



OUT ON A LIMB

By Stumpy McCulloch

...ever had an accident?" a city fellow asked Ol' Hannibal the other day.

"Nope."

"Never had an accident in your life?"

"Nope. A rattler bit me once, though."

"Well, don't you call that an accident?"

"Nope," Ol' Hannibal said. "He bit me on purpose!"

As most fellers already know, the market for pulpwood is growing every year, as the demand for newspapers, magazines, books, cartons and wrappings grows. In fact, the average man in this country needs, directly or indirectly, about 350 pounds of paper and paperboard a year. And that means there's more and more reasons for tree farmers — like my neighbor Silas — to grow pulpwood.

Less than 50 years ago, I was telling Silas that the pulpwood mills used only a few kinds of wood — such as spruce, poplar and maple. But today they need ten times as much pulp, and have many new uses for their products, so the list of woods now includes ash, basswood, beech, birch, cherry, elm, gum, hemlock, hickory, maple, pine, poplar, sycamore — in fact, almost any kind! Of course, no single mill uses every kind of wood — so it's best to check your local mills for their requirements!

What's more, the pulp mills accept smaller trees than the lumber mills do — and this means a tree farmer, by careful selection of his trees, can find a market for his whole crop! And he won't lose as much wood when he cuts the defects out of his logs, either — because pulp mills generally use five-foot logs, as opposed to the twelve- or sixteen-foot lengths required for lumber. In many cases, pulpwood pays better than other cash crops a farmer grows.

The future for pulpwood looks bright, the experts say. They list four main reasons for this fact: 1) Better protection of our woodlands from fire and grazing. 2) Extension of roads into isolated sections, and better trucks and other equipment that reduce the labor requirements. 3) Better cutting techniques — leaving a good growing stock of young lumber after each cut. 4) Better use of wood by the mills — which are always looking for ways to use those trees that are plentiful but in little demand for sawmill use.

"Howdy," I said to Absent-Minded Abe the other day. "I hear your wife has had twins. Are they boys or girls?"

"Well, as I recall, one is a boy and one is a girl," Abe said, "but it may be the other way around!"

So long, folks. See you soon!

PAUSE FOR REFLECTION

...With JAMES C. INGEBRETSSEN, President, Spiritual Mobilization

As Gerald Heara points out in the English language, the word that designates man's will is the same word that indicates future tense.

This seems to signify, he suggested, that, as man wills, so will be the future; and this is true — in a measure. But, he added, it is not completely true.

The whole truth is that, as God wills, so will be the future — subject, of course, to man's limited ability to defy and violate God's will. But man's aberrations are puny and transient compared to the eternal majesty of God's plans — which can never be thwarted for long. And whatever of permanence the future holds must be constructed according to those plans.

Hence, it is only as man's will coincides with God's — as man becomes a coworker with God — that the human will actually has a part in building the enduring future. The house built on man's sinful will soon collapses but the house built upon the rock of God's holy will endures forever.

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Warn Motorists To Ready Cars For Bad Weather

With Winter just a temperature drop away, it's time to get the family automobile ready to ride through the storms and rough weather ahead, advises Keystone Automobile Club.

Early "winterizing" will help prevent having the family bus caught without antifreeze when a cold snap arrives suddenly, said Samuel T. Milliken, service manager for Keystone. "Severe cold can badly damage a car's engine and result in costly repairs," he pointed out. "Here are a few suggestions for free - from - trouble Winter driving:

"Drain and flush the car's radiator and cooling system. A good chemical cleaner will help get rid of any accumulation of rust sludge.

"Replace worn or cracked hoses and fan belts and check connections for possible leaks.

"Purchase the type of anti-freeze best suited to your needs. 'Permanent' type antifreeze lasts the entire winter and can be used at anytime and anywhere, regardless of climate. Especially is this type recommended for heavy duty driving and for temperatures below sub-zero.

"Standard type anti-freeze is satisfactory for average winter driving. It won't boil away too quickly in modern pressurized systems.

"In addition, now's the best time to have the car's engine tuned up, the battery checked and a change made to winter grade lubricants. Also, check windshield wipers, defroster, brakes and all lights.

"Worn tires should be replaced, of course; they're very dangerous on slippery roads. If you have snow tires, put them on. If you have chains, make sure they're ready for immediate service.

Paving Barnyard Pays Dividends

"Paving a barnyard or feeding floor is often one of the most profitable improvements a farmer can make around the farmstead," declares John N. Walker, instructor in agricultural engineering extension at the Penna. State University, in the coming issue of "Science for the Farmer."

Quick, low-cost gains are vital to livestock feeders. Walker says research at a mid-western college shows steer calves gained 146 lbs. per head when kept on a paved lot and only 125 lbs. per head when kept on a dirt lot. Less feed was needed for the calves on concrete. The tests covered a 60-day period from March to May.

Paved lots pay for themselves, Walker points out. Hogs and cattle make faster gains with less feed during bad weather. Feed and manure are not tramped into mud. Parasite and disease problems are more easily controlled. Cows are kept cleaner and mud is not brought into the barn or the shelter.

Just the manure saved by paving a steer feed lot will pay for the cost of paving after two 6-month feeding periods, research shows.

If ready mixed concrete costs \$16 a yard, it costs about 20 cents a square foot to pave any area, assuming a 4-inch slab thickness.

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WASHINGTON AND "SMALL BUSINESS"

By C. WILSON HARDER

Rep. Frank Thompson Jr. (N.J.) introduced a bill to the nation's independent business, in a nationwide membership poll by the National Federation of Independent Business, favor measure before House to reduce corporate income tax rates to 22% normal, and 31% surtax.

In Senate, Sen. John Sparkman (Ala.) introduced a bill to change corporate income taxes to start at 5% on first \$5,000, increasing on a graduated scale in accordance with earnings.

Because both measures slightly increase tax rates on corporate earnings of \$500,000 or more, heavily financed ballyhoo opposing them can be expected.

But here are facts. 46.8% of all nation's corporations earn less than \$5,000 per year; 89% earn less than \$50,000 per year.

Altogether, this 89% pays slightly more than a billion dollars per year, or about some amount given away to date to bolster the rule of Communist Tito in Yugoslavia.

As it stands now, a struggling little corporation that makes \$5,000 profit must pay \$1500 in taxes.

While measured against a billion dollars to Communist Yugoslavia, this \$1500 is but a drop in the bucket, yet to that corporation, trying to expand, \$1500 is a sizeable sum.

Rep. Thompson sizes it up by saying that despite economic growth of nation, for past four years growth of new businesses has stood still. Small business is the National Federation of Independent Business.

P. P. & L. STOCK BRINGS INCREASED EARNINGS

Earnings accruing to the common stock of Pennsylvania Power & Light Company for the 12 months ended September 30, 1956 were \$20,342,574, equivalent to \$3.44 per share of common stock outstanding at such date, as compared with \$18,912,724 or \$3.05 per share for the 12 months ended September 30, 1955. Earnings for both periods include earnings of former subsidiary, The Scranton Electric Company, (merged January 31, 1956) for applicable periods prior to merger and earnings for 1955 also include restated earnings of the former Pennsylvania Water & Power Company (merged June 1, 1955). Revenues for the 12 months ended September 30, 1956 on the same basis were \$128,787,174, an increase of 7.1% over comparable revenues for the previous year.

If effect is given to the order of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission dated July 16, 1956, which directs the company to reduce rates by approximately \$1.4 million annually based on conditions for the twelve months ended February 28, 1955 and which the company has appealed to the courts, it is estimated that earnings per share would be \$3.33 for the 12 months ended September 30, 1955.

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P. P. & L. TO GIVE 6 SCHOLARSHIPS

Chas. E. Oakes, Pennsylvania Power & Light Company president, has called attention to the utility's program for educational assistance, under which six more area students can receive scholarships to Central Eastern Pennsylvania colleges. Basic details of the program remain unchanged from the previous years' programs, with each winner receiving \$500 for the year toward tuition and an equivalent sum in meeting worthy educational objectives.

Over 30 years ago Lenin said, "The strength of capitalism lies in the strength of small business, but unfortunately (for communism at that time) small business still survives in a large degree in the United States, giving birth to the middle classes, constantly, hourly, spontaneously, and on a mass scale."

All this was said, of course, before management of U. S. government had taken measures that put a crushing weight on independent business.

About the same time, Lenin also made this prophecy, "Britain," he said, "will expand herself out of existence, Germany will militarize herself out of existence, and America will spend herself out of existence."

Two-thirds of his predictions have come to pass.

It is to prevent the other third from coming to pass that men such as Rep. Thompson and Sen. Sparkman seek to reverse the present system which soaks up the money needed by small business to expand, to weather the storms, and gives it away. They realize that without a healthy American middle class, there will soon be no America. After all, if it is reprehensible to rob Peter to pay Paul, how much more reprehensible is it to rob Main Street to pay Tito.

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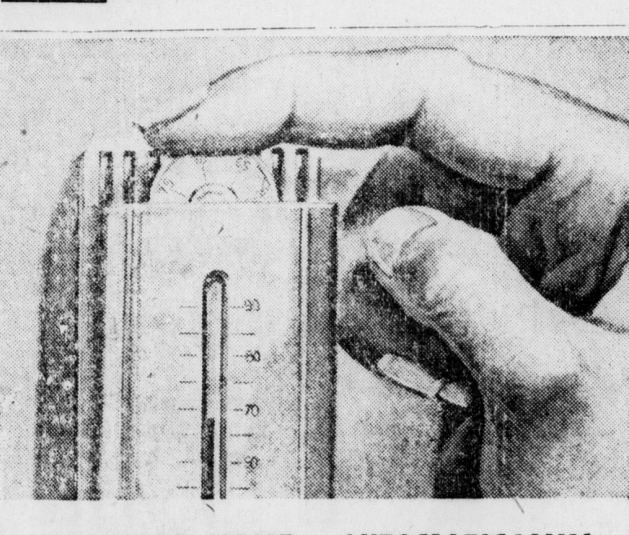
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