

THINK

A Visit With CYRUS EATON

Cowboy, theologian, self-made millionaire, how he hopes to outlast atomic war.

AL OSTROW

A member of the editorial staff of the *Cleveland Press*, AL OSTROW ("A Visit With Cyrus Eaton") co-authored a series of articles on Cyrus Eaton published by the Scripps-Howard papers. His nose for news has led him to such geographically dispersed publications as the *New York Post*, the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, *Oklahoma News*, *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* and *San Francisco News*. He was a consultant to the Kefauver Senate crime investigations and once won an award for an editorial campaign to modernize California's mental hospitals.

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"Sample of Eaton philosophy: Some things in life . . . even the youngest of us don't fully understand."

CURRENTLY IN THE NEWS for his personal efforts in rallying world scientists to prevent nuclear warfare, the noted industrialist, sportsman and philosopher expounds his views in a THINK interview.

By AL OSTROW

"Our most acute problem is to learn to live with one another in a climate of honorable peace. Otherwise, the scientific miracles that can enrich our lives will destroy us."



"You don't burn down your neighbor's barn because you disagree with his politics, religion or philosophy. . . . Hatred animosity and mistrust among people inevitably lead to neighborhood or international catastrophe."



"The businessman should not be so immersed in the problems of his own company, however intriguing they may be, that he has no time for pleasant, relaxing recreation and participation in the challenging arena of community and world affairs."

CYRUS EATON has been called "the Cleveland Croesus," "the iron master of North America" and "the last tycoon." A onetime Canadian cowboy and divinity student, he started his business career as a caddy and errand boy for the late John D. Rockefeller, who advised him: "There's a tremendous opportunity to do good for mankind through business — possibly more than you could accomplish in any other field."

John D.'s protégé became a millionaire himself at 27 through creation of a chain of gas and power companies in Canada and the western states. He was the father of giant Republic Steel, which he molded by merging several smaller companies into the industry's third largest producer.

His breakthrough into mastery of more than a billion dollars' worth of natural resources came when Eaton succeeded in draining 121 billion gallons of water from Canada's Steep Rock Lake to bare one of the world's richest iron ore deposits. He's now pressing forward with another \$200 million iron ore development on Ungava Bay which will plant a complex of mines, mills, railroads and new port cities in a barren wilderness.

The "Eaton empire" includes the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway, of which he is board chairman and principal

stockholder; Portsmouth Steel, of which he is chairman and president, and the West Kentucky Coal Company of which he is chairman.

Business isn't Eaton's only interest. He is an avid reader of poetry and philosophy, and a true philosopher himself. Sample Eatonism: "There are some things in life which even the youngest of us don't fully understand."

He also raises prize cattle on his Acadia Farm in Ohio where he takes a daily two-mile stroll, rain or shine. An ardent advocate of outdoor living, at 74 he is a skiing enthusiast and, in a less strenuous role, can identify almost any bird and tree on the North American continent. As a park board member, he helped create the "Ring of Green" of the Cleveland Metropolitan Park System, intended to "give everyone in Cleveland a personal country club and facilities for outdoor living at low cost."

His personal friendships include numerous college professors and labor leaders. He is a trustee of the University of Chicago and the Case Institute of Technology, and helped found Fenn College, the outgrowth of a night school where he studied accounting as a youth.

"The most momentous problem facing businessmen

and everyone else today," he says, "is how to divert the modern miracles of science from plans for death and destruction to the sweet uses of peace and prosperity."

This month, as part of his personal contribution to the quest for that formula, Eaton is picking up the tab for an informal conference of top scientists from a dozen nations at Lac Beaufort, near Quebec, where he also plans to get in some skiing. The "brainstorming" session will attempt to devise practical proposals for the United States and Russia to terminate their nuclear weapons competition with mutually satisfactory safeguards.

It stems from a similar meeting last July at Pugwash, the tranquil fishing village on the banks of Nova Scotia's Northumberland Strait, where Eaton was born. In their now famous "Pugwash Proclamation," the 22 scientists who attended unanimously agreed that humanity and civilization will perish in mushroom clouds and writhing radiation if nuclear warfare explodes.

Eaton doesn't want either civilization, his 13 grandchildren or himself obliterated. He looks forward hopefully to "a sensible end to the senseless international hatred, animosity and mistrust that can lead only to catastrophe unless checked immediately." — THE END.



"We are deluding ourselves if we believe that communism will collapse in Russia and China. . . . Many conservative people thought the American revolution was a wild undertaking and that it could not survive. It has certainly lasted a long time."