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Abolish All Hay-Eaters

It wasn't until 1951 that Congress got around to passing a bill abolishing the White House stables. Until then, a law required the Army's Quartermaster General to provide suitable quarters for the President's horses.

Now if Congress would just get around to doing something about reducing the number of hay-eaters in its own body, the American taxpayer would emit a sigh of relief, and feel a little more secure in life and property. -Baldwin Free Press

Northwestern Bank Grows, Retains Local Officers

On June 30, 1969, The Northwestern Bank concluded its 32nd year of operation. From original resources of exactly \$2,600,000 on July 11, 1937 to resources on June 30, 1969, of \$459,000,000, the Bank has come a long way. Think of that growth in terms of mountain miles reaching out from North Wilkesboro, Sparta, Boone, and Bakersville to offices as distant from each other as Bryson City, Burlington, Hendersonville, and Charlotte, and the extent of the Bank's achievement becomes even greater. Northwestern now operates 101 offices in 59 communities in Western and Piedmont North Carolina.

One way of accounting for such growth is to say that Northwestern happened to be in the right place at the right time. Certainly, there have been steadily increasing demands for the services it is prepared to provide. But careful analysis has characterized the Bank's every move. An examination of all pertinent factors is made in advance of each new market entry. Within the limits of the considerable autonomy granted by the Board of Directors to branches, services are tailored to the needs and convenience of local customers. The result, general directors and officers feel, well justifies the somewhat greater pains required to fit services to customers rather than customers to services.

It should be kept in mind that The Northwestern Bank does not seek bigness for its own sake. Much of its increase in total resources is associated with long-established offices and in greater use of the Bank's services by long-time customers.

Northwestern's philosophy of banking is best expressed by President Edwin Duncan, who often explains, "Our growth is due mainly to the fact that authority is not taken from the local people. We firmly believe local officers and local boards of directors have a better understanding of their customers and their banking needs than Home Office personnel. Assistance is always available from the specialized departments of the Home Office in North Wilkesboro. One of the keys to our good relationships with branch personnel is our policy of selling them on the merits of new services and ideas rather than demanding their cooperation."

By the end of 1962, Northwestern was operating in 34 towns and cities in Western and Piedmont North Carolina. Total resources reached \$172,000,000 at year end 1962 when only two years before at year end 1960, Northwestern had reached a landmark in total resources of \$101,285,000.

But 1962 saw major changes in Northwestern's system of banking. For many years, management has been aware that three major cities are the marketing centers of the western half of North Carolina and the area serviced by the Bank. These cities, Asheville, Winston-Salem, and Charlotte, are money centers as well; it is to these population centers that young people whose parents traditionally bank with Northwestern, migrate. It is only natural that "their bank" should follow the population to these marketing centers. And this it did, in only a few short years. Northwestern now is firmly established in all three of these major cities.

In order to continue to compete in the rapidly changing field of finance, a one bank holding company has been organized. The Bank became a wholly owned subsidiary of Northwestern Financial Corporation on August 1, 1969. This one bank holding company will enable the Bank to engage in additional financially related activities.

Strong leadership has been a marked characteristic of the Bank. Rufus A. Doughton, who had served as North Carolina's Commissioner of Revenue, Lieutenant Governor, State Highway Commissioner, and seventeen terms as a state legislator was the first president. Dr. B. B. Dougherty, former president of Appalachian State University and the second president of the Bank, gave direction to this growing country bank. In 1957 when Edwin Duncan of Sparta assumed the reins of leadership, the Northwestern Bank embarked on a period of phenomenal growth--growth through mergers with other banks, establishment of banks in new towns, and opening additional offices in towns already served by the bank. Under Mr. Duncan's leadership the Bank has grown from total resources of \$70,281,000 at year end 1957 to over \$486,000,000 on December 31, 1969.

The banking structure which has served the Northwestern Bank and its predecessor banks in Burnsville will now operate as the Installment Loan Office of Northwestern Bank in Burnsville. The officers of the Northwestern Bank in Burnsville are: Arney Fox, Vice-President; Flavil McCurry, Cashier; Roger McKinney, Cashier, Installment Loan Department; and Mrs. Louise Peiland, Assistant Cashier. James A. Anglin of Burnsville serves on the overall Board of Directors for the Bank. Members of the Burnsville Board of Directors are: James A. Anglin, J. G. Edge, Edgar F. Hunter, Jr., Reece McIntosh, Robert Pannell, James W. Ray, and Joe Young.

straight talk

By Tom Anderson

THE AIRLINES, THE UNEMPLOYED AND POLLUTION

Our airlines are in financial trouble. They are being treated unfairly by Big Brother, who conceivably would like to take them over. How do airlines fare in Socialist countries? Columnist Henry J. Taylor said recently: "In Russia, Aeroflot, the government (and only) airline, doesn't even issue timetables for its domestic service. Its planes frequently leave a day after intended and passengers often spend a whole night or a day or two waiting at the airport for the departure announcement. Except in a few major cities, these airports are mere shacks with outdoor toilets which, remarks an editor friend of mine, 'defy description in a family newspaper.'"

"Aeroflot flies two-engine jets ready for instant conversion into bombers. Many lack seat belts, there is no air conditioning, you usually roast on the ground and freeze in the clouds, and the rule is to haul all your baggage in with you if you expect to see it again," concludes Mr. Taylor.

It's nice to know Russia hasn't changed much since I was there 10 years ago, at which time, paraphrasing General Sherman, I wrote: "If I owned Russia and hell, I'd rent out Russia and live in hell."

Back to airlines, the Feds should (1) let them raise their rates to where they can make a reasonable profit (2) increase taxes on buses and trucks.

The government should not subsidize any

kind of transportation. I fly maybe 60,000 miles a year. Why should anybody else be taxed to help pay for my flying? Commuter trains now run at a big loss and are heavily subsidized. Why should rural people be taxed so New Yorkers can live in the suburbs? If the commuters can't pay the railroads a profitable price for their tickets, they ought to either find some other way to commute or stay at home.

At the urging, or shall we say at the dictation of Big Brother, Big Business has hired a passel of hard-core unemployed.

Recruiting, hiring and training the hard-core unemployed is only the beginning. Keeping them working is something else.

The "in" things now are "pollution," "environmental control" and "ecology." The latter, says my dictionary, means: (1) a branch of science concerned with the interrelationship of organisms and their environments. (2) the totality or pattern of relations between organisms and their environment.

The New Left, the Marxists, the "Liberals," the do-gooders and President Nixon have all embraced pollution as their new "thing."

Let us always keep in mind that, polluted as we are, there are worse things than pollution.—American Way Features



The Manion Forum

By Marilyn Manion

TROOP WITHDRAWAL MUST INCLUDE AMERICAN POW'S

Twenty years ago, a young American marine was killed in action in Korea. His grief-stricken father, although he had lost his own son, was moved to help the agonized parents and families of the prisoners of war in Korea.

Captain Eugene Guild (USA Ret.) founded an organization called "The Fighting Home Folks of Fighting Men," and he began his crusade to locate, publicize and rescue those held captive by the Communists. It has been an uphill battle for Captain Guild ever since. In a recent appearance on the Manion Forum radio network, Guild recalled some of the roadblocks which have repeatedly interrupted his quest:

Of course, there were also men who had been shot down by the Soviets—34 planes with over a hundred men. In fact, in 1956, the State Department said that they were compelled to believe that the Soviet government was holding those men. They gave chapter and verse and prison camp and so forth about those men and demanded that they be accounted for or released. Of course, the Soviet government denied any knowledge whatsoever about the situation and we quietly let that drop.

The State Department has written Senator Hart, of Michigan, a letter in which they state that the Chinese Reds have told them that they will not even discuss the release of the Americans they hold in Korea unless the Taiwan, or Formosa, problem is settled to their satisfaction. Meaning, if we will abandon Taiwan to

them, they'll talk about releasing the Americans whom they hold.

"Now, that's simply blackmail and that's simply the experience with the Reds—showing that if you do as we did in the Korean situation and take away all of our troops and leave the prisoners of war there, without any bargaining force behind them, then the Communists are going to get what they can in a blackmail way out of those prisoners of war.

"Now, there are in Vietnam today between 500 and 1,000 POW's who were shot down or captured, who are believed to be still alive. We know 400, by name, but the rest we don't know about. In other words, the parents and the wives do not know whether their kin are alive or dead.

"Our organization has proposed to the President, by letter, that as a part of the withdrawal of American troops, that all of the troops be withdrawn, including the prisoners of war, who are part of our troops. We can't withdraw our troops unless we withdraw our prisoners. We are getting into the same situation that we had in Korea.

"We must withdraw the prisoners along with our troops and we must do it now, before it is too late. The prisoners belong with our troops and they should be brought home with them. To leave them for blackmail bait is a treasonous situation. It is absolutely failing to give the loyalty from the top down that they are entitled to as American fighting men."—American Way Features

