

# The Birmingham Eccentric

(Founded in 1779)  
 Published every Thursday at Birmingham, Ala.  
 Vol. 58, No. 34, Thursday, August 25, 1932.  
 Subscription Price: \$2.00 per Year, \$1.00 per Six Months, 50c per Month.  
 Single Copies 10c.

## One Way Your Taxes Increase

Here is a practical sample of the manner in which units of your federal and state governments annually increase the expenses of some departments, all of which require that you pay more and more taxes to support them.

**Michigan, first, as an example.** We chose from the largest number of the State Trooper official magazine of the Michigan State Police. "Every effort is being made by the builders to have the new administration building of the Michigan State Police at East Lansing ready for occupancy the latter part of August 1. When first completed the state police officers will be housed in East Lansing. In the spring of 1931 executive officers were moved downtown, the first being located in a small committee room off the Senate in the old Capitol. . . . When the first move was made from East Lansing downtown, six clerks and employees were moved to the new location and marched in the old Capitol. . . . When the organization moved its administration offices, detective division and identification bureau back to the new Administration Building at East Lansing, 33 clerks and employees will be about to be moved there."

That crowd of friends, in an example of bureaucratic growth in one branch of Michigan's state government. That is but one reason why taxes keep increasing. You can duplicate that growth in many other units of state, county and local government.

**Construction program.** We quote from the writings of former Solicitor-General James M. Beck, now a member of Congress, in his book, "Our Wonderful of Bureaucracy." Just one single instance:

"The mushroom growth of the bureaucratic activities of the Department of Commerce has been a notable feature of the Congress appropriating \$17,000,000 to construct an office building containing 1,111 rooms, occupying a land area of nearly eight acres and seven stories high with total floor area of 1,605,066 square feet. A tabulation of the expenses of this department for the fiscal years 1919, 1921 and 1922 shows \$10,128,608.44, \$23,912,394 and \$19,949,867.67 respectively."

The rapidity with which government assets tasks that are primarily those of the individual, or the duty of private industry and initiative, is the cause of the constant growth of government bureaus. . . . It is the duty of man and woman alike to be ready filled by the evils of political patronage. Unless something happens to stem the tide of this bureaucracy the time may not be far distant when, some fine morning, a knock will sound at the outer door of your home, and showing a shiny badge, an individual may say: "Good morning, Mr. Citizen! I've just been sent by the government to help you in the best business of life. I'm from the Department of Incomes and Outgoes. Our investors have discovered that you are getting into difficulty of a financial nature, along with many, many others, and are now unable to meet your tax payments and claims. . . . We have decided that the important business of government cannot stop. No! We cannot let famine and pestilence, wrong and riot stalk over our land! So Washington has sent me here to help you get along. My job is to step in and manage your personal and business affairs. . . . I have a list of names of persons who are not doing as well as you. I have a list of names of persons who are doing better than you. . . . I will just arrange lodging for me I'll start right in to unravel your financial tangles. . . . Oh, by the way, don't bother with more than a suite of three rooms, and I think that's all you will get with only a few extra dollars a month. . . . My Tax Department is crowded with these men that I'm glad to get away to the open spaces again."

Yes, Good Friends, what America needs more than any good thing is a great bonfire of "comparable" things. The market of Incomes and Outgoes. . . . What are you able to match the situation? None other than the steady, steady, and unwavering demand of public opinion. We all must continue unending clamor for less government, which means less taxes.

**PATSON ORDINATES AT JOLIET, ILLINOIS,** refused to allow inmates to stage a pole vault in the olympics recently held there. We suppose they will also cancel the 25 mile marathon, too.

## From The Eccentric Columns of Long Ago

### FIFTY YEARS AGO

Outs all harassed and agitated, Fred Covell took a short trip to Detroit last week for recreation.

Rob Henson of Holly was in town this week. He had a hot home party, for when they were young, our countrymen were not so conservative.

O. P. Popple's exhibit of apparatus over 125 feet in length and 40 feet in width, was on view at the B. & N. Fair.

Volney Nixon took a vacation last week and drove his automobile through the mountains of the Blue Ridge.

Mr. and Mrs. George K. O'Keefe were lately visited by some Birmingham friends. They were in town for a few days and were very much pleased to see them.

Prof. F. A. Sells commenced a course of lectures at National Hall on Friday evening last. The subject was "The Philosophy of the Human Mind."

**TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO**  
 Vacation days will soon be over and the old school will soon be opening its doors to the students.

Mr. and Mrs. Will S. Walker entertained about 400 July 24th last at a grand ball on Friday evening.

Many of our exchanges are publishing editorials in praise of the Birmingham Eccentric. . . . If you have any suggestions over the phone that we will be glad to accept.

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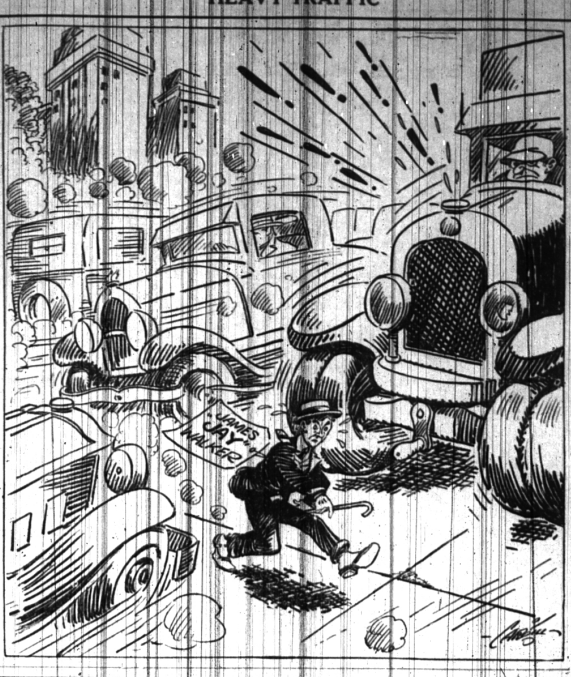
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## HEAVY TRAFFIC



THE OTHER CHAP SAYS SOMETHING.

W. A. D. says that many of the Birmingham Eccentric's readers are of the opinion that the Birmingham Eccentric is the best newspaper in the South.

Editor George Averell of the Birmingham Eccentric recently visited Michigan's "Big Bus," better known as the Jackson prison.

The climate about Plymouth gives the tonic effects of cold without the burning effects of heat. . . . The white man can here breathe his lungs and get energy and comfort.

**Political Parading**  
 A prominent Lansing politician watching a band march on the main street, said: "It is political parading."

**Need Men Like Cousins**  
 "Business does not like a man of the Cousins type. . . . It is political suicide for the ordinary individual during times of depression."

**What Business are you in?**  
 "I'm in the public parks."

## The "Big Shots" Say

Robert Cecil, British political leader, said: "It is not in the nature of bombing to continue. I do not think civilians have any right to claim a particular measure of immunity."

George E. Sokolsky, writer on the "Daily Soviet Russia," can be said to have been directly from the friction between China and Japan. . . . The result of the war is the most violently disturbed market in the west of Asia."

Henry Ford, on his sixty-ninth birthday: "It is not my habit to look backward for the days that are dead and to not look toward your government for anything more than a government."

William Green, president of A. F. L.: "At the present time, there is only one thing which we earnestly urge upon each person if all wish work and employment."

Joseph B. Shannon, member Congress from Missouri: "All of America has been started on the wrong track by government burrows in business. . . . Once a government bureau becomes entrenched it is almost impossible to dislodge it."

Wash MacDugal, 75-year-old carter: "All you have to do is to see what bright children there are today and observe their parents and you will find their fathers and mothers are . . ."

**LOOKS AT FE**  
 Our present period of business depression has aroused a superior criticism of the existing order of the great number who suffer from any brief lapse of earnings. . . . It is a condition which is almost impossible to understand. . . ."

**CLIMATE OF SOUTHERN MICHIGAN**  
 The decision has long been forgotten, but the Royal Geographic Society of England made an extensive climatic survey of the world about 35 or 40 years ago to discover the most wholesome and best climate for the human race. . . ."

**Let for the Fun of It**  
 "See that elephant!" he said. "I shot in my pajamas and my trousers were unbuttoned. . . ."

The Eccentric is pleased to publish stories of events of local interest which are written by persons not connected with the editorial staff. . . . The right is reserved to make such editorial changes in the copy as may be deemed necessary. . . ."

**Love Alone Wins**  
 Millions of dollars spent to separate the families of Mrs. Edith Rockefeller McCormick and her husband. . . . The daughter of John D. Rockefeller, estranged from nearly every member of her family. . . ."

**Government Will Own Us**  
 A significant feature of the present business depression which we all hope to have about gone is the almost unmitigated demand from business and professional men, in all walks of life, for government action. . . ."

**Inexperienced**  
 One of the funny things about life is the fact that in our American business world, we appear to have no sense of responsibility. . . ."

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