The Birmingham Eccentric

(Founded in 1878)

Published every Thursday, at Birmingham, Mich., in The Eccentric Building, 220-222 North Woodward Avenue.

Telephones 11, 12, and 13

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Entered as Second Class Matter in the U. S. Postoffice at Birmingham, Michigan

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

(In Oakland County)		(Outside Oakland County)	
One Year	$2.00	One Year	$2.50
Six Months	1.00	Six Months	1.50
Single Copies	.05	Three Months	1.00

All correspondence and advertising copy must be in the Eccentric office by Wednesday noon to obtain insertion for that week.

The Eccentric is a member of: National Editorial Association, Michigan Press Association, University Press Club, and Oakland County Weekly Press Association.

THURSDAY, JULY 6, 1933

NOTE: The Eccentric is pleased to publish stories of events which have news value and which are written by persons not connected with the editorial staff of the paper. All copy must be received before noon on Wednesdays. The right is reserved, however, to make such superficial changes in the copy submitted as are necessary to the style of the paper and as are required by laws of the state. Because of mechanical situation in the composing room, headlines written by other than members of the staff cannot be used. Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation which may appear in the columns of The Eccentric will be gladly corrected upon being brought to the attention of the publisher.

Human Nature And Banking

If men were more honest and above-board, both in and out of political office, the human family would experience less hardship in its various relations. As a fair sample of truths, half-truths, falsehoods, and similar manifestations of good and evil, you have but to keep in touch with the Detroit and Michigan banking situation since the closing of them by government a week last February.

Can the average man or woman, who wants to trust so-called leaders, (since he is asked to by them) be excused in these times for thinking something like this: "It is a big a world as this, with so many greedy, selfish, sinful, and scheming people who reach high places in the economic and political life, can I ever expect to receive decent treatment from them? Can I expect to witness the brotherhood of man on earth? Can the world ever hope to attain a 100 per cent degree of peace and prosperity, when the leading citizens within our own State and Nation fight one another for the spoils of the business and political world?"

Every adult today once toddled about his parents' knees, absorbing the environment created by them, drinking in food for body and food for those thoughts and impressions that so strangely and yet so wonderfully mould human life; somewhere along that long, torturous path from babyhood to maturity every person creates, and has created for him by others, the influences that shape his earthly destiny. How great is the need, then, for the adults who are dissatisfied with this world as it is, to resolve, by word and action, to guide today's children into better and finer pathways that lead from babyhood to maturity!

After all, isn't the most effective way to improve the human race that of correctly and Godly improving its coming generation?

Then banks will be better and safer—because people are. And for no other reason.

Grand Trunk Must Pay Awards

Recent decision by the Michigan Supreme Court, upholding awards to certain property owners who claimed damages by reason of the re-location of the Grand Trunk right of way, brings considerable credit upon the commissioners who sat in the case in Pontiac for more than a year, and upon Probate Judge Dan A. McCaffrey, whose clear-cut handling of the case was sustained by the higher Court. The awards cover property located in Trowbridge Farms, Bloomfield Estates, Bloomfield Manor, Birmingham Estates, and East Maple Gardens.

The Grand Trunk railway, aided by numerous State officials connected with the Highway and the Attorney-General's Department, fought the awards, holding that the properties involved were benefited, instead of being damaged. For many months State and railroad lawyers jockeyed the case back and forth, in the meantime holding up the final day when the railroad is supposed to begin the first of fifteen annual payments on the many millions of money the State advanced for the project.

The history of this deal is part of the story of a mounting delinquency in State funds; under the mismanagement of affairs by former Governors Green and Brucker, when the State became increasingly "hard up," there seemed to be plenty of money with which to finance this railroad project—without any more security to Michigan than the willingness and ability of the railroad to "pay up." And now the railroad has certainly manifested a desire to avoid payment, as long as it can keep the case in the courts. (Gosh, how politics will get a man.)

Germany Wants Children

Women in Germany who are employed are asked by the Hitler government to quit their jobs, get married, and raise great families. For this they are promised a government dowry, with a bonus for every child born to them. Illegitimate children are to be given the name of their father. Everything possible to encourage the keeping of women in the home and the nursery is being done by Hitler's boys. In other words, Germany is determined that it must increase its ability to transform its meat and potatoes, green onions and hofbrau beer into animated human beings. What these human beings will do, other than to engage in warfare, is as yet unknown. This will depend upon what Germany's leaders think and dream about. The balance of its population will just remain in the breeding and burden-bearing classes.

Wailing In Wall Street

Wall Street is the name given to a small, narrow thoroughfare in New York City where the nation's leading financiers maintain their various offices and establishments. In the light of revelations about Detroit bank closings, wherein allegations are made that the New York money changers caused Michigan's banks to close because of a feud with Henry Ford, it appears that Wall Street is not so small as we thought although none of us will deny that it is quite "narrow." What Wall Street now needs is to be walled in by, federal inspection and regulation that offers at least a modicum of protection for the great mass of people.

Old Age Pensions

Old age pensions have attained a legal status in Michigan, with the passage of such a Bill by the recently adjourned Legislature. It is proposed to tax each adult person two dollars annually, the proceeds to be used to defray the pension costs. While we have every sympathy for people of old age who are dependent upon society for sustenance, we cannot help but feel that the average human being has lost something when a State is required to put a head tax on its citizens for such a purpose. The idea would be more practical if it were not married to politics. Too often, in the administration of public funds for certain charitable purposes there is a corruption and miscarriage of the benevolent intent, with the result that a wide strata of society is permanently harmed.

Capitalism Must Be Controlled

As long as men are influenced by the bestowal of precious gifts, whether they be money, jewels, stocks and bonds, lands, or positions of power and influence, they will be corruptible stones in the structure of government. As long as tremendous capital is vested in the hands of a few people, the temptation to use some of that money unwisely is too often an over-balance to men's better judgments.

The new era before us in the United States will not entirely eliminate the evils of a corrupting capitalism eating its way into the very foundations of a democratic government; but the new era will at least prove to men and women that if civilization is to remain cohesive, to survive the rotting tendencies of uncontrolled greed and avarice, some sort of more enduring impersonal supervision of MONEY must be set in motion—and then let us all pray that those who administer this supervising machinery are beyond corruption themselves!

As you study the problems of the world in which you live, you are more and more convinced that what we need are not just careful plans, but *CHARACTERFUL PEOPLE!* And the task of making such people is the greatest one that confronts mankind—therefore, be considerate of today's children!

What Newspapers Give

Elton R. Eaton owns and publishes the Plymouth Mail. For years he has been a close observer of the relations between government and other civic institutions, some of which were gained while he acted as former Governor Groesbeck's personal secretary for four years. Mr. Eaton, two weeks ago, read an article in The Eccentric, written by Thomas A. Neal, in which the latter "took The Eccentric to task" and rebuked us for not being more philanthropic. Mr. Eaton, apparently, disagrees with Mr. Neal and sets forth his case under the caption of "The Greedy Always Want More." While we are sure that Mr. Neal's intention was friendly in the matter, and he therefore hardly merits the "greedy" adjective alluded to, we do feel that much of Mr. Eaton's argument is appropriate. It follows:

"The Eccentric can help pay its debt to the public by doing something for nothing," is the general trend of a communication published in the well known Birmingham Eccentric a week or so ago.

The writer insinuates that the newspaper owes the public of that community something.

Yes, it is true, the Eccentric or any other newspaper owes the public something—the Eccentric owes the public just what it is giving to it, a splendid newspaper, a newspaper that is worth six times per year what the public pay for it.

But the writer is off on the wrong foot.

It is not a case of what a newspaper owes the public, but it is a case of what the public owes a well managed and properly conducted newspaper, a paper that serves its community as faithfully and as diligently as does the Eccentric.

When you get right down to facts, the public owes the newspaper a debt it cannot pay.

All the agencies of Birmingham or any other town that profess to serve the public good, combined do not do one fraction as much for the community as does its newspaper.

Give?

That is all a newspaper seemingly does these days. There are those that think a newspaper is the fount of all things, that it can give and give and give to this, that and the other thing. Well, the newspaper gives and gives gladly of its all.

The average newspaper publisher is in the business because he likes public service and he is interested in matters of community and state development.

Give?

Take a minute to check over the issue of the Eccentric in which appeared the article about the Eccentric giving something to the public."

Two full columns on the first page were GIVEN to the details of boosting off the start of a bank. There was almost a full column donated to the schools of that city on the first page. Two or more columns were given to a discussion of city matters. Turning to the inside pages nearly the entire second and third pages were GIVEN to community affairs. There was a whole column GIVEN to the churches. On the next page there was GIVEN two or three columns to the advancement of farm and garden matters and another column to the betterment of child life, almost another column was GIVEN to the promotion of a Birmingham art exhibit.

So it ran all the way through the paper. Column after column GIVEN by the Eccentric to the development of the community and advancing of community projects.

Talk about GIVING—the issue of the Eccentric we checked over was filled with material GIVEN for the betterment of its community—its churches, schools, societies—everything that has to do for the good of Birmingham.

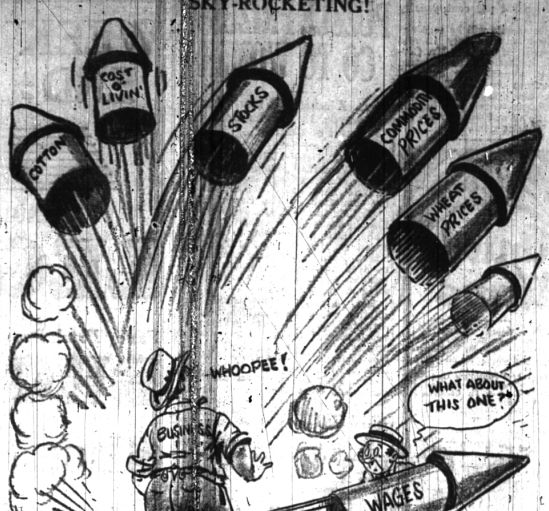
But this issue was nothing different than the average edition of the Eccentric or any other community newspaper.

Turn the table around as it should be—and begin to give something in return to the newspaper for the unlimited free services it renders to the public.

However such an idea does not enter the mind of a critic. His general idea of things is something to find fault about and not to reward those entitled to consideration.

HUEY LONG HAS A FRIEND who declares that the Louisiana Senator's integrity is above reproach. "Why, Huey is so open you can read him like a book," says the friend. Would that mean that Huey is a sort of under-cover man?

SKY-ROCKETING!



THE OTHER CHAP SAYS SOMETHING—

BANK DEPOSITS

I have enjoyed reading Senator Vandenberg's radio address delivered in Washington on the banking situation; through it I obtained the information which radio static eliminated. Vandenberg is father to the advanced thought that our banks must guarantee the depositor's holding. Thirty days ago a skeptical multitude shook an uncomprimising head and said "it's bad business to guarantee bank deposits." What a whale of a difference a few days means presently. The gear is now in reverse. It seems we have lived a decade in the few days so far this year.—J. John Pope in Grandville Star.

"DICTATOR" O'BRIEN

Praise instead of censure should be showered upon the state senators that prevented the placing of Attorney General O'Brien on the commission having to do with the regulation and handling of the Michigan bank situation. O'Brien not only has expressed very pronounced socialistic leanings in the past, but ever since he was elected to his present job he has assumed a dictatorial position, has countenanced the breaking of such laws as interfered with his line of thinking and has been engaged mostly in a purely patronage and political disposition of his high office. Governor Comstock has not been in accord with that kind of interference and we believe in the end he will realize that the senators who opposed O'Brien's interference were in the right and that they have saved him from embarrassing situations that will surely follow O'Brien's interference.—Al Weber in Cheboygan Observer.

THIS BILL SHOULD BE DEFEATED

A. L. Moore "tax relief" bill now before our legislature is one of the most misleading pieces of legislation ever devised. It really places a premium on tax evasion, and soaks the man who pays his taxes. In the guise of helping the home owner, its principal benefits are for the real estate speculators and land sharks who unloaded property on ambitious home seekers at 2 to 10 times its value and who now have taken it back, tax delinquent, after having been paid in many cases more than it was worth. This bill is 99% for the city real estate men and subdividers, and 1% for the owners of small homes and farms. It pension the farmers and others who pay can promptly and forbes them two a perpetual Santa Claus to the promoters who fring to carry the schemes beyond all reason. This pernicious proposal has already passed the state senate, mostly because it is free as it appears to have some merit, but it will have tough sledding in the houses—and if such measure is constitutional, our state has taken a big backward step.—Ira Haas in Holly Herald.

POLITICS INTRUDES

POLITICS intrudes itself into matters which ought to be governed by the common needs and welfare.

The people read that at Lansing a "willful" Republican minority killed the important banking bill from passing. The facts are that because a pleas-loving attorney general seemed to have a say in appointing bank receivers the whole program fell to the ground. Inclusion of this provision on the board to name receivers was not deemed vital by the governor himself, according to reports.

So Republican senators are being branded as spoilsmen when as a matter of fact all they sought was the retention of the usual practice of receivers being named by the courts.—Harry Whitely in Dowagiac Daily News.

A TIME FOR OPTIMISM

This is a time for optimism—not pessimism. The closing of the banks of the country with its penalties—the issuance of scrip on a national scale—all this critical business is merely hastening the ending of our miseries, and speeding the day when the turn upward will take place. It, in fact, appears to be a blessing in disguise.

The process of liquidation had to be spread across the land to include the big fellow as well as the little one. The sooner the job is completed, the better we are off. And it is being done swiftly now. The stream of the current is running its course, and the nation will soon have its feet back on solid ground.—Wyandotte Gateway Chronicle.

NO RICH MAN'S PANIC

This has been no rich man's panic. It has been everybody's depression. This depression has forced American business back to where it was in 1913. The drop has been from a peak of about 80 billions of dollars of business per year to about 50 billions. This means that all of our economic gains and all of our increased standards of living accumulated since the beginning of the World War have been completely wiped out. We must now start all over again to build up and help effect the further growth and prosperity of our great country. The one big thing that gives us courage right now is the historical knowledge that our country has muddled through many depressions before, and every depression has been followed by new record peaks of prosperity.—By Mr. R. Perry Shorts, President of the Second National Bank and Trust Company, Saginaw.

A LOT OF COIN

Three billion dollars are to be raised by the federal government to finance a gigantic construction program for the purpose of ending unemployment. The only consideration in judging a proposed piece of work will be: "How many new jobs will be created?" Wonder if any thought at all will be given to the effect of the swollen debt burden to the future generations who will have to pay the bill? We insist, however, that this angle is a very important one.—Dick Cook in Hastings Banner.

Ships and Sealing Wax

By ALLEN TENNY

VERY IMPORTANT.

Jack had just turned on the radio. The Happy Melody Boys took a turn at a recent fox-trot, and then a voice came through.

"What is the secret of a girl's charm?" it asked. "What is it that makes a man look at her twice where he only looked once before? What is it that adds that one last lovely touch to her appearance? What is it that makes the difference . . .?"

"I'll bet," said, breaking rudely in on the radio voice, which by this time had built up a fine bit of suspense, "I'll bet it's her skin."

Jack disagreed.

"No," he said, "I believe he's going to say it depends on whether she eats yeast—or maybe whether she drinks postum."

"Maybe it's the color of her stockings," I suggested. "Seems to me that's very important."

"Or maybe it's got something to do with the hair under her arms," Jack put in. "No girl can get very far with a lot of hair under her arms."

* * *

Meanwhile, the radio voice was still asking questions:

"What is the magnet of any girl's personality? What is it that spells loveliness in her appearance—traps her whole beauty—enhances her every grace? What is it . . .?"

The suspense was becoming something terrible.

"Say, Jack," I broke in again, "is he drumming for clothes or cosmetics?"

"Dunno," he replied. "But it's something very important—you can be sure of that. What about the ears? The ears are considered very important these days, aren't they?"

* * *

"Now I agreed, "and then there's the coiffure—very important, indeed. In fact, I would almost say the most important."

* * *

"What is it," the radio voice was continuing, "that holds the key to a girl's personal charm? What is the most important single factor in her appearance? Well, I'll tell you . . . a her . . ."

Jack and I bent closer.

"Is her eyebrows?"

Jack and I looked at one another sheepish-like. It was like not knowing the answer to a very simple question in grammar school.

* * *

"The eyebrows, of course," Jack decided. "I hadn't though of the eyebrows."

"Rather had I," I admitted. "I guess they're very important."

"Oh certainly," Jack replied, "that's what a girl would be like without eyebrows."

"Yes," I said, "but there are brows and eyebrows, you know. What kind do you like?"

"Well, of course, scraggly eyebrows are no good."

"No, and bushy eyebrows are no good—not on a girl."

"And then there's the kind that point in the right direction."

"And those that dont look like . . ."

"Say, those that are too . . ."

"And those that are too early."

"All very important."

"Very, very important."

FROM THE ECCENTRIC COLUMNS —of Long Ago

Bits Of News Gleaned From Old Files Of The Eccentric— The Items That Make Up The Historical Background Of The Birmingham Of Today.

FIFTY YEARS AGO

Lemonade, pop, soda, and fresh roasted peanuts all day at THE ECCENTRIC.

A new and very ornamental street lamp decorates the front of Mrs. J. O. Beattie's ice cream parlors.

Miss Lydia Coney made her little niece Nellie Camp a present by mail of—Oh, ishaw don't know what you call it but it's a very pretty lace dress all hand worked over a blue fabric, and valued at $25. It's handsome.

Our reporter at the commencement exercises last week, took his cue from Miss Beatty's essay and bearing in mind the sentiment "Give us a candid, honest press, let the bolts fall where they will," gives his criticisms from an unbiased standpoint. The fact that the graduates gave the best of satisfaction to all, reflects great credit upon themselves and their tutors.

Our friend Frank Blakeslee is a very particular man about what he eats, and when he went fishing the other day his good wife put up a model lunch and Frank was bragging about his dinner all the way to the lake. Now, he thinks raw potatoes ain't as good as cooked ones, and eggs are better after a judicious amount of boiling than in a state of nature, but the cold coffee was altogether too hot for Frank—the pepper in it taking the skin off his throat and sending him home with blood in his eye and a fish pole in each hand.

The dance at Clark Vaughan's last Saturday night was a success. The strings broke precisely at twelve.

Just received, a lot of hair goods, 50 and 75c hair nets to match at Furman's.

Mrs. Warren Schuler of Southfield has been visiting friends near Holly and returned on Saturday last, well pleased with her sojourn.

This evening, fireworks and a grand ball at the National hall.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

Miss Ida J. Hanna is home from the State Normal college at Ypsilanti bringing with her a diploma with a life certificate attached.

Several men, boys, women, and "widdies" are after Mitchell's job as night operator but he can't see it. He knows a good thing when he has it. Aside from a fine night's sleep, he is drawing semi-monthly a fine fat salary.

We are having a spell of hot, dry weather.

Miss Mabel P. Thompson and Miss Helen T. Hothers left Monday afternoon for a trip to Duluth by steamer from Toledo.

Mr. and Mrs. W. I. Deer and Miss Minnie Deer and the reunion of the Deer family at C. H. Deer's at Novi last Thursday.

Big boys, small boys, men, girls and women are hereby warned against shooting or firing off cannon crackers, guns, pistols, revolvers, on Saturday, July 4, '08. The marshal will enforce the law and you are hereby warned.

I. Lee Truax left Wednesday eve for Eau Claire, Wis., where he will meet Mrs. Truax and the kiddets and return home with them all next Tuesday. On his way he will stay over night in Chicago and have a day of sight seeing in the big windy city.

A slight blaze at the Israel Disbrow home, in the southwest corner of the village, caused the water-works whistle to shriek about 11 Wednesday morning. But the fire was extinguished before the squirt cart arrived.

One day last week Miss Anna Parks coming down town lost her gold watch which Mrs. Fyfe found a moment later. Next morning Miss Parks called up this office to advertise her loss but didn't have to as Mrs. Fyfe had already sent word of her find. The loser and finder enjoyed a joyful reunion.

The Y. P. U. of the Baptist church will sell sherbet and cake on Daines and Bell's lawn Saturday evening, July 11th.

FIVE YEARS AGO

Work was scheduled to be started today on the paving of eight village streets, following the award of contracts to the Taylor Construction Company of Birmingham Monday night by the Village Commission.

Total estimated valuation of constructions, additions, and other building permits for the past three months exceeds one million dollars, according to Mrs. Myrtle E. Carson, village clerk.

While work on the new Grand Trunk right-of-way is progressing north of Birmingham, the excavation in the village is moving slowly, according to Village Manager James W. Parry. The agreement between the state and the village relative to the grade separations within Birmingham has not yet been signed, the village waiting for the state to move, he said.

Birmingham is to have a new large postoffice at an early date. This announcement was made yesterday by C. W. Easton, postal inspector of this district who was stationed at Ypsilanti. He is to receive bids on the proposed new building July 17.

Birmingham's new policewoman, Mrs. Alice M. Halenda, who lives on Brown street, is active today in her new duties, according to James W. Parry, village manager. She succeeds Mrs. Albert D. Jardine.

Paying a high tribute to the ability of Norman C. Orr, his first assistant, Prosecutor Underwood this week announced that he would not be a candidate to succeed himself in the fall elections and that he would give Orr his unqualified support. Underwood has been prosecutor in Oakland County for two terms. Mr. Orr is expected to announce his candidacy this week.

Chief of Police James Anderson returned Monday evening from the annual International Convention of chiefs of police, held at Colorado Springs last week.

ParaLaffs

Evidently

Recently published figures show that flying is decidedly cheaper than it was last year. Evidently the cost of going up is coming down.—The Humorist.

Are Said To Be

The memories of some circus elephants are said to be so marvelous that they can remember when the patrons used to give them peanuts.—Judge.

One Minute Pulpit

For it is easier for a camel to go through a needle's eye, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.—St. Luke 18:25.

Jest For Fun

Couldn't Smell It

"Was that sandwich quite fresh that you sold me just now?"

"You bet. Each one is wrapped in transparent airtight paper."

"I wish I'd known."

—o—

Carrie the Cannibal

God! But I'm greedy!
I saw him and I ate.
But that doesn't satisfy
My appetite.

I want him to clamor,
I want him to phone,
I want to be sure
That he's strictly my own.

It's not that I love him,—
It's just that I feel
Relieved when he's riveted
Here at my heel.

—Margaret Fishback in "Life"

—o—

Satisfied

Maid: "I'm sorry, but she said to tell you that she is not at home."

Caller: "O, that's all right, just tell her I'm glad I didn't come."

—Log.

Famous Firms—
Bright & Early

Our Scrap Book

What comfort, what strength, what economy there is in order—material order, intellectual order, moral order. To know where one can find a thing when one wishes—this is order; to keep one's word and one's engagements—again order; to have everything ready when one's time comes—to be able to dispose of all one's forces, and to have all one's means of whatever kind under command—still order; to discipline one's habits, one's efforts, one's thoughts, to organize one's life, to distribute one's time, to take the measure of one's duties and to make one's rights respected, to employ one's capital and resources, one's talent and one's chances profitably—all this belongs to and is included in the word order. Order means light and peace, inward liberty and free command over one's self. Order is power. Æsthetic and moral beauty consist, the first in a true perception of order, and the second in submission to it, and in the realization of it, by, in, and around one's self. Order is man's greatest need and his true well-being.—From Amiel's Journal, 1859.

ALL OF US

By Marshal Maslin

WHEREVER you go, you are being watched. Whatever you do, an eye is on you. Even in your sleep, the eye is open.

Marshal Maslin

Working, playing, loafing, dreaming, struggling, growing, diminishing, eating and drinking and fighting and loving, you are watched.

People watch you. When you go down the street they look at you and make judgments about you. Some approve. Some condemn. Some hardly see you at all, but a slight decision about you moves swifter than the speed of light through them. They accept you or they condemn. . . . Your friends watch you. Your family watches you more closely than all others. . . . You say to yourself, wistfully, "I wish somebody understood me." You worry about that. People understand you better than you think. They judge you through your actions and your actions, after all, are the real history that you write upon life from birth to the grave. . . . It is fair, though some may deny it, to judge a man by his actions. By the way he works, by the things he loves; by his words, his smiles, his visible emotions. The things he does come out of himself as surely as a chicken comes out of an egg or a flower out of a bud. These are part of him and he cannot get away.

But he is watched from the INSIDE, too. There is the eye that watches a man in every second of his living, though he be walking down the street or dreaming in his sleep. There's himself, sometimes admiring, sometimes sneering, always open, always alert, missing nothing. . . . This eye watches you. Hurled deeply within you, never seen, always there, it is your most savage enemy, your surest friend. It can tear you down, it can build you up, weaken you to objection, strengthen you to clean and healthy pride. . . . And every thing you do is important because by that eye you are always watched!