

THE BATAVIA HERALD

ESTABLISHED 1892

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Cacoethes Scribendi

"Cheers for the Scribblers, We Say,
May They Live Forever and a Day"

Oh To Be Five!

Youth you can have for free, but childhood is the all!

Imagination exemplified to the degree, honesty as basic as simple mathematics, enthusiasm as big as life, joy in all its splendor and unhappiness at its heart-rending worst; all these are combined in a child of five.

Jerks are heard to remark, "Ho, to be 18 again," or again, "Ah, those good old college days!" This reporter believes that it is this class of people who most need the psychiatrist!

Nobody — but nobody — ever wants to be 5 again!

Just imagine having complete and implicit faith in all humanity! Conceive of days, each of which are a full little lifetime . . . think of every experience, trivial as it may be, as a king-sized "event" because it never before happened to you! Nights are for happy dreams and next week is like next year . . . and next year is like Eternity! If it's summer, then Christmas is a million years away and if it's Christmas, then summer is something which will happen in another age! Fathers and mothers are always extra good people with absolutely no faults, or at least no failings which cannot be forgotten with a good night's sleep . . . all people are honest and all men are smart and all women are just people who cook food or tell you stories!

It isn't that life is simple, because actually life is terribly complicated, when you're 5, but there are fathers and mothers in the world so everything MUST work out all right. Such is the stuff of which faith must be basically constituted, we believe.

A promise is the law of the world, never to be broken, and if you say "Yes", you have ignited the magic flame of joy and of the all-day smile.

All that really matters are the other children and adults are incidental. This, when you are five, proves that you are as honest as the 2 plus 2 formula.

My recollections of childhood are so vivid that incidents or impressions from that distant period often seem clearer than happenings of last year! I presume it is on a theory formed from just such a premise that psychiatrists rake in the shekels with only the additional prop of a couch.

Nevertheless, it is a fascinating subject, and even though we have practically no use for psychiatry and wouldn't give a peso for diagnosis, if it came as fast as Sputnik we often wonder why childhood recollections (lo, these many decades!) continually tick in our mind while we continue to forget to bring home a loaf of bread after we've tied a hunk of plastic around our finger to remember by?

H. L. Mencken, a fair country journalist, once remarked that the most stupendous event of his whole life happened at age nine when he read Huckleberry Finn. The book, he pointed out, gave him a slant on human nature that stayed with him through life.

For instance, I can recall with almost crystal clearness my first day of school; what appeared to be a 2 mile trudge, though it was but a single block, the tears I shed when the person who took me within the school doors waved goodbye, the teacher who appeared like a direct emissary from the Lord and the largeness and bleakness of the classroom. All those memories I can constantly recall and I can readily see the pictures! As a matter of fact, paradoxical to all tricks of memory, the impressions grow stronger and more pronounced with the years and I suppose that in a few years when I am eighty, the image will be as sharp as a good picture on Channel nine.

What a case the psychiatrists could build and what a fee they could annex!

But I am satisfied in the belief that God intended this world for children and that accordingly, all we do or reflect is tied in with that original order . . .

Recommended remedy: if you are feeling low or depressed, gloomy, melancholy, bored, disappointed, desperate, dejected, morose or sad, think back to when you were five or so, have a laugh have a sigh, then open your eyes and you will be ready for another try at the world.

And the moral of this little lesson, ladies and gentlemen, is **act your age but don't think your age . . .**

Send, send to:

Cacoethes Scribendi

Editor
S. L.

North Aurora Personals

By Mrs. Ray Schlicht
Phone 6-1840

Mrs. Lucille Coddington, village clerk, has announced that water meters are being read later this time, and therefore an additional thirty days time for paying them will be granted. A notice will appear with each bill, as will a notice in the paper at a future date.

Explorer Scouts are meeting each Thursday evening at the home of the leader, Mr. Charles Waters, 22 N. Lincolnway. Any boy who is 14 years old or more and is interested, is welcome to join. Call 2-9168 for further information.

Sincere thanks is extended to the following, who donated their time in soliciting in the "Friends of the Library" drive: Mrs. Arthur Ray, Mrs. Howard Messenger, Mrs. James Voss, Miss Ruth Stone, Mrs. Mark Johnson, Mrs. George Andersen, Mrs. Ernie Latham, Mrs. Dean Miller, Mrs. L. Terrebessy, Mrs. J. Veres, Mrs. J. Lewis, Mrs. Foster Buck, Mrs. S. Grover, Mrs. C. Waters, Mrs. Caroline Renne, Betty Hettinger, Mrs. Alvin Glenn, Mrs. Mary Koester, Mrs. B. Marten, Mrs. Joe Potenziani, Miss Roma Giuliani and Mr. G. Bechtold. If anyone was missed, and would care to become a donor, they may call Mrs. Fred Sandell at 7-4065.

Miss Carol Coddington, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Coddington, 110 Maple, has accepted a position with St. Anthony's Hospital, Rockford, as a Radioactive Isotope Technician. She will assist Dr. Ruchs, well known in this field. For two years Carol has been with the Canfield Clinic in Rockford. A graduate of Batavia High School with the class of 1954, she was awarded a scholarship to Aurora College, which she attended as well as Beloit College.

A warm welcome to new residents in our western subdivision — The Ed Windetts, W. State Street; Mr. and Mrs. Francis Whelan, 307 W. State; Mr. and Mrs. Nels Thorgesen and children, Oak Street; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Slaker, Roberts Street; and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Curtis (she is the Fredrickson girl) on Roberts Street.

Mrs. Ernest Latham, Neighborhood Chairman of Girl Scouting, has announced several mothers have volunteered as Scout Leaders and Troops will begin meeting in the near future. There is still one group (Sixth Grade) without a leader. Leaders are: Second, Mrs. Drmalka; Third, Mrs. W. Evans; Fourth, Mrs. W. Laz; Fifth, Mrs. J. Potenziani. Also a volunteer but unassigned as yet is Mrs. Roy Bean.

Mrs. Ruth Black has moved to an apartment at Oak and Lincolnway from their lovely home on Hilltop. Mr. Black has accepted a new position in the state of Iowa. The Black's have rented their home to Mr. and Mrs. Clifford McKelvey, formerly of Aurora. Mr. McKelvey is a salesman for the Trio Brass Company.

A "crowd" attended the first meeting of the North Aurora School P.T.A. meeting on Thursday, at which time members of the Board of Education were guests. Mr. Matthews, President of the Board of Education, spoke briefly, but with his usual humor, and featured speaker of the evening was Attorney Dwyer of Aurora, who explained the Blue Ball Amendment to be voted upon in the November election. Mrs. Harold Andrews, President, conducted the meeting. Refreshments were served by Mrs. Richard Hamling, Mrs. Lawrence Smith, Mrs. LeRoy Bean and Mrs. John Randis and their committee.

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Starring Glenn Ford and Shirley MacLaine. They called him the stranger with a gun. In color and cinemascope. Plus . . .

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SUNDAY ONLY, OCT. 12th

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Across the Counter

Every year about World Series time, we observe Fire Prevention Week. This year, October 5-11th.

Statistics prove the need for such a forceful reminder. Fire will claim about 12,000 lives in the U. S. this year, and destroy \$1 billion in property. As you undoubtedly know, a large share of this tragic loss could have been prevented.

"Yes," you say, but silently think "How does that affect me?"

Here's the answer—It takes positive action from YOU and others to prevent future fires. The best action you can take is to thoroughly inspect your home and your business premises. Take even 15 minutes, fully concentrating, and you'll be surprised at the fire hazards you can spot and remove. Obvious things like an accumulation of papers, boxes, oily rags, etc. And on your inspection, you may observe things which you should have specialists check—like your electrical wiring, heating equipment, chimney, etc.

Then resolve to be DOUBLY careful all next year with matches and cigarettes. As a final precaution, check to see that you are adequately insured against fire loss.

Take a few minutes NOW to make Fire Prevention Week a real success.

Phone 1464

PETIT & PETIT

10 W. Wilson St.
Batavia, Illinois

THROUGH THE YEARS . . .

From Our Early Files

10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

John Geiss, former Mayor and Postmaster, will be honored by the Civic Club Monday evening. Atty. Emil J. Benson will be the speaker. Mr. Geiss recently retired after a business career of over sixty-eight years.

The high school auditorium was filled Wednesday evening when the proposed school consolidation was discussed.

The Phipps Store, completely remodeled, will have a Grand Opening this week end.

Dundee beat the high school Bulldogs 34 to 0 on Memorial Field Friday night.

Lee Olmstead heads the Batavia Community Chest for 1948.

Batavia votes Saturday on a merger of the school systems of Batavia, Geneva and St. Charles.

Lyle Clarno refereed the Illinois, Wisconsin football game at Madison Saturday.

20 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

The Rev. J. Clark Wood will be ordained to the Methodist ministry Sunday afternoon at the Rock River Conference session.

Batavia plays St. Charles Saturday on Memorial Field in a Homecoming Day game. A parade and massmeeting will be held Friday evening, and a new score board will be dedicated. The score board was built by the building trades class, Harold Sweet painted it, and the Alexander Lumber Company donated the lumber, Plumer Coal Company the paint.

Ben Hann will be given the Order of the Arrow at the Scout camp in Kirkland Saturday.

Deaths reported were Mrs. Bridget O'Hara, Carolan Shannon, Mrs. Jean VanArsdale, and John M. Updike.

Harold Hall substituted for William Thrun as Fire Chief during the Chief's vacation.

Congressman Chauncey W. Reed will be the Armistice Banquet speaker.

Batavia lost to Naperville Saturday 26 to 0.

30 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

A Boy Ranger Lodge, made up of boys from 9 to 12, will be organized Saturday by the Rev. Henry Rust of the Congregational Church.

"The King of Kings" will be presented at the Fargo Theater this Saturday.

William E. Williams will open the Batavia Pure Food Bakery Saturday in the Western United Building on West Wilson Street.

Marseilles defeated the Green Pheasants Sunday at that city 13 to 6. Carlisle scored the Batavia touchdown. The Pheasants play the Wheaton Reds Sunday on the high school field.

The high school team lost to St. Charles Saturday 6 to 0. Batavia players were A. Peterson, Urick, Van Dueson, K. Olson, H. and R. Sheafe, W. Robinson, Warwick, R. Nelson, D. Hoover, Blacksmith.

The Rev. John Norris Hall is again assigned for First Methodist Church.

Arvid Peterson, Harry Moberg and Carl A. Christenson have left by motor for the Legion convention in San Antonio, Texas.

Agnes Anderson of Geneva and Leo Johnson were married Saturday.

Rodney Brandon, secretary of the State Republican Committee, is leaving on a tour and will make 30 speeches for Republican candidates in Illinois.

40 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

L. L. Urch has been named Chief of Police by Mayor J. Van Burton, to succeed the late Michael Monahan.

Thomas G. McCabe announced that he would not be an Independent Candidate for the Legislature.

A telegram on October 5th announced the death of Carl Mier in combat service on the front in France, following wounds. He was wounded on September 15th.

The Rev. Frank R. McNamer has been assigned to First Methodist Church.

The high school team beat Mendota there Saturday 13 to 0.

A decision on the wage and working hours dispute between employees and employers in local factories will be given this week by Victor Olander for the labor interest and Mr. Vanderveer of Moline for the employers.

50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Rev. O. T. Canfield has been assigned to First Methodist Church for the next year.

A human skeleton was unearthed by Michael Gallagher and Charles Millett while at work in the John Hendrickson gravel pit.

Mrs. Johanna Christine Anderson died Monday morning at her home at Commercial and Wilson Streets.

A new postal rate went into effect Thursday for letters abroad, the rate dropping from 5 cents to two cents.

City Clerk W. H. Reamey has moved into the enlarged quarters in the VanNortwick building. Wm. Selfridge, Wilbur Hawks and Chris Feldt have returned from the State Fair at Springfield.

E. F. Collins and Walter Hanson have been given a license to operate a bowling alley.

60 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Congressman A. J. Hopkins will speak Sunday evening at a Peace Jubilee in the Christian Church.

Mary Buck, Florence Service, Alice Williams, Arthur Larson, Irene Wood, and Clarence Cox took part in a program Friday evening in Association Hall.

Rev. J. D. Leek has been assigned to the Dixon Methodist Church, Rev. E. C. Arnold is the new Batavia pastor.

Cars on the Aurora, Batavia and Geneva electric road are now equipped with a new headlight.

The Council Judiciary Committee has been authorized to purchase a new stove for the city clerk's office.

A liquor license has been issued to James Donahue.