is the only watchdog we have who has no ax to grind to increase spending and cover up waste.

What does he say about "foreign aid"? He says the weakness of his pet agency of the Administration is too much money, not too little.

THE PRESIDENT TALKS about four billions of foreign aid, and how small a slice that is of what you earn.

Congressman Passman of Louisiana is Chairman of the Foreign Operations Subcommittee on Appropriations. He says the total foreign aid cost, including the interest "we pay on what we borrow to give away," is over 10 billions a year.

There are seven foreign spending agencies dishing out the dough, in addition to the one the President talks about. These, of course, include military assistance. Together, they spend more than the big boy, himself—the International Cooperation Administration.

But 43,000 foreign aiders in 76 countries continue to put the heat on Congress for more of your money.

Railroads Fighting For Life

Most of our railways were laid around 100 years ago—with many stations only seven to ten miles apart. Now, however, the competition of automobiles, trucks, pipe lines, airplanes, etc., has made these little stations obsolete, and their continued operation a terrific loss.

But aside from the competition of other agencies of passenger and freight movement, the railway labor unions are pushing many railroads closer to bankruptcy.

They are able to do this, of course, only because Congress and the U.S. Supreme Court permit them to do so.

Take the case of the Chicago and North Western Railroad. It has been struggling to close its obsolete stations. The average day's work in these little one-man stations is less than one hour, and some have work

for one man for only 12 minutes a day. Yet the employees get a full day's pay. In some cases, this amounts to \$300 an hour!

IN TRYING TO CLOSE these stations, with the approval of the State public utility commissions, the Railroad's management was confronted by the Union's demand that no job whatever be abolished without the Union's consent, or they would strike!

The Railroad offered to do everything possible to find other jobs, or grant substantial termination compensation to any employees whose jobs would be abolished.

But no dice. The U.S. Supreme Court has held, 5 to 4, that the Norris-La Guardia Act of Congress gives the Union that power.

From The Eccentric's Point of View...

Are you opposed to the spendthrift tendency of the Democratic-controlled U.S. Congress? Do you (whether you be a Republican or a Democrat) believe that the time has come for less wastefulness on the part of Washington, D.C.? Would you like to retain a few more of the hard-earned dollars you receive for your labor? Then contact your member of Congress, both Representatives and Senators. They are the people who really determine what your federal taxes shall be. Unless you do, personally, by meeting, letter, telegram or telephone, let 'em know your feelings on this subject... well, most of 'em will

act like the child at the cookie jar: keep his fingers in it until you tell him: "Leave those cookies be!"

We are told, on theological authority, that it takes about five years for the average seminary graduate to unlearn everything the "old Fellows" told him about sermons and begin to talk in a language that the average layman understands. From then on, for the remainder of his ministerial life, he tries to prove to his congregations that the Ten Commandments and the Golden Rule should be committed not only to memory—but also to life!

The Birmingham Eccentric

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ONE THING OR ANOTHER

BY GEORGE WM. AVERILL

Once upon a time there was this newspaper editor, see?

He went around gathering news in a town where people lived. That's where he published his paper.

He was a man who said what he thought. Like the way his readers told him what THEY thought.

Of course, his readers all the time were telling him what they thought of him, too. But he was a patient man, in spite of what he said about what he thought.

BUT FINALLY, ONE DAY, he thought he had been patient long enough. So he took typewriter in hand (to coin a phrase) and published his thoughts to them in as direct a way as his townsmen expressed their oft-repeated thoughts to him.

And here is his question-and-answer article:

Q: Where did your newspaper get its name?

A: The same way you got yours—it was given to us.

Q: How about some different color ink once in a while—say red?

A: The only one in our office who can use red ink is the bookkeeper—and she's got orders to use as little as possible.

Q: Why do you make all those misprints?

A: Those are especially for the readers who would be disappointed if they didn't find SOMETHING wrong.

Q: When are you going to print comic strips?

A: Some people tell us we're printing a pretty funny paper now.

Q: Why don't you print an "advice-to-the-lovelorn" column?

A: Because only people in the big cities need such advice.

Q: Why do you re-write the news items I send in?

A: Because we think we can write them better.

Q: What would you give me for writing a weekly grass-roots philosophy column?

A: Oh, say 20 bucks a week—in confederate money.

Q: Why don't you write more editorials telling the city commission and school board what to do?

A: How about you going to their next meetings—and telling 'em yourself?

Q: Why don't you print more letters to the editor?

A: Why don't you write me some? And sign your name to 'em—don't be a coward.

Q: How come you print so much social news all the time?

A: Maybe it's because there's so much social activity going on around here?

Q: You think you're pretty good, don't you?

A: I like you, too!



PEOPLE'S COLUMN

Oakland League Re-Emphasizes Its Impartiality

To the Editor:

I noticed your article about the publication and distribution of our bulletin, in your edition of last week 7-28-60. Thank you; the coverage was a great help.

However, the candidates committee does make a very sincere effort, as is evidenced by the present primary bulletin, to prefer the person most qualified for the office he or she is seeking.

Therefore, I feel that your substitution of terms implying party favoritism, for those of the release emphasizing non-partisanship, may have left a wrong impression in some quarters.

Nevertheless, I wish to express my thanks for the fine assistance you have extended to the Oakland Citizens League throughout the past months. Without such help from the press our task of informing the general public on Oakland County governmental matters would be immeasurably more difficult.

It is my hope that in the very

near future I will have the opportunity to meet you personally. We both have the same goal—namely, a more enlightened Oakland County citizenry. However, our problems are individual. Therefore, I feel that by sitting down together for a brief discussion, a better understanding of these problems may be achieved.

JOHN C. PARKER
Executive Director

County Head Says Thanks

To the Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to express the appreciation of the County to the Birmingham Eccentric for the assistance and backing given the County in the millage proposals submitted to the people at the election last Tuesday.

Although the electors did not see fit to give us approval of a millage to finance the construction of the administrative wings on the new Court House Tower, we did have opportunity to fully present our proposals and acquaint the

people with the needs of the County.

THE BACKING and efforts of The Birmingham Eccentric in this program has served as a valuable contribution to the community.

The board of supervisors will shortly be making a reevaluation of the program. They will be considering alternative means of financing the project in the future. We have valued your assistance in the past and will look forward to having any suggestions or comments that you may desire to make in the future.

Again, thanks for your cooperation.
DELOS HAMLIN,
Chairman
Board of Supervisors
(See PEOPLES COL. Page 7-B)

Happenings of Long Ago

Bits of News Gleaned From Old Files Of The Eccentric

50 YEARS AGO

August 12, 1910

A Birmingham man, Frank Weaver, a conductor for the Detroit Urban Railway, was seriously injured last week when a load of auto bodies passing near his car struck him and threw him out of the car. Weaver was sitting in the car window, with his hips projecting out, when the accident occurred. He was taken to a Detroit hospital where he was treated for a broken leg, a broken arm, three broken ribs, and possible internal injuries.

The complaints from Mr. J. H. Bortle about the dust problem on Maple avenue were answered by a neighborhood effort to aly the dust. Contributions totaling \$44 came in and Bortle purchased several drums of calcium.

THE ECCENTRIC endorsed Patrick H. Kelly for the job of governor. The endorsement stated that no other man "so thoroughly realizes the needs and possibilities of the great commonwealth."

30 YEARS AGO

August 14, 1930

"The growth of population and business in Birmingham and vicinity during the past five years has been so rapid and steady that the Michigan Bell Telephone company proposes to build one of its largest branch office buildings here within the next few years at a cost of several hundred thousand dollars."

More than 500 people are expected to be on hand when Alex J. Groebeck and Sen. James Coumans speak at an open meeting of the Birmingham Rotary club. The speakers will be introduced by George R. Averill, publisher of the Birmingham Eccentric.

Thieves, who gained entrance to a house, West Maple through a kitchen window, stole clothing, household goods and china valued at approximately \$3,000. Sheriff's deputies are continuing their search for the burglars who broke into the home of Waldemar P. Adams.

15 YEARS AGO

August 3, 1945

Two Army flyers were killed last Thursday after their military plane crashed into a home on Big Beaver road. The plane was noticed dropping to a low altitude as it neared Big Beaver and headed for the home of Mr. and Mrs. Erick Prazen, 2130 Big Beaver road. The plane hit the ground about 150 feet from the house, crashed into the building, causing extensive damage and rolled on to a garage, chicken coop and another small building.

Birmingham dog owners who have not paid their yearly dog license appear to be in for a session with the city authorities as the city commission has laid plans to have the dog ordinance enforced. A dog census is being made at the present time.

STRICTLY FRESH

Every high school should have a speech class to teach people when not to speak.

It seems that the only thing we ever get just for the asking is trouble.



Inside your income is the best place to start looking for financial security.

They say courtesy is contagious. Maybe somebody should start an epidemic.

Split level homes really aren't new. It's just that people used to admit they lived above a garage.

See it now...

the new
AUSTIN HEALEY '3000'



Fabulous successor to the famous Austin Healey 100-Six which has dominated competition in its class. Top speed, 115 m.p.h. Disc brakes. A thrill to drive. 12 month warranty.

Authorized Distributors for MO, Morris, Austin Healey, Jaguar

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Heat your home this modern way

It's almost like magic... no heater in basement or attic and no heating ducts! The new R&M-Hunter ELECTRIC BASEBOARD replaces the regular baseboard in your home to give you the cleanest, safest and most healthful heat ever. Enclosed heating elements radiate warm air and circulate it where it's needed... from floor level upward and from wall to wall. Built-in thermostats give you heat control in each room, for added comfort and savings on heat bills.

For heating recommendations and estimates, phone



Northland

Electric Heating Co.
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August
Pre-Season
Sale on

PARKAS

for Boys and Young Men

Just the thing for the cold Fall and Winter weather ahead. Made by St. Croix, these Parkas are an outstanding pre-season value. Pick one for your boy from these sure to please colors: Beige, Olive Green or Gold. (Reg. \$19.98—Sale \$17.98 only). Styled just the way he will like it, and made from high quality cotton, with warm inner lining.

ORLON PILE

Cotton shell, with fine Orlon pile lining. Knit cuffs and collar. Completely washable, with detachable satin lined hood. With hood—sizes 6-14. Without hood—sizes 14-20.

VEREL LINED

Hooded style, with knit collar and cuffs. Can be washed or dry cleaned. Hood is lined with remarkable new Verel and can be zipped off. Sizes 8-20.

reg. \$14⁹⁸ \$12⁹⁸

reg. \$19⁹⁸ \$17⁹⁸

Mulholland's
Continues Its
Parade of Fine
August Values

