

The Birmingham Eccentric

(Founded in 1878)
Published every Thursday, at Birmingham, Mich., in The
Eccentric Building, 225-227 North Woodward Avenue.
Telephone 15, 12, and 13.
Editor and Publisher
GEORGE R. AVERILL
Business Manager
PAUL NEAL AVERILL
ARTHUR N. WINGENDER
CLAUDE E. WALKER
Production Manager
Entered as Second Class Matter in the U. S. Postoffice at
Birmingham, Michigan.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
(In Oakland County)
One Year \$2.50
Six Months \$1.50
Three Months .75
All newspapers and advertising copy must be in the Eccentric
office by Tuesday 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, DECEMBER 19, 1935

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. The copy must
be presented before noon on Wednesday. The right to refuse or
to accept is reserved. The Eccentric is not responsible for the
mechanical situation in the composing room. Headlines written
and the names of the authors of the stories, or of the
any erroneous reference to the character, standing or
appear in the columns of the Eccentric will be gladly cor-
rected upon being brought to the attention of the publisher.

Our Children Will Pay, And Pay, And Pay!

Looking ahead fifteen or twenty years, you do not suppose
that our children will pay to one another, to the soil
and to pay to pay for the national indebtedness
now being saddled upon the United States by the New
Dealers, something like this: "Wonder what our par-
ents and grand-parents were thinking about when
they tried to work themselves out of a depression by
spending so many billions of dollars, for what? They
lament the waste of war, with its great public
expense. I know that they had a depression, starting
in 1929, but, when that depression was about licked
in 1934, why did they keep on spending billions of
dollars that they didn't yet have—and so much of it
on projects that are so economically and socially
unsound? My parents and grand-parents certainly
left me a rich inheritance of debt to pay. Why did they
to forsake their civic rights, as American freemen,
that a group of New Deal theorists could spend them
into such disastrous poverty?"

Politics Corrupts Idealism

We say this respectfully, and kindly, and truthfully:
no man, or woman, ever got elected to a public office,
and continued to be elected under a democratic gov-
ernment, who did not succumb, to some degree, his
personal self-respect and honor. So far as we can see,
no man or woman ever will be able to enthrone an
uncontaminated idealism in a free government. As
yet, the world of human beings is not rich enough
in the soil of enduring character to allow for the
price of one of our modern governments. We have
tried it, you may remember, and we crucified. Popu-
lar government must needs pay the price of ineffi-
ciency and extravagance; for popular government is
not overwhelmingly intelligent government, as any
demagogue will laughingly tell you.

Here's How To Distribute What We Can Produce

Neither the United States nor the world has ever pro-
duced more than it needed!

Quite often, however, it has produced more than it
could distribute.

It is in the realm of distribution that mankind
must now turn his thought processes, if it ever is to
reap the potential harvest of its inventive genius.
For centuries mankind has sought to apply certain
moral laws to his human relationships, realizing that
only in this manner could he "inherit the Kingdom
of Heaven." Prophets and Messiahs have visited
mankind many times; Moses and Jesus have left their
indelible impress upon our world. Entire Christianity
knows that it must conform more and more to moral
law, if it would attain peace and happiness.

There is, too, an economic world in which we live
—a world that today is friendly laws governing us.
Only when mankind learns more and more about these
economic truths will it really be ready to receive the
harvest of abundance that is ready to pour its
goodness into the lives of all.

All that mankind has is the LAND, which includes
everything in, on, and above the earth. By applying
his labor to the land, he produces wealth. In this
wealth comes that which with which to pay wages,
capital, and the landlord. Too much of this wealth
is mal-distributed; too much flows to the landlord
and capitalist; too little flows to wages; and that is
why, in spite of man's unlimited ability to produce,
his distributive products sufficiently to avoid
recurrent depressions.

To say that mankind has ever over-produced is to
say a thing that never has been true!

California Vs. Florida

Because California has large income taxes, and many
of its people are moving away, Florida is making a bid
to have them take up a residence in her warm sun-
shine. Florida uses the bait of little or no taxes on in-
come, stocks, bonds, etc. Here is an example of how
one section of the same nation competes, economically,
against a sister-State for inhabitants.

Because we are a single nation, we have a common
army and navy, to be used as a last resort to defend
our land, neither Florida nor California can call upon
the army or navy to help fight a sister State for
business. But, let us suppose Florida and California,
like two European nations, wanted the same thing:
each with its army and navy could, and often did, go
to war to get what was wanted.

We wonder what Florida and California would do,
were they nations unto themselves, each seeking new
markets for their products, each seeking to gain
greater wealth in a highly competitive world market?
There's a fairly thin veneer of difference in human
nature the world around, isn't there? And yet you can
recall the day of the Sixties, when the Civil War was
a reality—a great nation being divided for a time
over the question of "property rights."

JAPAN WANTS TO HAVE as many battleships as the
United States and Great Britain, respectively, own.
Japan wants to be sure that she will not be outdone
in English speaking country if she ever engages in
a war with them. In other words, Japan wants to be
sure that, at some future time, she can start a war
whenever she feels like it.

Girls Will Be Boys!

Girls will be girls—just as boys are reputed always
to have been boys. At least this is so in these modern days
of sex equality. Girls can be as inventive as boys,
especially when they are on the road of romance. Take
the case of the father who for the first time visits his
daughter at a fashionable boarding school. The principal
greeted him with "You ought to be proud to be the
father of so large a family, sir..." The father
frowned, "Large family—what do you mean?"
"Why, sir," replied the principal, your
daughter had eleven of her brothers here this term, to
take her out. She expects another tomorrow."

You Largely Control Your Future

A generation ago a little girl was placed in an orphan-
age in a mid-western State. Her name was Mercy
Goodfirth, but the name belied everything in her life.
She was sickly, ill-tempered, ugly to look at, and
—worst of all—a hunchback. Some months after her
arrival in the institution a childless couple came there
seeking a girl for adoption. The young wife explained
she wanted a child no one else would take, and the
matron promptly called Mercy Goodfirth into the room.
When the young woman saw the child's twisted
back, her scowling face, and her embonpoint, she
held out her arms eagerly and said, "Mercy, you're
the little girl I've come for!" So began a new chapter
in hers and Mercy's life.

Some forty years later one of the officials who was
inspecting orphanages in that same State mailed this
report to his superior: "I have just been visiting the
Home in such-and-such a town. The house is ex-
quisitely clean, and the twenty children there seem
unusually happy. I had supper with them tonight, and
afterward we all went into the living-room to sing.
One of the older girls played the organ, but every other
child gathered eagerly about the matron. Two little
girls perched on the arms of her chair, she held the
smallest child in her lap, and I noticed that one of the
big boys sat on the floor at her feet and held the hem
of her dress tenderly in his hand. The children simply
adore that matron. She is a middle-aged hunchback
named Mercy Goodfirth. Her features are very plain,
but they forget all about them when she plays the
organ."

We must remind ourselves constantly that no mat-
ter how unmanageable our present is, the future is
definitely and invariably under our control.—FROM
YOU CAN MASTER LIFE. (Macmillan)

Nuthin' Ever Happens Out Here—

Do you remember Webster's famous cartoon called
"Hardin County—1897"? Two old-timers, in coun-
try caps and homespun clothes, are talking. One of
them is standing knee deep in the snow, with a gun
over his shoulder. The other is mounted on a horse
with a bag of provisions behind the saddle. In the
background is an old rail fence. Let's listen in:
"Any well-squid 'n' the village, Ezzy?"
"Well, Squire McLean's gone to Washington 't see
Madison square, in an' of 'Spelman tells me this Bonaparte
fella has captured most of Spain. What's the
news out here, Ach'nd?"
"Nuthin' at all, nuthin' at all 'cept for a new baby
down 't Tom Lincoln's. Nuthin' ever happens out here."

The miracle of human life! Who could dream that
the little red-face boy, born in a log cabin, to
Hank and Hank Lincoln, would one day take the
oath of office on the steps of the United States Cap-
itol? Who could dream that little lawling out would
give voice to one of the greatest speeches in the
English language?

In some mystic way men are raised up to meet the
problems of an unfolding universe. That youngster
who sat across the street from a dog and took a
some day sit in the governor's chair. His freckled face,
pugged nose boy whom some day discover a cure
for cancer. The little fellow toddling down the sidewalk
with a sled may write the Great American Novel.
The little girl next door who may be the Sarah Bernhardt
of tomorrow.

God works His magic with human personality
under your very noses, and we say, "Nuthin' ever
happens out here!"—The Friendly Adventurer.

LET'S NOT get too indignant because Italy's airplanes
swooped down upon an Ethiopian town and killed
women and children—even blew up a hospital. Of
course, the whole thing is tragic—but such things
happen in the world. Let's not take the trouble to
be international conflict. You can't expect war to
be played as you would play tiddle-twe-dinks, can you?

God works His magic with human personality
under your very noses, and we say, "Nuthin' ever
happens out here!"—The Friendly Adventurer.

Practical Paragraphs

By John Edwin Price

MILLIONS CROWD SCHOOLS OF THE NATION
The biggest school today is education. The little
red schoolhouse is working overtime, and high-
schools are filled to capacity.

Parents and teachers in Birmingham pull together
to make our schools function as effectively as pos-
sible. However, there are times when we do not stop
to realize that our local schools are part of a larger
whole.

Helen Christine Bennett, surveying the educational
field in November, Cosmopolitan, points out that
during the five years of depression, we have broad-
ened our school facilities setting not only a national,
but a world record. He is now here.

High-school students. Our high-school registra-
tion has increased more than fifty percent since
1929.

Parents, by hundreds of thousands, learning to
take care of their children, to improve their earn-
ing capacities or their ways of living.

Middle-aged or elderly people seeking new ven-
tures and vocations.

Illiterates who are not foreigners but Americans
for generations back.

Indigent workers in and out of work, in classes
connected with industries or with trade unions.

Little children of from two to five years, depress-
ed, enrolled in nursery schools.

These figures, impressive as they are, do not in-
clude: One million students paying for correspondence
extension work. Six million in radio classes, and
three million registered in classes in libraries, nu-
merals, club, freemans, and open forums, or in
an two hundred thousand CCC boys who attend
classes in off-work hours.

Counting just the people going regularly to our
public schools—and the overflow under-school
supervision—one in every four persons of our entire
population of all ages is today going to school. Mrs.
Bennett states that.

America does much to make every possible pro-
vision for the education, the interesting enlighten-
ment of her people.

People's Column

The Eccentric is pleased to receive
communications for this column.
All communications should be signed,
but signatures will be kept con-
fidential upon request. Letters must
be limited to 200 words, and must
be in the office by Tuesday noon for
publication the following Thursday.

Birmingham, Mich.
Dec. 7, 1935

To The Birmingham Eccentric.

Dear Editor:

In your issue of Dec. 5 you gave

the Townsend Plan a good going

over; even called it a "foolish

Townsend Plan." And you said

that many honest and sincere peo-
ple are believers in the Town-
e Plan who, if made acquainted with
its terrific danger to our American
economic systems, would free it
as from a plague.

Then in the same editorial, you

go on to say that you believe in
old age security, but not in the
method prescribed by the Town-
e Plan.

Now, George, it is up to you to

set forth your method in the next
issue of your paper, for old age
security, and if it is better than
the Townsend Plan then you call
foolish, we will get behind you and
call Geo. Averill and The Bir-
mington Eccentric an immoral
plan who, if made acquainted with
its terrific danger to our American
economic systems, would free it
as from a plague.

Then in the same editorial, you

go on to say that you believe in
old age security, but not in the
method prescribed by the Town-
e Plan.

Now, George, it is up to you to

set forth your method in the next
issue of your paper, for old age
security, and if it is better than
the Townsend Plan then you call
foolish, we will get behind you and
call Geo. Averill and The Bir-
mington Eccentric an immoral
plan who, if made acquainted with
its terrific danger to our American
economic systems, would free it
as from a plague.

Then in the same editorial, you

go on to say that you believe in
old age security, but not in the
method prescribed by the Town-
e Plan.

Now, George, it is up to you to

set forth your method in the next
issue of your paper, for old age
security, and if it is better than
the Townsend Plan then you call
foolish, we will get behind you and
call Geo. Averill and The Bir-
mington Eccentric an immoral
plan who, if made acquainted with
its terrific danger to our American
economic systems, would free it
as from a plague.

Then in the same editorial, you

go on to say that you believe in
old age security, but not in the
method prescribed by the Town-
e Plan.

Now, George, it is up to you to

set forth your method in the next
issue of your paper, for old age
security, and if it is better than
the Townsend Plan then you call
foolish, we will get behind you and
call Geo. Averill and The Bir-
mington Eccentric an immoral
plan who, if made acquainted with
its terrific danger to our American
economic systems, would free it
as from a plague.

Then in the same editorial, you

go on to say that you believe in
old age security, but not in the
method prescribed by the Town-
e Plan.

Now, George, it is up to you to

set forth your method in the next
issue of your paper, for old age
security, and if it is better than
the Townsend Plan then you call
foolish, we will get behind you and
call Geo. Averill and The Bir-
mington Eccentric an immoral
plan who, if made acquainted with
its terrific danger to our American
economic systems, would free it
as from a plague.

Then in the same editorial, you

go on to say that you believe in
old age security, but not in the
method prescribed by the Town-
e Plan.

Now, George, it is up to you to

set forth your method in the next
issue of your paper, for old age
security, and if it is better than
the Townsend Plan then you call
foolish, we will get behind you and
call Geo. Averill and The Bir-
mington Eccentric an immoral
plan who, if made acquainted with
its terrific danger to our American
economic systems, would free it
as from a plague.

Then in the same editorial, you

go on to say that you believe in
old age security, but not in the
method prescribed by the Town-
e Plan.

Now, George, it is up to you to

set forth your method in the next
issue of your paper, for old age
security, and if it is better than
the Townsend Plan then you call
foolish, we will get behind you and
call Geo. Averill and The Bir-
mington Eccentric an immoral
plan who, if made acquainted with
its terrific danger to our American
economic systems, would free it
as from a plague.

Then in the same editorial, you

go on to say that you believe in
old age security, but not in the
method prescribed by the Town-
e Plan.

Now, George, it is up to you to

set forth your method in the next
issue of your paper, for old age
security, and if it is better than
the Townsend Plan then you call
foolish, we will get behind you and
call Geo. Averill and The Bir-
mington Eccentric an immoral
plan who, if made acquainted with
its terrific danger to our American
economic systems, would free it
as from a plague.

Then in the same editorial, you

go on to say that you believe in
old age security, but not in the
method prescribed by the Town-
e Plan.

Now, George, it is up to you to

set forth your method in the next
issue of your paper, for old age
security, and if it is better than
the Townsend Plan then you call
foolish, we will get behind you and
call Geo. Averill and The Bir-
mington Eccentric an immoral
plan who, if made acquainted with
its terrific danger to our American
economic systems, would free it
as from a plague.

Then in the same editorial, you

go on to say that you believe in
old age security, but not in the
method prescribed by the Town-
e Plan.

Now, George, it is up to you to

set forth your method in the next
issue of your paper, for old age
security, and if it is better than
the Townsend Plan then you call
foolish, we will get behind you and
call Geo. Averill and The Bir-
mington Eccentric an immoral
plan who, if made acquainted with
its terrific danger to our American
economic systems, would free it
as from a plague.

Then in the same editorial, you

go on to say that you believe in
old age security, but not in the
method prescribed by the Town-
e Plan.

Now, George, it is up to you to

set forth your method in the next
issue of your paper, for old age
security, and if it is better than
the Townsend Plan then you call
foolish, we will get behind you and
call Geo. Averill and The Bir-
mington Eccentric an immoral
plan who, if made acquainted with
its terrific danger to our American
economic systems, would free it
as from a plague.

Then in the same editorial, you

go on to say that you believe in
old age security, but not in the
method prescribed by the Town-
e Plan.

Now, George, it is up to you to

set forth your method in the next
issue of your paper, for old age
security, and if it is better than
the Townsend Plan then you call
foolish, we will get behind you and
call Geo. Averill and The Bir-
mington Eccentric an immoral
plan who, if made acquainted with
its terrific danger to our American
economic systems, would free it
as from a plague.

Then in the same editorial, you

go on to say that you believe in
old age security, but not in the
method prescribed by the Town-
e Plan.

Now, George, it is up to you to

set forth your method in the next
issue of your paper, for old age
security, and if it is better than
the Townsend Plan then you call
foolish, we will get behind you and
call Geo. Averill and The Bir-
mington Eccentric an immoral
plan who, if made acquainted with
its terrific danger to our American
economic systems, would free it
as from a plague.

Then in the same editorial, you

go on to say that you believe in
old age security, but not in the
method prescribed by the Town-
e Plan.

Now, George, it is up to you to

set forth your method in the next
issue of your paper, for old age
security, and if it is better than
the Townsend Plan then you call
foolish, we will get behind you and
call Geo. Averill and The Bir-
mington Eccentric an immoral
plan who, if made acquainted with
its terrific danger to our American
economic systems, would free it
as from a plague.

Then in the same editorial, you

go on to say that you believe in
old age security, but not in the
method prescribed by the Town-
e Plan.

Now, George, it is up to you to

set forth your method in the next
issue of your paper, for old age
security, and if it is better than
the Townsend Plan then you call
foolish, we will get behind you and
call Geo. Averill and The Bir-
mington Eccentric an immoral
plan who, if made acquainted with
its terrific danger to our American
economic systems, would free it
as from a plague.

Then in the same editorial, you

go on to say that you believe in
old age security, but not in the
method prescribed by the Town-
e Plan.

Now, George, it is up to you to

set forth your method in the next
issue of your paper, for old age
security, and if it is better than
the Townsend Plan then you call
foolish, we will get behind you and
call Geo. Averill and The Bir-
mington Eccentric an immoral
plan who, if made acquainted with
its terrific danger to our American
economic systems, would free it
as from a plague.

Then in the same editorial, you

go on to say that you believe in
old age security, but not in the
method prescribed by the Town-
e Plan.

Now, George, it is up to you to

set forth your method in the next
issue of your paper, for old age
security, and if it is better than
the Townsend Plan then you call
foolish, we will get behind you and
call Geo. Averill and The Bir-
mington Eccentric an immoral
plan who, if made acquainted with
its terrific danger to our American
economic systems, would free it
as from a plague.

Then in the same editorial, you

go on to say that you believe in
old age security, but not in the
method prescribed by the Town-
e Plan.

Now, George, it is up to you to

set forth your method in the next
issue of your paper, for old age
security, and if it is better than
the Townsend Plan then you call
foolish, we will get behind you and
call Geo. Averill and The Bir-
mington Eccentric an immoral
plan who, if made acquainted with
its terrific danger to our American
economic systems, would free it
as from a plague.

Then in the same editorial, you

go on to say that you believe in
old age security, but not in the
method prescribed by the Town-
e Plan.

Now, George, it is up to you to

set forth your method in the next
issue of your paper, for old age
security, and if it is better than
the Townsend Plan then you call
foolish, we will get behind you and
call Geo. Averill and The Bir-
mington Eccentric an immoral
plan who, if made acquainted with
its terrific danger to our American
economic systems, would free it
as from a plague.

Then in the same editorial, you

go on to say that you believe in
old age security, but not in the
method prescribed by the Town-
e Plan.

Now, George, it is up to you to

set forth your method in the next
issue of your paper, for old age
security, and if it is better than
the Townsend Plan then you call
foolish, we will get behind you and
call Geo. Averill and The Bir-
mington Eccentric an immoral
plan who, if made acquainted with
its terrific danger to our American
economic systems, would free it
as from a plague.

Then in the same editorial, you

go on to say that you believe in
old age security, but not in the
method prescribed by the Town-
e Plan.

Now, George, it is up to you to

set forth your method in the next
issue of your paper, for old age
security, and if it is better than
the Townsend Plan then you call
foolish, we will get behind you and
call Geo. Averill and The Bir-
mington Eccentric an immoral
plan who, if made acquainted with
its terrific danger to our American
economic systems, would free it
as from a plague.

Then in the same editorial, you

go on to say that you believe in
old age security, but not in the
method prescribed by the Town-
e Plan.

Now, George, it is up to you to

set forth your method in the next
issue of your paper, for old age
security, and if it is better than
the Townsend Plan then you call
foolish, we will get behind you and
call Geo. Averill and The Bir-
mington Eccentric an immoral
plan who, if made acquainted with
its terrific danger to our American
economic systems, would free it
as from a plague.

Then in the same editorial, you

go on to say that you believe in
old age security, but not in the
method prescribed by the Town-
e Plan.