

The Yancey Record

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Scene From Top O' The Hill

By: Jack Kelly

Washington, D. C., folks claim, is changing. Well, it is — what with all of the new buildings going up and the tearing down of the old ones. However, most people claim that Georgetown, a section of Washington, keeps right on the way it always was. That is not quite true. I was born and raised in Georgetown. Back in the Taft Administration. Matter

of fact, my pappy named my older brother William Howard Taft Kelly" and received a fine letter and a photograph from the President, the President wasn't quite as busy then, as now. That picture, with its endorsement, always hung in our parlor. Folks only saw it at weddings and wakes because that was the only time the parlor was ever used.

In the house where I was born, also my thirteen brothers and sisters, we had lots of rooms but not enough for us. We were all actually born in the house. Who went to the hospital for a baby? Hospitals were for sick people who needed medical attention. Mrs. Copperhwaite, always called "Mrs. Copp", midwived all of us into the world. Doctor Owens helped out on the last three or four because my Mom kind of went "modern" or else my pappy must have made a couple of good real estate deals. Like he did on the house I was born in.

That house, a pressed brick, two-story colonial, with a big backyard, cost pappy \$1,900.00 at an auction sale. He immediately borrowed \$2,300.00 from a German-American Building Association. In repairing it, he found some leather "pokes" in the cellar chimney, when he ripped it out. They held \$3,400.00 in gold coins. Pappy always claimed that was the greatest "buy" he ever made. That house is now electrified and has a lamp in front of it. No other changes. It sold, quite recently, for \$36,000.00. Pappy must be "splinning" in his grave. Georgetown has changed too!

Mention of gold coins, which kids today only see in museums and such places, reminds me of another occasion when pappy got some. He ran, at one time, before he went to Law School at Georgetown University, four saloons. One of them catered to strictly colored trade. One Saturday evening, a chap who had been working at tearing down some old places in Georgetown, came into the place and walked to the bar and asked "Uncle

Joe you's a Catholic, ain't you?" My pappy assured him he was and asked why he was interested, whereupon the colored fellow tossed some mildewed coins he had found, upon the bar. "There's

some Catholic medals you can have." Of course they were good coins, so pappy told him they were worth money. "Who'll give you money for them?" So, pappy cashed them at their values of 2½, 5, 10, whatever they were. The colored fellow picked up the money and said "Daw one! You Catholics is the craziest folks. Paying all that money for some old medals."

In that particular saloon, pappy conducted the Settled Men's Social Club and also the J. J. Kelly's Sons of Abraham Lincoln Walking Brigade. I recall some comical stories about them that will have to save for another time, in the event anyone might want to hear them. All of these stories go back to the time that Georgetown was a place unto itself, not, as now, the most expensive area in Washington in which to live. I suppose, if someone had a billy-goat for a pet there 'now-a-days, he would get locked up. Yet, at our home, we had a gorgeous goat. My pappy used to gild his hooves and horns when he was used in two parades a year: The Shriners and the Knights of Columbus. Old Billy got ram-bunctious one day and broke my brother's arm. Mom got rid of Billy that evening. Besides the two parades, "Billy" was used in one "march" each year. That was on Lincoln's Birthday when pappy led the J. J. K. S. A. L. W. B. on its march to the White House in honor of that martyred President. That "march" is also another story. Washington has changed. Georgetown has changed.



You feel good about it when you buy Savings Bonds

On Labor Day, A Salute...

To the working men and women of this community, we express our pride and our thanks. Their efforts, energy and initiative have done much in building for prosperity and progress, and on them we rely, as we look to the future.

Letters To The Editor

Spruce Pine
August 25, 1966

Gentlemen:

Much more than ever before people of different ages are being bitten by dogs, and in most instances the dogs have not been vaccinated for Rabies.

In the event anyone receives a bite from any animal regardless of whether or not the animal is sick, we urge you first to wash the wound thoroughly for fifteen or twenty minutes, using a strong solution of soap in warm water. Second, see your family doctor at once, and give him all the facts. Thirdly, notify your local Health Dept., and give them all the facts. **DO NOT KILL THE ANIMAL**, if you can capture it alive without danger to yourself.

If an animal does have Rabies it will show some symptoms within ten days; and ten days is the length of time we ask you to confine the animal in some place where dogs, etc., cannot get to it. We also ask you to feed and water the animal and observe its eating and drinking habits while confined. Should you suspect the animal of having Rabies, or any disease please notify your Health Department at once. The Technicians at the Laboratory can more accurately diagnose the case, and a person still has time to take the anti-rabic shots. There is no known cure for Rabies, and once an animal or human contracts the disease death is sure to follow.

The vaccine used by a licensed D.V.M. is said to be about 90 percent perfect.

Please have your dog or dogs vaccinated. By so doing you are not only protecting your animal, but you are not subjecting human beings to this dread incurable disease.

So far we have not had a confirmed case of Rabies in our Health District for over a year. Please remember that dogs are not the only animals that spread Rabies. Last week we received a report from the State of Tenn. that they had had seventeen cases of it, and that foxes spread ten of these, the others being cats, skunks and bats.

Jake F. Buckner, R. S.
District Sanitarian
District Health Dept.



ELMA, ALA., TIMES-JOURNAL: "If you had an old busteroo of a day on the job, it might soothe things if you compared our system with the way the Russians handle employment. Propagandists claim there's no unemployment, of course, and also boast that for the past 10 years workers have had the freedom of quitting by giving two-weeks' notice. Under the surface, these claims prove not quite true. A jobless worker can be arrested as a 'parasite' and be exiled to remote areas such as Siberia for two to five years if he holds no job, lives on unearned income or engages in a forbidden business. Feel better?"

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ATCHISON, KAN., GLOBE: "If every country now living under communism were to disappear from the face of the earth, the real threat—the idea of utopian prosperity under state capitalism — would still remain. Until the fraudulent, unworkable theory of Marxian economics is thoroughly discarded . . . there will be no permanent protection from the seductive appeal of something-for-nothing. — Karl Marx was right about one thing: every functioning economy needs a dictator. But Marx picked the wrong one: government. Free enterprise operates under the right one: the free customer who, by merely refusing to buy, by taking his patronage elsewhere, can discipline any business, large or small which does not offer what he wants at the right price. This is the proper and democratic place to put power: in the hands of everybody. It needs no supervision except government enforcement of an official code of honesty and a fair play."

GARRISON, N. D., INDEPENDENT: "This is the 'enlightened society' . . . a transient methodicaly kills eight student nurses in Chicago while closer to home an apparently deranged young father assaults a young cerebral palsy victim. Even though we're supposedly an intelligent people, crime is rampant. And probably because of a shift in moral values, gone are the inhibitions that made each of us more responsible a generation ago. Today individual 'freedom' reigns supreme. . . . Defiance of law and order is condoned, even encouraged by high government officials in this country as means of correcting social wrongs."