

Herald and News

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Along NATURE'S TRAIL with Ken McLeod

The writings of Malinowski gave rise to the well discussed problem of world starvation, aside from this thesis however the Malinowski doctrine developed other interesting sidelights for it was Malinowski who inspired another young man of his time to likewise create another different line of thought. It was the essay written by the Rev. T. R. Malinowski, "On the Principle of Population," that gave Charles Darwin a key for his controversial work, "The Origin of Species." Malinowski first published his work in 1798 while Darwin's work appeared in 1838.

Seven years earlier, on the 27th of December 1831, to be exact, the H.M.S. Beagle, "of 235 tons rigged as a barque, and carrying six guns," slipped from her moorings in Devonport harbor bent upon an expedition of world exploration. No one was thinking of the "Origin of Species" on this occasion and least of all the young Cambridge graduate, Charles Darwin, who was acting in the role of naturalist for the expedition.

Darwin was the son of a wealthy physician who looked with a much jaundiced eye upon his son's activities, at least his father is quoted: "You care for nothing but shooting, dogs, and rat-catching, and will be a disgrace to yourself and all your family."

On the last day of February 1832 the Beagle reached South America and Darwin, just entering his twenty-fourth year of life, stepped ashore on a continent which was destined to raise serious but secret doubts in his mind concerning the origin of living things.

He was not a naturalist who was content merely to collect specimens, to note habits, to chart distributions, or to write accurate descriptions of what he found; he never could restrain his mind from searching into the reason of things. Questions were ever rising in his mind.

Why should those giant fossil animals he dug from recent geological strata be so akin to the little armoured-plated armadillos he found still alive in the same place? Why was it, as he passed from district to district, he found the one species was replaced by another near akin to it?

Did every species of animal and plant remain just as it was created, as was believed by every respectable man known to him? Or did each and all of them change, as some greatly daring sceptics had alleged?

In due course, after surveying many uncharted coasts, the Beagle reached the Galapagos Islands, five hundred miles to the west of South America. Here Darwin's

BILLBOARD

A news release from Coronet magazine informs us that in 1905 things are gonna be different. Leo Cherne, who happens to be the director of the Research Institution of America, comes out and says that we can expect changes in almost every aspect of life.

He claims, after a glance into his crystal ball, that the work week will be only four days and that all holidays except Christmas and New Year's will fall on Mondays. Your income will be up about twenty per cent, too, he claims, although he doesn't say what will happen to your expenses.

He goes further to say that sun power will heat and cool your home and microwave devices will cook your food. Cherne feels that the development of sun power will rival that of the atomic power race. One of the two cars in your garage will be powered with a gas turbine that will afford you a great saving in fuel costs.

And world wars will be eliminated. It all sounds like a beautiful dream, but here and there I seek to find a few flaws in the reasoning. For one thing, if a gas turbine car will run for sixty-six per cent less cost than a conventional powered automobile why will you own only one? Why not own two and save a hundred and thirty two per cent?

Income may be up, all right, but if we have only a four day work week that is going to leave an awful lot of free time to spend and loafing has always been an expensive proposition. Seems to me that even though we boost the income the additional cost of amusing ourselves will more than eat up the gain. Anyway, us poor slaves in the newspaper won't be on any four day week. We'll still work the same old schedule so we can run lists of places to go for the rest of the population who don't have to work.

And this business of doing the cooking by microwaves leaves me pretty cold. I suppose any such process will be more or less instantaneous and will in all probability be odorless. Can you imagine anything worse than having a delicious roast and then cooking it without the wonderful aroma that permeates the house as the succulent piece of beef turns on the spit, sizzling, the juices running around and around it 'til they finally fall into the pan? I can't.

Of course I'm all in favor of the last item. That one about ending world wars. I don't know how he proposes to do it; suppose I'll have to find someone with a copy of the magazine and find out. But if he can do it then he's welcome to all the changes he wants to make.

The thing that strikes an incongruous note, however, is that here we are in a world where the youngsters still buy more cowboy suits than they do space outfits, where about half our comics are based on the cowboys and Indians theme, where the movies are concentrating heavily on giddy-ups, where the use of outdoor parties and camp grounds is constantly rising, where the back-to-nature movement seems to be taking hold in a big way, and still we keep dreaming of all these new gimmicks that will put us strictly in the world of Buck Rogers.

I remember seeing an advertisement in a national magazine way back before the war (the one where we were quarreling with Japan and Germany) showing a hunter camp of the 1950's. The illustration showed a group of red coated hunters lounging around a camp that was lited with electric refrigerators, stoves and lighting equipment of all kinds, all powered from a small and compact power plant unit they packed along. Can't remember just what the power was, but it was pretty fancy.

So, the last camp I saw the fellows were still doing their cooking on a Coleman and using a gas lantern for light. So, somehow, I incline a little to doubt that such progress as Mr. Cherne promises is just around the corner. At least I hope not.

James Marlow

By DON WHITEHEAD
WASHINGTON (AP)—The center of power in the Eisenhower administration remains firmly rooted in the White House today with no foreseeable likelihood that it will be shifted to Vice President Richard M. Nixon.

A White House source says there is "absolutely no reason" for any delegation of presidential powers to the vice president at this time because President Eisenhower is fully capable of making any major decisions necessary.

There has been a good deal of speculation here that Nixon very likely would take over a large part of the burden of the presidency until such time as Eisenhower is able to return to his desk. But this talk is now diminishing.

Presidential Press Secretary James C. Hagerly had announced in Denver that the attorney general's office would be asked to prepare an opinion on the legal problems involved and the extent and means by which presidential authority could be delegated temporarily.

The Constitution says the vice president takes over in case of the President's removal, death, resignation, or "inability to discharge the powers and duties of office." But it does not spell out the extent of the inability, say who shall determine it, or specifically provide for any temporary delegation.

Atty. Gen. Brownell said on arriving in New York yesterday from Spain that he would prepare an opinion on the powers of transfer authority as soon as possible. But a short time later in Washington, after some discussions, he said there was "frequent agreement" no such action was necessary at this time.

The general change of attitude coincided with a rising optimism that Eisenhower is on the road to a quick recovery. The sequence of events suggested to some political observers, however, that top administration people had quickly closed ranks against the idea of giving Nixon extraordinary powers which might enhance his chance to win the GOP presidential nomination in case Eisenhower does not run again.

But one White House source disclaimed any such intent, adding: "We've been so shocked by what has happened that we haven't even thought of sorting out the political implications that are involved. There has absolutely been no political discussion around here so far as I know."

"If something further should happen to the President—that would be another matter. The President's death would mean the vice president would take over. But as things now stand, the President is recovering. There is no reason to dilute his powers to anyone. Even now he is able to talk for a few minutes each day to visitors. His mental powers are not affected in any way. He still is able to make the decisions that are necessary—and as recovery progresses, he will be increasingly able to give more time to his duties."

Although Americans are saving fewer pennies out of each dollar this year than last, the total of these pennies mounts up in the banks, and the total of savings continues to grow.

Do It Every Time By Jimmy Hatlo



HAL BOYLE

WESTPORT, Conn. (AP)—There are many unusual characters in this community of artists, writers and intellectuals. But "Mr. Smerdley," the only one in the neighborhood who sleeps in a duch oven, is perhaps the most unusual.

In an area teeming with watch-dogs, Smerdley has the distinction of being the only "watchdog." He is a pet ocelot, a kind of tropical wildcat, owned by Arthur Kennedy, the well known Broadway and Hollywood actor.

Kennedy bought the wildcat, which came from Peru, as a 3-week old kitten on the West Coast while completing a starring role in M-G-M's film, "Trotter." Ocelot raising has become something of a fad on the West Coast, where two clubs devoted to the breed have been organized.

The ocelot, a tree climbing cousin of the common cat, is known scientifically as *Felis pardalis*, flourishes in Central and South America, once ranged as far north as Georgia. It is a beautifully spotted and banded animal of a feline hue that, when full grown is 31 1/2 feet long and weighs 25 to 35 pounds.

These are curious facts in the Kennedy household, for Smerdley at eight months is growing up fast on his daily diet of a pound of horse meat, two cans of baby food, and a spoonful each of vitamins, cod liver oil and crelimum. Smerdley, who has developed a formidable armory of fang and claw, shows no interest in learning tricks and his main ambition in life seems to be to grow up a normal wildcat.

"We are enjoying a tentative relationship with him right now," said Kennedy, rubbing a deep scratch on the back of his hand. He and his wife are wondering if Smerdley wouldn't become more amicable on a diet of stir-fried spinach instead of horse meat.

Smerdley, while resembling adult handling, is quite friendly with the two Kennedy children—Laurie, 10, and Terence, 12. He loves to attend weekly rock 'n' roll jam sessions in the studio barn with the neighborhood children, sticks his head against the phonograph and drinks in the music—a real joy.

"There hasn't been a rat in the area since the day after he came," Kennedy said.

SAM DAWSON

NEW YORK (AP)—Without minimizing the role of the stock market many businessmen hold that what happens in the next few weeks in the nation's stores will be more important to the economy than the daily ups and downs in stock prices.

Merchants have been getting a larger share of the public's money this year than last. They expect this year to buy will continue into the Christmas season. They look for the biggest Yule trade ever. How important this buying psychology is can be seen in the report of the Commerce Department that at the present stage of the economy an advance of only two per cent in consumer buying adds five billion dollars to total demand for goods and services in the United States.

This year the public as a whole has been saving only six cents of each dollar left over after taxes, and spending 94 cents of it. In the first half of 1954 the public was saving eight cents of each dollar and spending 92 cents of it.

The buying spurge is credited with having bolstered industrial production. This in turn has meant higher employment and incomes. The public's buying mood makes business men boost their inventories and causes industrialists to plan for new plants and to buy new equipment.

Buying dropped off very little during the summer. It revived with cool weather and retail sales in September have been substantially ahead of last year.

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