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**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 presented before noon on Wednesday. The right is reserved to accept or reject any copy. The Eccentric does not work submitted as are necessary to the style of the paper. The Eccentric is not responsible for the return of unsolicited material. An erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or reputation of any person or institution, or any other person or institution, appearing in the columns of the Eccentric will be gladly corrected upon being brought to the attention of the publisher.

**State Amendment No. 4 Should Be Defeated When You Vote**

When you vote November 3 in Michigan, among other issues you will be asked to decide on so-called Amendment No. 4 to the State Constitution, wherein it is proposed to wipe out all taxes against non-income property, except for the retirement of existing bonded indebtedness.

At first glance, this Amendment sounds nice; it suggests that people who own property will no longer be called upon to pay taxes upon it, and that in the future all taxation will come from incomes alone. Those behind this Amendment (real estate speculators from Detroit and other large centers), are trying to make the average person feel that property is paying too large a share of taxes, and that adoption of this amendment will forever remove from their property the menace of a tax sale.

In our opinion, this Amendment No. 4 is a most vicious, the most unadvised, the most un-American piece of legislation ever foisted upon the citizens of a great State.

If this Amendment is passed, it will place in the hands of a politically minded State Legislature the entire right to assess taxes; and it will place in the hands of the same Legislature body all the right to determine how much and where taxes are to be sent for the support of the public schools, the police and fire departments of an area, and for every other necessary administered by public officials.

Please remember this: if this Amendment No. 4 is adopted, November 3, the units of government, including school boards, the right to determine the quality and quantity of public service to be rendered; it will do this because it takes away from local units the right to assess and collect taxes upon property; it will centralize the collection of all taxes, as well as to centralize the allocation of taxes to the hundreds of political units in the State.

In the fiscal year ending June 30, 1936, the sum of \$147,000,000 was raised by taxes assessed against property for all the communities in Michigan, including the cities. The support of schools, townships, cities and villages, to school districts; this tax was raised on real and personal property. At the same time, from other means raised through the sales tax, liquor tax, corporation taxes, and every other form of taxation outside of the property tax, the State of Michigan was able to carry on its own State functions.

Last year federal income taxes from Michigan amounted to but \$39,000,000. So, if the present property taxes of \$147,000,000 are eliminated, Michigan incomes will have to produce five times the amount now given to the federal government in order to provide the funds now raised by property taxes.

This Amendment No. 4 would completely disrupt the State's economic system. It would create dozens of variables in taxing incomes; it would assess the amount from property, you may own and rent, and property that you own and live in—the latter on the basis of what you would pay in rent if you did not own it.

**BUT IT WOULD REMOVE FROM THE TAXROLLS ALL SPECULATIVE PROPERTY THAT DOES NOT PAY INCOME. YOU, AS THE OWNER OF A PIECE OF IMPROVED PROPERTY, WOULD BE REQUIRED TO PAY FOR EVERY PUBLIC SERVICE THAT NOW MAKES VACANT PROPERTY SALABLE AS A HOME. YOU WOULD BE PAYING FOR THE SERVICES THAT INCREASE THE VALUE OF VACANT LAND, BUT YOU WOULD NOT SHARE IN THE PROFITS CAUSED BY THE SALE OF THIS VACANT LAND.**

This Amendment No. 4 is being foisted upon the voters by the real estate speculators in Michigan. It is the same type of vicious legislation that was advocated by the late State Senator Andrew L. Moore, who, you may recall, was prevented from putting his legislation over in Lansing through the activities of The Eccentric and The Detroit News, both of whom exposed the fact that Mr. Moore stood to profit through his tax ammelation plan to the extent of ten thousand dollars.

If you want to keep within your own hands the right to determine how much taxes you are willing to pay for the support of your local public services, including the public schools, we suggest that you vote a hearty NO on this Amendment No. 4.

MANY voters are being printed these days about the possible "friendship" existing between England, King and a young American married woman. We wonder how much of the conjecturing is just words—cheap, gossipous words.

**Practical Paragraphs**

**WHO WILL SET YOU FREE?**  
 Were you locked in a bank vault and no one knew you were there, you would gradually grow quite uncomfortable. Just when you were getting short of breath and about to go frantic, suppose someone came along and door? You would be immensely relieved and grateful. Now let's look at your actual situation. You are in a spot in which you have some personal, mental and financial liberty. But you know you are imprisoned. You know you won't get out there until the fire is free unless someone comes along and breaks the door down for you. You don't know the value of plenty of air. You can think of all sorts of things you would do were you in the immediate vicinity of the door. You know you have walked into your present situation.

Who will unlock the door for you? Who can get through to you?

As the radio speaker's voice will penetrate corners or everywhere will an idea. The idea which will unlock the door of your limiting walls may come out of the sky or it may come from the breeze.

You may run across it on the pages of an open book or you may pick it up from another without his knowing it.

Recalling the ideas or inspirations from others, remembering the story of the boy who had the lantern held. He wished she would lay larger eggs.

He was hanging an ostrich egg in front of her with a sign "Kiss me." "Kiss me," said the boy. "The ostrich does not indicate any improvement in the size of her eggs."

Neither do human beings often get far merely imitating others. But the mental attitude of admiration, of respect, of awe, often gets the mind in tune with ideas which can be applied to one's own life.

While the person who feels emboldened by his own limitations, we say, "Don't look for others to unlock the door for you. Rather read biographies, read philosophy, keep in tune religiously, keep trying to get the idea which came which will set you free."

**A GREAT ALL-AMERICAN DOES HIS STUFF**



**People's Column**

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

October 10, 1936.  
 Editor,  
 Birm. Eccentric.

We see by the papers that Prof. E. Hlythe Stinson, advisor to the State Legislative Council's Sub-committee on Taxation, recommends that the Legislature provide a assessment of property, "including on the revenue producing capacity rather than on its cash value."

We charge the worthy professor with trying to befuddle the voters in their consideration of the land speculators' proposed amendment to the State Constitution relieving their lands of taxation. The worthy professor well knows that lands "cash value" and its "revenue producing capacity" are one and the same thing. The sales price of land in any locality is the capitalization of the land's revenue producing capacity in that particular location. Can the worthy professor deny that the voters are paid for out of the tax dollar, add to the "revenue producing capacity" of the population, land especially in the city of Ann Arbor.

This is not the first time that the land speculators of Michigan have lent their dignity and reputation to agencies of propaganda and we challenge the attention of the State Legislative Council and the State Administration to a thorough investigation of our tax structure. The tax dollar produces land values. Shall we give all those who invest in Michigan and put all the burden of government on the producers of wealth? That problem demands a very early solution and the proposed amendment is directly in the wrong direction. It must be defeated.

WILLIAM J. PALMER,  
 1227 National Bank Bldg.,  
 Detroit, Michigan.

**IN LOVING MEMORY**

**C. W. CRANFELD**, who passed away Monday, October 5, 1936. He was loved by all who came in contact with him.

He suffered long in silence. And never told his grief. Hoping that time alone would bring relief.

But when he knew he was dying, he divided not his thoughts. He ever thought of helping. For mankind's fading bloom.

A few more years will roll. A few more seasons pass. And then he'll meet again. Those he loved so well.

He played's part, played it well. So let us offer a prayer, and know that he is not far. But waiting for us in that Great Unseen across the bar.

—Katie Drumm

**Rest in Peace**

A party of sailors were being shown over the cathedral by a guide.

"I should be glad," he told them, "lies outside the Second in the churchyard lies Mrs. Mary Faithful. And who," he demanded, "baiting alone an unmarked flagstone, who do you think is a lying liar?"

"Well," answered a sailor, "I don't know for sure, but I have my suspicions," "Yes," said the Guard.

**WASHINGTON LETTER**

**President's Campaign Tactics Labeled 'Too Slick' by G. O. P.**

BY SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

**WASHINGTON**—Speeches of President Roosevelt in the campaign may not be charged with any votes, but the rank and file of the Democratic party is mighty happy about them.

After the State speech, denouncing Communism, the Democratic back privateers, corporals, and captains ran around naming one another on the backland saying Roosevelt had made the grandest political speech of all time.

They were not sure what the reaction would be to the president's repudiation of Communist supporters, but they assured themselves that, with Roosevelt's speech-making ability on the side, it wouldn't be necessary to count the ballots.

To offset the effect of Roosevelt's campaign, the Republicans—who scoffed at Democratic "over-confidence"—are depending on propaganda intended to convince the voting public that the president is a candidate in a political shelter. They point to what they describe as "slippery scoops."

Just before the Republican convention was to come out with a strong civil service plank, the president ordered thousands of additional postmasters under civil service.

Anticipating that Republicans would concentrate their campaign attacks on high taxes and national debt, the president summoned Senator Pat Harrison from his Mississippi campaign to assure the nation that there would be no need of new taxes at the next session.

After Governor Landon had been billed for a speech in Chattanooga, N. Y., Roosevelt took the same platform some days in advance to make a nighting address for world peace. When Father O'Grady was giving his show in Cleveland, Roosevelt suddenly showed up there and drew large part of the audience to his tent.

The White House issued what many consider an ill-adviced statement last week before the publisher was to launch a new "surgical" "Red" attack on the administration.

THE Republicans blame some Democratic spies in camp for letting Roosevelt know that Landon's Des Moines speech was to take up crop insurance. Anybody who would have his piece on the same subject in time to beat Landon to it.

Al Smith's avowed bitterness was charged not a little when he hired radio time for his speech and found subsequently that Roosevelt would have the same time on another hookup.

Finally, there was Secretary Morgenthau's effort to make it appear that he had blocked a Russian raid against the new Franco-British-American currency stabilizing agreement, which many others besides Republicans tend to regard as absurd and as an attempt to combat the "Bull" charges.

**RANDOM REMARKS**

**Alfred M. Landon**, Republican presidential nominee: "I am opposed to a policy of isolation. I want to see a prosperous America as well as a prosperous America."

**Mahatma Gandhi**, Indian philosopher: "I am a fatalist and I believe that no one may put off his hour of death when it strikes."

**Michael J. Gallagher**, Catholic bishop Detroit: "When the American people get so 'sober' they will not fight for their liberties, they are going to lose them."

**Millard E. Tydings**, Senator from Maryland: "You know we are on our way to prosperity, stability and happiness."

**Randolph Churchill**, young British journalist: "I think the nation is still longing for a world view of communism and Fascism."

**Harry W. Colmery**, newly elected Commander American Legion: "I think the nation is still longing for the Legion for leadership."

**William Lyon Phelps**, Professor Emeritus Yale University: "Liberty is the most precious possession of an individual."

**H. P. Sheldon**, U. S. Biological Service: "The owl is a fool, and you can quote me as saying so."

**Dr. Ferdinand Sauerbruch**, Ger-

man scientist: "Science will fulfill what is demanded of it on condition that it retains its independence."

**Nicholas M. Butler**, president, Columbia University: "Physical force, terrorism, despotism, cannot accomplish the high ends at which civilization aims."

**Franklin D. Roosevelt**, President: "Freedom cannot be bestowed; it must be achieved."

**W. J. Charters**, Iowa dentist: "Everyone with bad teeth has their cure in the toothache for exiling the toothache."

**Jose Jones**, Chairman, R.F.C.: "Business is going to be good and good is going to be good—for a number of years."

**WHEN I AM GONE**  
 If you would keep my memory alive, keep my name.  
 When I pass on, I hope that none may weep.  
 Grieving because I've gone.  
 Rather let life go on.  
 As if I still were here on earth.  
 A tender spot within your heart.  
 Forever, and unto eternity.  
 And if you seek to leave,  
 To someone and please,  
 I'm sure I'll be there dead.  
 Say some kind word that I have left unsaid.  
 Perhaps you do some deed I've left undone.  
 Some precious kindly deed.  
 Do this for me when I'm gone.  
 Beatrice McDonald.

**'My Country, 'Tis of Thee'...**

By T. H. MILLINGTON

Recent developments in a great celebration in a rather small European seaport city, the searoad being the dedication of the first motor plant ever installed in that country. Yet that city had not been founded until the year 1800. That year ago that city had not been founded until the year 1800. That year ago that city had not been founded until the year 1800.

Government Does Not Produce Wealth  
 A government does not and cannot create wealth. The creation of wealth is only through the cooperation of capital and labor under natural resources.

A government has no capital. It has a right to tax the people within the limit of the people's willingness to submit to taxes levied. It is the people and not the government who own and control the means of production. It is not like a tax, they effect a relief of the taxing law. All tax is an addition to the cost of doing business.

**New Deal Creates a Jam**  
 The one positive thing that the New Deal has accomplished, besides their numerous illegitimate brain children, is the intimidation of capital, so that about ten billion dollars in the past three years, for every thousand dollars of that capital man remains unemployed for a year. There is no reason for unemployment. The use of that ill capital in new enterprises for the production of new wealth, and the building of two millions of needed homes, would quickly employ ten to twelve million men.

But the consanguine arrangement of labor against capital, and the contradictory taxes on profits have attempted at employment have cost the nation fifteen billions of dollars in the past three years, which is five billion a year. At that rate, if there are twelve million men still and more, the New Deal expects twelve years more and an additional cost of ten to twelve billion more, if the present increase of cost continues.

**Has ever the world known such nonsense?**

I will refer to the reader the great secret: All those who vote into jobs and which become the administration and vice of all the world, and more, have given employment to millions upon millions of men, have been designed, built, paid for, owned, used, and made profitable by the men whom the New Deal administration and its school bus factories want to dispossess of the operation of the country's main industry. The men who have made America as now ruled by a bunch of school-bus theorists to be incapable of carrying on, although these school-bus, having to that regard of industrial or commercial achievement or existing of those who have resigned and have the money of their own mind, they own their own wealth-and-comfort products, for the money to pay the expenses of their game at business and social planning. If it were not so tragic it would be the greatest vaudeville show of all time.

**The Other Chap Says-**

**A PLEA FOR COLOR**  
 Do not dress you child in gray and brown, and drag your child, which harmonize with the background. When a child has to go to school, a street he will be highly visible if he is wearing a bright garment. The best dressed child is not responsible 100 percent of the time, and neither is a driver. It is our duty to concentrate on precautions which are a protection when the unexpected happens when a driver turns too quickly onto a street, and a child darts suddenly to retrieve a toy.

A good seat on a car might save his life—Livingston County Republican Press.

**BAD AMENDMENTS**

There is a awful danger in the proposed constitutional amendments that will be put before the voters at the coming November election, and that that State Observer readers begin to think that danger right now. The danger lies principally in those two amendments, the one that would give general property tax and the other to remove the tax on food and dairy products. The adoption of these amendments will strip off at least \$50,000,000 from our state and school budget. If you believe we should reduce our educational program to that extent then vote for the amendments.—Cheyote (Mich.) Observer.

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