

Picks G. B. Shaw For Divine Boon Of Eternal Life

By HAL BOYLE
NEW YORK—(AP)—A Genie is a big-muscled spook who steps out of a smoke cloud and says, "Did you call room service?"

He will then grant you any wish. Suppose one of these fugitives from Aladdin's lamp came to you some moonlit midnight and said:

"I give you the power to confer eternal life on any one person in the world."

Who would you choose? I'd pick the greatest vegetarian of them all—George Bernard Shaw.

The red-haired Irishman who began his career looking like a carrot and has been whitened by the years to the semblance of a streamlined cauliflower.

Why? Well, to begin with I wouldn't want it myself. The average man's yearning for earthly immortality wears out as his experience with the world increases, monkey glands and social security benefits notwithstanding.

For that reason I wouldn't wish it on Professor Einstein or some other great human landmark. Not unless I was sure he wanted it. Nor would I have the heart to inflict it as a curse on my worst enemy. Who's that mad at anybody?

The last sent the school books record as having been granted eternal life wasn't Ponce De Leon who failed to find the fountain of youth in Florida but did beat the first bookie there by ten minutes.

Oversight Upsets Felicity
It was Tithonus, a Trojan Gigolo. Tithonus was the son of a king of Troy and the boy friend of Aurora, the Goddess of Dawn.

She liked her playfellow so well she finally got Daddy Zeus to make him immortal.

But there was a gimmick—she forgot to ask eternal youth for him. So Tithonus kept on living but grew old and shriveled and crabbed. Aurora became so embarrassed by this elderly escort that she shut him up in a chamber and kept him in a cradle, where the poet says his voice "flowed on unceasingly."

The Morn Goddess finally got Tithonus changed into a grasshopper—amid the laughter of the gods.

She would have met a man of tougher fiber had she picked on George Bernard Shaw, the meatless wonder of the literary world. Of course Shaw, one of the most moral men who ever lived, would have made the rosy goddess keep her distance, anyway.

The voice of Shaw, like that of Tithonus, does flow on unceasingly.

ly. But there the resemblance ceases. The voice is witty, reasoned and forceful—still speaking the clearest King's English of any Irishman since Dean Swift.

Life of Endless Battles
Although Shaw is a self-proclaimed physical coward, his life has been one of endless battles, most of which he picked himself—and he still has a lance for every windmill, whether it's steak-eating or vivisection, both of which he's agin.

A Barnum of the highbrows, no man ever praised himself harder and few ever lived up to their own estimate more. He didn't actually say he was a better dramatist than Shakespeare. He was more subtle—he just rewrote Shakespeare to show how he could be improved.

Puckish and elfin as ever, this acidulous Santa Claus, having outlived two generations of critics, is composing another drama in his ninety-second year and still finding time to engage in post-card debates on religion with American college students.

Outdraws Shakespeare
He is currently Broadway's highest paid dramatist. His "Man and Superman" revival is outdrawing that upstart Shakespeare's "Antony and Cleopatra" by \$7,000 a week—and Shakespeare is being helped by Katherine Cornell.

Most of the \$1,000 a week Shaw gets from capitalistic America goes to support the socialist austerity of Britain, but socialism is what he asked for long ago. Most of those who hooted him then are dead, but Shaw's still in there helping pay the bill to keep going one of the few crusades he's won.

He has another old play on the boards in London, and a second production in rehearsal here. The money keeps pouring in like a golden shower on the bearded old boy, who lives almost as simply as Gandhi and is his only rival as a lettuce eater.

Time, misfortune and fortune, ignominy and fame, hatred and acclaim—all have failed to dent the splendid armor of this emperor of jesters. Who else alive has entertained the world more, enjoyed living better, or kept his faith—for all his idiosyncrasies—unshaken for so long?

Who else could get more fun out of eternal life and teach us more, than Bernie?—He who once said with a profundity above the implied ecstasies:

"You should live so that when you die God is in your debt."

Hannchen Barley Scarce As Seed Demand Increases
Seed of Hannchen barley is so scarce because of heavy purchases for malting and by the government for export that growers may need to take early action

to obtain enough for spring planting, warns Dr. D. D. Hill, head of the farm crops department at Oregon State College.

Adverse weather conditions preventing fall seeding of other grains, and prevailing high prices for this barley for malting purposes, have combined to increase the demand for spring supplies for seed and other uses.

High yielding Hannchen has been the standard spring variety for western Oregon for the past 25 years, hence seed of it has attained a high degree of purity, essential in the malting process.

Dr. Hill fears that if Hannchen seed is not obtained, growers will be tempted to introduce other sorts which would not only give lower yields but also cause mixture of the two-row and six-row types.

Delinquency Upped By Lack of Needed Buildings, Claim

Col. Theodore P. Bank, president of the Athletic Institute and wartime director of the Army's physical fitness programs, warns that building restrictions on recreational facilities are contributing to the increase of juvenile delinquency and limiting the expansion of physical fitness under supervised conditions.

"All of us recognize that limited supplies of construction materials have slowed up the building of homes," Col. Bank declared, "and we are unanimous in the conviction that housing comes first. At the same time, however, we must recognize this important fact: Inadequate facilities for wholesome recreational sports are contributing to the juvenile delinquency problem."

"There is a woeful lack of play fields and play buildings, where men, women and youngsters can develop physical fitness in the American way—through health building sports."

He added that the materials required for needed recreational facilities would merely scratch the surface of the general demand for construction supplies, with the result that housing construction would not suffer from the very limited requirements of sports and recreation.

Col. Bank recalled the emphasis the Armed Services placed on sports during the recent war, and he pointed to the contribution wholesome recreational pursuits of a physical nature made to the physical, mental and emotional fitness of folks on the home front.

Army and Navy findings revealed that too many Americans are "recreation illiterates," he said.

"We must advance the cause of health building sports now," he declared, "Tomorrow, next week or two years from now will be too late."

"With the world dividing itself into two camps—Communist and Democratic—and with the attendant possibility of an eventual struggle that will end all struggles," it is highly essential that young men and women of our country be conditioned and strengthened and that all age groups be provided with the opportunity for recreational participation.

"We must not forget the lessons learned during the recent war. We cannot afford to sit back complacently taking the line of least resistance. Arbitrary and unnecessary legislation against the construction of recreation needs must not hamper the program."

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For further information contact Mr. J. E. Shaw

Rose Hotel between 5 P.M. and 7 P.M. Jan. 29, 30, 31

