

Drift To Bureaucratic Controls

Years ago, the children's poet, Eugene Field, wrote:
"But I, when I undress me
Each night, upon my knees
Will ask the Lord to bless me
With apple-pie and cheese!"
Field is dead sixty years. He wrote this in the "Dark Ages," now repealed by the Nursemaid State.

Field went to the Little Red Schoolhouse where the teacher had the right to enforce discipline, and children had to study what their elders thought best for them, rather than snappers courses.

IN THOSE horse-and-buggy days, children had chores to do at home—and did them. Child labor was not forbidden, and because no one had a "right" to an education, thousands of youngsters actually worked their way through school and col-

lege, and learned as much from their work as from their books.

Strange to say, this period produced Edison, Ford, Will Rogers, Ty Cobb, T. R., and many other "greats".

Fathers and mothers actually considered themselves responsible for their youngsters, and not the City Council, Board of Education, or a Federal Bureau. Light taxes and sound money made it possible for mothers to be home keepers—not bread winners.

Way back then, folks didn't struggle to make the World, so perfect that no one need be good!

Apple pie and cheese is probably doomed now. Apples never killed anybody, but cheese is fattening, and obesity does shorten life. Consequently, the Welfare State, if true to duty, will soon outlaw a favorite dessert!

Comrade Mikoyan Calls On Castro

Now that Comrade Mikoyan, the old rug merchant, has been visiting Cuba, what "cloak and dagger" plots were laid in our back yard?

When he comes bearing gifts, he bears watching!

Mikoyan claimed to be on a peaceful mission — to renew diplomatic relations, and make trade agreements with the Cubans. We have no objection to that. We, too, trade with Russia — a little. But his real purpose was to initiate Fidel Castro into the Communist brotherhood.

Who can have any confidence in the Russian-Cuban trade (?) talks while U.S. business is being booted out of Cuba, and its properties seized? This is regardless of our trade agreements and treaties with Cuba; and irrespective of the fact that the U.S. pays a higher price for sugar than any other country.

From The Eccentric's Point of View...

Senator John F. Kennedy, and many others, openly declare themselves for "equal rights for all people... non-discrimination on every phase of life and living...". Yet in Kennedy's own state of Massachusetts a strike is on at the Bethlehem shipyard in Quincy. Picket lines refuse to allow hundreds of non-striking naval architects, engineers and others to get to work. Quincy's police chief openly says that "the streets of Quincy would be needlessly drenched in blood", if the law against assault and battery were enforced. Of course, Senator Kennedy knows of this condition... but he's so busy electioneering that he hasn't time to fight for the right of non-striking workers to earn a living by getting to their jobs.

Imagine it! The Congress levies your taxes, thus reaching right into your left, right and back pockets, then determines when your collective taxes are to be spent. Then, when Congress wants to find out just how, why and where much of this money is spent, the agency in question says: "Sorry, this is secret stuff, executive privilege!" (And, you may cynically remember, "public officials are supposed to be the servants of the people.")

One of Detroit's top officials proposes a four or five dollar tax on autos, the revenue to be used to build and maintain Detroit's streets. Problem: not all autos that use Detroit's streets are owned by Detroit-

If this was to be considered a friendly visit, why did Comrade M. say that the Capitalist World is destined not to grow, and claim that the Socialistic System is better? In the U.S. we have free enterprise. The Soviet economy is strictly managed.

He claims that Russia has no economic crises, nor depressions; the workers do not have to strike to gain their goals. He says that they get better wages by cooperating with the government. Labor in Russia is a matter of honor and duty—so he says. What he failed to say is: The State is the Master in Russia. Workers have no voice in anything. They are slaves of the State.

Looks like the Russian rug merchant is violating dynamite in our back yard, and violating the Monroe Doctrine—while we seem to remain silent and take it!

... so how could Detroit tax their autos? Come to think of it, though, aren't autos paying enough taxes as it is?

One fact about the Eisenhower administration (in this apparent one) He has placed his (and thus his party's) stamp of approval upon many of the formerly Republican-criticized New-Fair Deal policies. It's a case of the elephant lying down with the donkey—such strange goings-on in the great American political zoo.

Wonder if the "Skater's Walzer" originated in the mind of its composer who might have been a devotee of hockey?

What you needlessly postpone doing today... well, maybe you won't have a tomorrow in which to do it.

Long it has been said that "money talks". How true it is, these days... how interest (ing), also.

The Soviet Reds may, now and then, be ahead of the Western World in putting missiles into space... but, when it comes to enjoyment on this old earth, your Uncle Sam has more happier, healthier and prosperous nephews and nieces than anything ever achieved in Russia.

Some people wrest a living from life... while others just rest while living.

"They All Love It Here in the Spring"



NATURE NOW

by Lydia King Prehse
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eclectic

Thin Skin of Earth Supports Life, Man

To many of us soil is nothing more or less than the flat or hilly surface over which we walk each day to store or market or office. But it is in truth the very source of our life and upon its wise usage rests all our future.

Soil is eroded earth's crust enriched by millions of years of living and dying. Pick up a handful of debris from the forest floor. The top layers are still intact. Here one may find leaves, bark, seeds, animal excrement, dead insects and their pupae, a bit of fur. When rotted by the action of weather and bacteria they are gradually turned into humus. The proportion of these decayed plant and animal remains, determines to a large extent the richness of any given soil.

SOIL MAKING began with the advent of plants and animals upon our bare and rocky earth. When the ancient seas retreated, life gradually moved out on land. Our geologic ages came and went in slow succession each millions of years in length and each sustaining an egg-shell fragment, a small rodent's skull, a bit of fur. When rotted by the action of weather and bacteria they are gradually turned into humus. The proportion of these decayed plant and animal remains, determines to a large extent the richness of any given soil.

Earthquakes often repeated shook the ancient swamps, burying their lush plant life. Mrs. Prehse great mountain ranges were heaved up and worn down. Volcanoes smoldered and belched forth the molten rocks of the earth's interior. Seas and water ways were established and re-established.

IN THE MEANTIME, the weapons of wind and water never ceased their work of wearing away and leveling. As the slow ages wore on, nature tried many experiments in plant and animal types which presented an everchanging landscape. In this panorama of life, soil played an increasingly important role.

During the last million years, a series of glacial ages began. Four or five times great masses of ice as much as two miles thick slowly crept southward from the Arctic

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PAUL NEAL AVERILL
Business Manager
GEORGE WM. AVERILL
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ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

Remember back when a high strung man was only a horse thief who got caught?

For the woman who has everything: a kitchen apron trimmed with mink.

Why is it socially acceptable to be known as a "wine lover" — but not as a "gin lover"?

What is more useless than one cuff link—or a single carrying?

Gentlemen supposedly prefer blondes. Perhaps this is because blondes have more luxuriant hair. They average about 140,000 hairs per head. A brunette averages 105,000, while redheads average only 90,000.

The size of the things you criticize shows the size of your character.

Some people are eager to help you along life's pathway. They spread banana skins before each of your steps.

Happenings of Long Ago

Bits of News Gleaned From Old Files Of The Eccentric

50 YEARS AGO
April 1, 1910
"Free lunch all day long election day at the National hotel. Go and get a bite, be you dry or wet."

"Where, oh, where is our street sprinkler? If Woodward avenue ever needed a wetting it needs it now, and needs it badly."

30 YEARS AGO
April 3, 1930
"Because of the evident lack of Walter R. DeLonge Atty., 1101 Pontiac State Bank, Pontiac, Michigan."

STATE OF MICHIGAN — The Probate Court for the County of Oakland, in the Matter of the Estate of VIRGINIA H. GIBSON, Deceased.
At a session of said court, held at the Probate Court in the City of Pontiac, in said County, on the 17th day of March A. D. 1950.
Present: Honorable Arthur E. Moore, Judge of Probate.
Order appointing time for hearing claims.
Notice is hereby given and it is hereby ordered that the time and place for hearing on claims against the estate of VIRGINIA H. GIBSON, Deceased, shall be the 1st day of June 1950, at the National Hotel, in the City of Pontiac, in the County of Oakland, in the State of Michigan.
All creditors or claimants against the estate of said deceased are hereby notified to present their claims at said hearing, or by mailing such copy to each of them by registered mail, return receipt requested, addressed to the undersigned, containing sufficient detail to show the nature and amount of the claim. It is further ordered that notice be given to all interested parties as shown by records in this cause by mailing a copy of this order to each of them personally, or by mailing such copy to each of them by registered mail, return receipt requested, addressed to their respective residences as shown by records in this cause by mailing a copy to each of them by registered mail, return receipt requested, addressed to their respective residences as shown by records in this cause.
And it is further ordered that public notice of this order may be given by publishing a copy of this order once each week for three consecutive weeks prior to said day of hearing in the BIRMINGHAM FREE PRESS, a newspaper printed and circulated in said county.
ARTHUR E. MOORE,
Judge of Probate

STRICTLY FRESH

It wasn't so long ago that women were dressed on the beaches as they are now in the supermarkets.

Idea of the week: A car pool for parents with children of driving age.

THIS ISN'T EASY

One of the best exercises for a teen-ager is early training in stretching dollars.

Middle age is here when you complain about the rough ride in the golf buggy.

You know spring has arrived when the first of the late snows start to fall.