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SCENE FROM TOP O' THE HILL

By: Jack Kelly

In the interest of "fair" play, I like to look at and into both sides of a question. That is the reason Blanche and I drove to Miami for a spell. Somewheres or other I had read in the newspapers that the rich people descended upon Miami in droves during the winter time. The more I thought of how nice it must be to have lots of loot and enjoy basking in the Southern sun, the more I got to figuring that I should investigate how the rich people lived. I decided it was the only fair thing to do. since, for well nigh sixty years, I have been an authority on how the poor folks lived.

The drive from Burnsville to Miami, in this day and time, is a most pleasant journey. You could make it in sixteen hours with no trouble, if you wanted to push along. With a medium speed of fifty to sixty miles an hour, you find yourself in Tifton, Georgia, after eight hours. This is a rather nice place to stop and is four hundred miles from Water Tank Hill - which not one single person in Tifton knew, before I told them. If you over-night at Tiwton, you are maybe four hundred and fifty or seventy-five miles from Miami. With the Turnpike road over which you travel being the way it is, you can't take over seven or eight hours. You let your speed drop below seventy and you get bumped in the behind or else motor-cops pull beside you and wave you along to a higher speed.

Of course, by this time you can smell the rich people and see them too. They pass you like crazy in their Cadillacs - zoom!

A car passes you that does not have a certain sound, well, you can be certain that it is not a Cadillac. I understand that

Company charged fifty dollars extra for the "rich" sound that it installs in each and every Cadillac. Of course, there

is a drawback or two to being rich. Mainly, it cos.s you more money. A motel hikes the price on you as soon as they "pipe" the Caddy. You can't use the low-priced low-grade gasoline. As a matter of fact, I have decided that most of us, particularly me, just can not afford to be rich. It costs too much

In Miami Beach itself, there is a well-defined "poor" area, down around lower Collins Avenue. Many of the rooms there are less than similar accomodations back home. However, a chap who caters to the "rich" people told me that this section with its reasonably priced rooms was built by and is operated by the Chamber of Commerce just so that the Ho'el Operators up-

town could charge the "rich" people unconscionably high tariffs for their rooms. Anywheres from seventy-five to three hundred dollars per day! Of course, some of these penthouse apartments are out of this world and rich people love them. The main thing, however, is that they can drive down to the Beach into the poor section and see how the poor folks are doing.

In yesterday's paper there were two pictures. One showed a gentleman and his wife who had just opened their leased penthouse for the season (\$7500.00 per month!) and the other showed an elderly lady being tossed out of her home because her relief payment of 75 bucks per month did not leave her sufficient money to feed herself and pay fifty : month rent. The; pictures fascincted me because they proved my point that I made back a few paragraphs ago. It takes money to be rich! The nice cld lady in the second picture any fool could see that she plain could not afford to be rich - I saw it right away!

Someone once said that rich people smell better than poor

people and, perhaps, he made a true statement. It is difficult to get close enough to them to learn how they smell. When you go to the Races, the rich people sit in the expensive "boxes" and make large bets at private windows and us poor folks, who have no logical reason to be there, well, we sit in the Grands. and and make two dollar bets and lose, while the rich folks send their chauffeurs up to the win-windows to collect the money they won on the race. Seeme to be a rule down here that only rich folks can win. That may be due to the fact that the rich own the horses.

They have two other fascinating sporting events down here: Dog Racing (dogs instead of horses) and Jai Alai (pronounced Hi-Li, which uses men instead of horses or dogs - despile the fact that the players are always referred to as dogs because people around me kept saying that such-and-such a player was a son of you-knowwhat).

Thus far, we have not been successful in this rich-man's passtimes. In fact we have been most unsuccessful! I have about reached the conclusion that we can not only afford to be a rich person here in Miami, we can not afford to be a poor person. However, I am ra idly coming to the conclusion that rich people are better off than poor people. They we retter and all that stuff. Probably because they have more money. It was nice seeing them,

IT NEVER FAILS



SENATOR SAM ERVIN & SAYS &



WASHINGTON - Those who witnessed the inauguration of President Nixon saw one of the most meaningful affirmations of constitutional government. In a moment, two men exchanged their roles as citizen and President. Once more, we have demonstdated that our country is dedica ed to a system of laws rather than of men. This is the sys.em that has unified our country to meet its greatest challenges.

Even so, the realistics of the day tell us that we have some difficult tasks ahead. Congress has returned to Washington in the knowledge that few are satisfied with things as they are. The vast achievements which we have made in education, technology, material wealth and power have been matched by the most pressing problems we have ever had. There is division as to how we should go about our dealings at almost every level of policy.

One can look at the War, or crime, or the Budget which President Johnson submitted. and there is seldom agreement about how we should deal with any of these problems.

There is division as to whether we should channel funds, which we really do not have, to provide for a whole range of new spending for such items as the guaranteed annual income to everybody or for the rebuilding of cities, towns, and hamlets here and abroad. Even the fiscal experts are at a loss to explain how we can finance all of the demands for Federal spending without incurring inflation and doing serious damage to our monetary sys.em.

Certainly, governments should be responsive to the needs of the people, and anyone familiar with a changing society can understand that we must keep an open mind about how we shall deal with our needs. We should, however, keep in perspective

the fact that not every problem can best be solved by drafting a new Federal program. In fact, our experience demonstrates that we may damage the whole fabric of our civilization by taking that approach. Adding layer upon layer of Federal bureaucracy to deal with problems

that can best be dealt with at a level closer to the people stifles productivity and individual initiative.

Aside from dealing with specific problems of crime, education, health, the post office, highways, pollution, and hunger, there is the problem of general government and its structure which needs attention at this Congress For years now, we have been dealing with problems almost on a program by program basis. Consequently, there is duplication, overlappage, and vaste in the countless programs which deal with domes ic problems. As I have frequently pointed out, there is a real need to correct this.

I am hopeful, therefore, that the new Administration will join with Congress to bring order to the kingdoms which exist here in Washington.

Local Retailers Attend Furniture

Note to Editor:

The following retailers were among those from your city who attended the Sou hern Furniture Market, High Point, N. C. They registered at the Southern Furni'ure Exposition Building. The Market is exclusively for retail buyers of home furnishings. The event ran January 19-23, 1969.

Messrs Bill Bailey and J. F. Robinson Furniture.

High Point, N. C. - Home furnishings buyers, representing the leading furniture s'ores, department stores and specialty shops from throughout the Southeast were in High Point last week for the Furniture Market. January 19-23. The event was being billed as the Winter Furni'ure Fashion Festival.

The advance styles from the mammoth Southern Fu: niture Exposit on Building, the heart of the Market in down wn High. Point, forecasts a continuing fashion interest in the popular Mediterranean influences of Italy and Spain, along with Early American and Colonial designs, the Concemporaries and zoth Provincial and Court styles of Italy and France.

The industry thrives on the interest and stimulation found at the Markets. Store owners and buyers select from the rich variety of merchandise to suit the needs of their customers back home. According to Leo J. Heer, managing director of the Southern Furniture Exposition Building complex, nowhere else in the world can a retailer find the breadth and depth of home fu:nishings as are right here in the backyard of the Southeastern buyers.

Hail To The Jaycees

Not only does the Mayland Chapter, American Red Cross thank you. Burnsville and Yancey County thank you for the wonderful job you did in getting out donors during the quarterly visit of the mobile blood unit to Burnsville last Wednesday. What a record - 124 pints of blood! For the first time in history we not only met our goal of 109 pints, but went over the top. In addition to the 124 units of blood donated, 22 would-be donors were rejected for a number of reasons.

All this was accomplished on very short notice, Given a longer period of time in which to work on it, no telling what these energetic JAYCEES would have come up with.

If this newly organized JAY-CEE Chapter keeps on going at the pace it has set, we can expect a change around here. Let's hope a little of it will run off on some of the rest of us.

Notice

Final Tax Listing days Crabtree and Brush Creek Townships: January 30 through 31st at the Court House.

