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Elections and Movies
Average cost of votes in the United States runs as high as \$2.13, and as low as 42 cents—depending upon the congestion of population. This is for national, presidential elections. The total amount is about forty millions. That may sound like a lot of money, and it is. But when we remember that forty millions of people are considered, it really isn't so much after all—about the price of two ordinary movies. (We won't argue the relative values of the two items—while you may at times consider that the movies give you more for your money than your government does, in reality your government—bad as it is at times—is worth more than the celluloid flicker ever can be.)

Horro H. Abbott
Horro H. Abbott, we had always supposed, was a kindly, thoroughly reliable church-going attorney, in love with lovely Ann Arbor. Our few contacts with him in years past had given us the impression that he was of an idealistic, lofty mind. But his escapades in politics since January 1, 1932, have given us new glimpses of Mr. Abbott. It is, indeed, unfortunate that his many years upon earth did not teach him how to live—even as an enduring public servant.

Dentistry As A Service
A famous American dentist recently stated that members of his profession actually serve five per cent fewer people today than they did, relatively speaking, a hundred years ago. He sees the need for the State to set up a dental service which will help more than 100 million needy people now neglected. He also laments the high prices charged by the dentists, saying that their pecuniary desires blind them to the greater social service they are privileged to perform. In alloting many thousands of dollars annually to provide funds for the teeth of needy children, Senator Couzens long ago foresaw the need for low-priced dental clinics.

Calmer Judgment In Law-making
In the wild hysteria for the passage of legislation today, sober and calm judgment often plays a losing game. It is a sad commentary on human intelligence that otherwise wise people capable of achieving great heights in much of human activity, should be so much like a stampeding mob when it comes to passing laws intended to correct wrongs. In the creation of a Legislative Council, such as we have in Michigan today, the solid did a good deed for the people; for this Council, between its Legislative sessions, is afforded an opportunity to study and to improve the ill of the government. If the Constitution required impending statutes to be held under consideration for a proper length of time before passage, there would be better laws on the books—for much of the abortive legislation we get is enacted in the hysterical clouring hours of the Legislature. Congress, too, can be included in that indictment.

"Prosperity By Starvation"
We wonder if that old axiom, "sow the wind and reap the whirlwind," is not applicable to the crop reduction hog-killing program of the present Washington Administration, under Wallace & Tugwell. For now comes the need of killing off a million cattle, paying for them with \$5. tax money, because Nature is ironically co-operating with the reduction of a government policy of "prosperity by starvation." Surely, from present appearances caused by the drought, if scarcity of crops is the foundation of agricultural prosperity, then the American farmers next fall ought to be rich as hell—but what will the city worker use for money to buy the expensive food with? And how much money will government pay for the carrying on of welfare relief?

Michigan's present State Constitution has created a County unit system of government that does not take into consideration the varying types of county population and attending wealth, or lack of wealth, to carry on. The hedge-podge, expensive, inefficient system that now prevails is altogether unfitted for these modern days, so unlike the horse-and-buggy era when Michigan's governmental policies were originally set up.

Such an Amendment has been needed for many years. We suggest that you learn more about it, and thus do your part as good citizens to bring about reform in County government.

Must Taxpayers Strike?
In 1925 it cost you, as a Michigan taxpayer, your portion of \$44,823 to operate the Governor's office, together with that of the Commissioner of Pardons & Poles. During the present year, ending July 1, 1934, the cost of operating these two offices will reach the staggering total of \$89,700. That gives you an idea of why the cost of State government alone in Michigan has jumped more than forty million dollars in the past ten years. Most of this increase has come under Republican rule, too. Governor Comstock, however, shows no disposition to lower the cost—as a glance at State revenues and present huge tax levies reveals. (Is a general tax strike the only remedy the people have in order to obtain a decrease in taxation?)

Many Homes Needed
Persons close to the housing and building picture of the nation hold that soon the country will be in the throes of a huge building boom, and that prices of various materials will go much higher than they are today—suggesting, indirectly, that the wise and thrifty property owner who wants to repair or build had better start right now.

Approximately 370,000 families secured new homes in 1922. In 1925, when the greatest number of homes ever built in the nation were erected, the total amount to nearly 700,000. The ten-year average from 1921 to 1930 was 341,000 units per year. In 1933, statistics reveal, only 10,000 new homes were constructed.

During the depression, it may be remembered, thousands of homes were neglected, so that them literally falling to pieces. The result is that an astounding proportion of our population lives in sub-standard dwellings. It was recently estimated that 4,000,000 families are doubling up with relatives. All these factors combine to the belief that America, when the time really arrives for the building tradesman to ply his craft, will enter its greatest era of home construction.

And why not? We have the need for it—and the materials for it. All that is needed is a restoration of confidence, less interference of government in business and industry, and a decrease of the cost of bureaucratic government, in both State and Nation.

Frank D. Fitzgerald
Approximately seven thousand persons made a pilgrimage to Grand Lake two weeks ago, to pay homage to the candidacy of Frank D. Fitzgerald, Michigan's Secretary of State, who is the only avowed Republican candidate for Governor. That was mighty fine; this newspaper, whose publisher is a personal friend of the Grand Lake citizen so honored, offers its congratulations to "Fitz" for winning and deserving such splendid friendship. Mr. Fitzgerald is now at the crest of his career; he is nearing the top of that crescent, where it becomes the crest of a gubernatorial campaign ahead of him. We hope that he proves equal to the tasks that weigh so heavily upon the shoulders and the consciences of honest and capable public officials.

Well, it now looks as though Detroit's subway is to be ditched—which is about as close to earth as it ever will come, say federal officials.

Birmingham Business Leaders

No. 22

STUDIED TO BECOME A BANKER. BUT —



RALPH WILSON

THE DRUG BUSINESS BECAME A STRONGER ATTRACTION

DON'T YOU LIKE THE ORCHID BEST?



NOW - TRY ON SOME MORE. BAD LIES LIKE THIS DON'T BOTHER RALPH.



Ralph A. Wilson, proprietor of the Wilson Pharmacy, 159 North Woodward avenue, once passed an examination to enter the employment of the National Bank of Commerce, but he's never seen a teller's cage except from the other side and has never made his living as anything but a pharmacist. He served out his apprenticeship in London and passed the Michigan Board of Pharmacy examination in 1921, after coming to Detroit in 1919. After working a short time in Detroit and Royal Oak, he came to Birmingham from the waiting list for an opening. But in those three months he had gone to work "temporarily" for the owner of a group of drug stores in London, Ontario, and by the time the bank job finally offered itself he was confirmed in the pharmaceutical trade. He served out his apprenticeship in London and passed the Michigan Board of Pharmacy examination in 1921, after working a short time in Detroit and Royal Oak, he came to Birmingham from the waiting list for an opening.

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
Strawberries and cream on Tuesday evening. School closes this month. What a relief, a Squire. A cold wave struck us Monday with great severity. Ice cream is good as dispensed by Mrs. J. O. Beattie, Saturday nights and all other times. H. A. Randall and son, Tracy, canvass Wisconsin for a month in the interests of the H. M. Bitters Co.

The M. E. Church has received a very beautiful coat of paint which improves its appearance very much. Nothing is now the thing, and it is a cold day don't leave town early for a day's sport casting the line. Not long ago just 21 appeared at a dance and never one brought us lady partner. That's a bad showing for Piety Hill. A Troy widow, on being asked why she married so soon after the death of her husband, said she did so to prevent herself from worrying about poor Tom. Our village board ought to take measures in some way to have the streets mowed and in some way rid the village of the heavy hay crop which it possesses.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
For two months past Willis H. Smith of Maple avenue has been cavorting over, around and under the streets of New York and New Jersey, having a good time visiting his daughter, Mrs. Belle Ward, and other relatives. Being handy to the great big city, Bro's Smith did the Great White Way, Broadway, to his heart's content, and to the great big city, Bro's Smith and his friends they all didn't seem to agree with him. A subscriber to the street sprinkler sends in a vigorous kick because the sprinkling man and his sprinkler does not, as yet, lay the dust there as well as the same complaint to The Eccentric. Just last week on boys, give the sprinkler and the driver a chance, and if they don't do better, we will join you. Saturday and Sunday this water should flow. The basket act announced in last week's Eccentric to appear for inspection in this village last Saturday morning, failed to appear. You can't sell stock by disappointing the people.

FIVE YEARS AGO
Society gathered 300 strong at 10:30 o'clock Saturday for the impressive coronation attendant upon

Jest For Fun



"What do you think of our picture gallery?" "Oh, the pictures are good enough, but there ain't no good jokes under them."

In Memoriam
Again in our peaceful land the Red Menace has reared its ugly head. Behind locked doors, they have tread the rug well Swapping yarns about Rexford Tugwell.

Hamilton Fish, I declare it's tough— A western bounder has kicked your stuff. By all the limelight on Dr. Wirt! Where is the clarion cry for war! That panicked the D. A. R. of yore?

Hamilton Fish, I declare it's tough— A western bounder has kicked your stuff. For years you labored early and late Against the Menace within the Gate. You dug up alien plots galore For good Americans to do, And now when there's nice domestic dirt The credit all goes to Dr. Wirt.

Yet rise, Crusader, the lines are drawn; Kershney camps on the White House Lawn. And private business is on the run— Achilles! There's work to be done! Think of your country's sore distress. Think of America, leaderless! Think of a Stalin on the loose, Think of the Great Order of the Star.

Think of the loyal American Dream, The Elks, and the Harvard Football Team. Think of them ravished and done away with By Professors who take our land to play with. Come, Hamilton Fish, get into it! Your legions are champing at the bit. And you will not fail. You cannot desert. Their cause to the care of Dr. Wirt. —Grant Lewin in "Life."

Famous Films Fore & Aft
Can Do That, Too Maud—A woman can easily make a man go up in the air. Marie—Yes, but her success as an air pilot would depend on her landing him.

PEOPLE'S COLUMN

The Eccentric is pleased to receive communications for this column. All communications must be signed, but signatures will be kept confidential upon request. Letters must be limited to 500 words, and must be in the office by Tuesday noon for publication the following Thursday.

PARRY HITS BACK
To the Editor: Referring to your vicious editorial in last week's Eccentric, I, Andrew H. Brown, I "rejoice that..."

In the first place you "misquoted." It was as follows: "considerations of public safety and public convenience outweigh the benefit of angle parking to the merchants, then the interest of the merchants should be sacrificed." This is true of any regulation or ordinance. The rights or interests of the few must always give way to the interest of the many.

My support of the police department's recommendation that angle parking be discontinued was based on a sincere confidence in their judgment and experience in hourly contact with the problem. This experience is not only local but country wide—wherever angle parking and through traffic have mixed. We are the last community on the U. S.-10 between Detroit and Flint and most other through roads to retain angle parking. It was also in conformity with the mandate that the "city manager make such recommendations to the City Commission as he may judge to be in the public interest."

Your factious comment on grazed curbs and speedway is—of course—foolish, as it was probably meant to be. It is quite on a par with the reasoning that if angle parking is good enough for Oakland and Brown it ought also

I congratulate you on, at least, not making the mistake of which you accuse me. It must be so small trick to prevent advertising revenue from influencing your editorial opinion on public questions.

One Minute Pulpit
Smite a scorners, and the simple will beware; and reprove one that hath understanding, and he will understand knowledge.—Proverbs 1:22

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BACK FOR ANOTHER VACATION IN MICHIGAN

Year after year, vacationists from other states return to Michigan to enjoy the many advantages our state offers. Here they have found everything in scenic beauty, historic interest and opportunity for healthful play on land and water that one could desire.

Michigan's tourist and resort business brings large sums of money to the state each year. It provides employment for thousands, and greater prosperity for all of us. We can increase that business further by telling out-of-state friends about Michigan's vacation advantages and by spending our own vacations here.

And, no matter which part of Michigan you visit this summer, banish worry by telephoning home and office frequently. Called ahead by reservations, or to tell friends that you are coming. Long Distance calls will add but little to the cost and much to the enjoyment of your vacation.

ALL OF US
By Marshall Maslin

SHE IS A WAITRESS and she thinks anyone is fortunate who drinks of it and is able to get his pet likes and dislikes off his chest. So she decided to get some of hers off HER chest, and I pass them on to YOU.

Our village board ought to take measures in some way to have the streets mowed and in some way rid the village of the heavy hay crop which it possesses.

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