

Robert Emerson

Why do you run around in circles,
Clattering, scattering little leaves?
Don't you have any destination either?

Cool, fleeting pinpricks,

This morning so refreshing...
Windblown April rain.

Woe I poor cherry tree,

Stricken in your purest garb...
Merciless lightning.

Tom Gott

This piece was not written by Tom but appeared in the Brown
and White on October 4, 1955. The author is unknown, but the topic

Ode to Red Tape

At the head of the division of provision for revision
Stood a man of prompt decision, Merton Quirk;

Ph.D. in pathogenies, PDQ in calisthenics,

He had just the proper background for the work.

From the pastoral aroma of Aloma, Oklahoma
With a pittance of a salary in hand,

His acceptance had been whetted, even aided and abetted
By emolument that promised some five grand.

So with energy ecstatic this fanatic left his attic

and hurried on to Washington, D.C. .

/here with verve and vim and vigor he went hunting for the nigger

]n the woodpile of the WPB

Lfter months of patient process, Merton's spicular proboscis
lad unearthed a reprehensible hiatus 0 .

:n reply by Blair and Blair, to his 13th Questionnaire
m connection with the inventory status,

Phey had written, ' ! Your directive, when effective, was defective
Ln its ultimate objective, and what s more,

Neolithic hieroglyphic is to us much more specific
rhan this drivell you keep dumping at our door.

rhis sacrilege discovered, Merton fainted, but recovered

rhat i sabotag e t is W camouflaged r behind '"perverted persiflage

Sxpect me on the 22nd inst.

But first he sent a checker, and then a checker's checker,

ISTjhM checker°s°checker b went Tc^ck the checker's checker
hnd the process was laborious and long.

Then followed a procession of the f °^?^^^ d P BlJir! 10n

“ n sr follo ”' upper

Tore his hair because of Merton's Questionnair .

Now the ease Is closed, "completed" but our hero, undefeated,

Carries on in some department as ' f but i n spite

But our victory came in sight, not because ox,

Of Merton's mighty efforts in the War.