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MEMBER AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATION

Limit Too Low

A BANDONMENT of the 50-year age limit for police officers is being considered by the civil service commission. This stringent rule was put into force by the civil service commission some seven or eight years ago, and therefore it is assumed the commission has full authority to abolish it. Furthermore, it would appear that it has sound reasons for such action.

The 50-year limit was imposed, as we remember it, to take care of a specific situation that had arisen in connection with one officer. It has since been on the books, despite one or two abortive movements to have it changed or abolished.

It is not unreasonable to suppose that the civil service commission will want to impose certain restrictions as to age limits, physical conditions, and so on, of police officers. But the 50-year limit is unreasonably low. Many men are in their prime at 50, and there is no good reason to deprive the city of their services or them of their jobs because they happen to pass that birthday. Under present conditions of pay and retirement, city police work offers little enough inducement to good men, without a restriction that will throw men out of their jobs in middle life.

We believe the public would approve action by the commission raising the age limit to a more sensible point.

Steady Gains

FROM Editor and Publisher, trade magazine of the Fourth Estate, come figures showing that the circulation of daily newspapers in the United States in the last 20 years has gained 42.7 per cent, and Sunday papers have upped 84.5 per cent, while the population gain in the same period was 24.3 per cent.

Some 1888 newspapers in 1939 had a combined circulation of 39,670,682, compared to 27,790,656 in 1920.

American newspapers have achieved these gains because they have steadily improved their services to their readers and advertisers, and because they have maintained the freedom to deal honestly with the public.

During difficult periods, newspapers of general circulation have fought to keep up their standards. Objective treatment of the news, and divorcement of the news and editorial policies, have maintained and increased public confidence in them. In recent times, American newspapers have kept their freedom, while in many another country the press has become the mere mouthpiece for government bureaucracy.

Action in Europe

FROM now on out the European war may be far different from the inactive affair that has been going over the stalemated western front.

The public in France and England may get the action it has been clamoring for, and it may be pretty hard to take. British have opened the way with a terrific raid on a German base, and it is highly probable the Germans will soon reply in kind. Action means destruction and death, and it is to be assumed France and England will get a heavy share.

The manner in which public criticism has been voiced of Allied war policies is an interesting demonstration of the immense differences that still exist between the democracies and the dictatorships—despite the recent war-time extensions of centralized power in the democracies. No one would dare raise a voice in Germany as have the critics of Chamberlain and Daladier in England and France. In the latter country, the pressure against the government became so great it resigned, thus creating a great political stir in the midst of the war emergency.

The people were having their way—a privilege that entails sacrifices, but is still held dear and worth the price.

Automobile spark plugs occasionally should be removed from the engine and inspected for such defects as cracked porcelain.

Inmates of London's zoo consume 244,649 bananas, 25,087 oranges, and 196 pounds of jam annually.

LAST DAY "It's A Wonderful World"

VOX
NOW PLAYING!
MYSTERY
thick enough to thin your blood!
LOWE LINDSAY
WINTERMOON DEFENDER
COMpanion HIT
THREE SONS

TOMORROW
I'LL GIVE A MILLION
says WARNER BAXTER
and the season's gayest romantic hit is under way!
MARJORIE WEAVER
PETER LORRE • JEAN HERSHOLT
RAINBOW

NEWS BEHIND THE NEWS

By PAUL MALLON

WASHINGTON, March 20—

Enigma of Mussolini's determination to be a wayward wheel on the Hitler axle is no enigma in the high spots here.

Behind the Hitler-Mussolini meeting in the railroad car, the eager Italian agreement to the British coal blockade, the unseemly Italian press criticism of Von Ribbentrop, and the whole peculiar wobbling stand of Il Duce, are these salient but unannounced facts:

Italy's boot is squeezed into an allied overshoot. The French are aching to fight someone, and prefer Italy. Their military force could do to Il Duce just about what Hitler did to Poland, and a conquest of Italy would cut Hitler's largest outside storehouse. More easily than this, the British could draw the laces on the Suez canal, through which Mussolini is feeding his large military garrisons in Ethiopia. The British would not have to close the Suez to hurt Mussolini. They could just delay transportation of his supply ships there if they merely happened to dislike what he was doing at the moment.

On top of this Italy is prospering from its neutral position, and its population is largely Catholic and strongly anti-communistic.

For these reasons, you will never get anyone in authority here to believe that Hitler's campaign to bring Mussolini in line will be successful.

FACT: Don't count Governor Bricker of Ohio out of your republican expectations, merely because you do not hear him. I understand the agreement in which he gave way to Senator Taft's candidacy is in writing. It calls for Taft's support of Bricker whenever the Ohio senator feels his chances have been blocked.

NUISANCES: The ways of international politics have been amply evident in the secret negotiations of the allied appeasement mission (Ashton-Gwatkin and Rist) at the state department. United States negotiators wanted to know why Italian ships have been getting through the Gibraltar control station so much faster than American ships promptly and Italy had to the British did not have enough men available to inspect all ships promptly and Italy had to be kept placated because Mussolini had a great nuisance value.

Our representatives promptly replied the value of the United States to the allies might assume a nuisance character if the British disregard of American mail and shipping rights continues.

TEST: Either Senator Vandenberg's or Tom Dewey's chance may be severely injured in the crucial Wisconsin primary April 2. A survey on the ground there has been made by a republican authority not involved in the fracas. His report predicted Dewey would get about 10 of the delegates, 14 going to Vandenberg.

The New York prosecutor may make a killing immediately thereafter in Illinois on April 9, where the work of Ruth Hanna McCormick is drawing the admiration of political eyes. She is being called the best politician in the Dewey campaign.

NEW PLANE
ACE: It is administration

Ends Today
GARBO LAUGHS
Garbo
NINOTCHKA
DOUGLAS CLAIRE
COLOR CARTOON NEWS
PINE TREE

SIDE GLANCES



"Let's get out of here—I have a feeling this floor is going to cave in any minute!"

policy to make the release of planes to the allies look casual and routine, but this P-40, latest ship to be released, is not only better than anything in the air in Europe, but anything on the drafting boards. It will outclass the Messerschmitts.

Our next air ace in the hole is the P-46 which is 25 per cent better than the P-40. That is why the administration agreed to release the latter.

OBITUARIES: Only new deal business reform proposal to be seriously presented this session is the Wagner bill to purify investment trusts, and it is being buried without ceremony. There is likewise no chance that action will be taken on the non-new deal Patman chain store tax bill. Farm groups have been quietly rallied to oppose the measure in hearings now starting.

Two minor steps toward reform are being generated in the national economics committee, but with considerable secrecy and lack of enthusiasm. A report showing the impact of taxes upon business has been completed by Willard Thorp, former TNEC liaison man with the commerce department. He seems to want the undistributed profits tax back, but does not mention it by name. SEC Economist Willis Ballinger has a study on the general merits of big and little business in which he concludes the middle-sized company is economically best.

ECHO: Statesmen are always haunted by their own words, few more often than Mr. Roosevelt. After he characterized New Hampshire's Tobey as the only senator who ever advocated disobedience of a law, someone dug up his own remarks in a letter of July 5, 1935, to the late Chairman Sam Hill of a house ways and means subcommittee. Writing in favor of the Guffey coal bill, the president said:

"I hope your committee will not permit doubts as to constitutionality, however, reasonable, to block this suggested legislation."

NOW PLAYING!
PAT O'BRIEN
OLYMPIE ROLAND
BRADNA YOUNG
THE NIGHTMARE
Companion
Laugh Hit!
PHILIPPO
OF PHUN in a
new screentime comedy!
LAUREL **HARDY**
A CANDIDATE
PINE TREE

The Family Doctor

By DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN
Editor, Journal of the American Medical Association, and of Hygeia, the Health Magazine

A COMMON superstition in many portions of the United States is the belief that children of late marriages are unhealthy and short-lived. Associated with this is the idea that babies born from older parents are likely to be more intelligent, successful and brilliant than the babies born of younger parents.

These beliefs are absolutely without any scientific basis. Of course, the age of the mother at the time the child is born may have a definite effect on the ease of the childbirth and on the health of the mother. Experts are convinced that purely from the point of view of ease of childbirth, the ideal age for an American woman to begin her family is between 17 and 19.

When the age of parents affects the nature of the child, it is only through environment of the child after he is born. If a child, born of older parents, is more weakly or frail than other children, the explanation is not found in anything except that the older woman has probably had more diseases which have affected her body up to the time when the child was born.

It is also possible that children born from very old mothers are generally not wanted, and childbirth occurs under unfavorable conditions. The child of older parents is usually surrounded by older

brothers and sisters and their friends and, therefore, is likely to be pampered and spoiled. Such a child frequently spends most of his time with older people and, therefore, tends to become highstrung and precocious.

People who try to bolster up beliefs in the extraordinary genius of children born of older parents are able to point to an occasional notable like Benjamin Franklin and Enrico Caruso to prove that point.

There is nothing about the constitution, the physical or the mental condition of fathers and

mothers over 40 years old to indicate that their age and the conditions of their bodies can in any way influence the mentality of a child.

NEXT: Are left-handed persons unlucky?

ONCE A SCURVY PREVENTATIVE

Originally, lemon sherbet was made as a preventative of scurvy. In an effort to make this antiscorbutic more attractive to patients, a pharmacist of Florence, Italy, froze lemonade in 1660.

It is estimated that the feet endure a stress of 250 tons in carrying an average-weight person one mile.

HERE IS THE SUPREME TRIUMPH... OF MOTION PICTURE ARTISTRY!

CHARLES LAUGHTON

THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME

Coming Friday • PELICAN



Drawn for this advertisement by Thomas Hart Benton, famous American artist

TOMORROW!

WITH A THRILLING SWELL OF PRIDE IN OUR HEARTS WE OFFER TO KLAMATH FALLS THE PICTURE THAT WILL BE SEEN BY MORE PEOPLE IN 1940 THAN WILL "GONE WITH THE WIND"

THE GRAPES OF WRATH

by John Steinbeck

Tom Joad • HENRY FONDA
Ma Joad • JANE DARWELL
Casey • JOHN CARRADINE
Grampa • CHARLEY GRAPEWIN
Rosasharn • DORRIS BOWDON
Pa Joad • RUSSELL SIMPSON
Al • O. Z. WHITEHEAD
Muley • JOHN QUALEN
Connie • EDDIE QUILLAN
Granma • ZEFFIE TILBURY

SEVEN THRILLING DAYS

NO ADVANCE IN PRICES

Color Sport—"Following The Hounds"
Up-To-Minute News Flashes

PINE TREE