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**GEORGE H. AVERILL**, Editor and Publisher  
**ALFRED E. POFFER**, Managing Editor  
**PAUL H. AVERILL**, Advertising Manager  
**ARTHUR N. WINGENDER**, Production Editor  
**JOHN J. HARRIS**, Circulation Manager

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The Reverend Frank D. Glabien, headmaster for a school for boys on Long Island, in recent public utterances, has made the statement that 36 of the 49 million young people of America have never been in a church. This appears like an unfounded exaggeration and one unsupported by the facts. Yet if the school headmaster had stated that this percentage of young people are totally ignorant of the religious teachings, wholly out of sympathy with modern religious teachings, are wholly unresponsive to religious appeals—then the ratio would probably not be far from the facts.

**My Country, 'Tis of Thee**

**MODERN CIVILIZATION Who Made It?**

By Theo H. Millington  
When the principle of force created by the expansion of steam was known to the ancients as early as the first and second century B. C., D. was used in various times, down through the centuries, for the construction of such devices as the crude form, made use of the trade winds for doing work, still, it was not until the 17th century, when James Watt's invention of the steam engine, which actually was a working steam engine, thus starting the age of invention.  
It was not until following the Reformation that men's minds were freed from the domination of Church and State that men could safely produce mechanical innovations without being accused of witchcraft and put to death. Not only the Church, but the secular rulers, as well as the great guilds, looked upon anything which might revolutionize existing conditions and so possibly rob them of their power as evil.  
Even in James Watt's time, his own inventions were feared because they saw in his engine a threat to the monopoly of their guilds and to their power.  
But the spirit of Freedom broadened over the whole Western world and the old order was doomed to give way to a new order—a new form of civilization.  
Men wrote and preached of Freedom, Liberty, Democracy and the American Colonies and the American Colonies, and eventually, blood had to be shed in order to cast off the ancient despotic chains of Government, Church guilds and superstitions.  
With the successful conclusion of the War of Rebellion of the American Colonies against England, the first and most important advance for a new era was made. The Declaration of Independence of the United States and the establishment of a stable government and a permanent constitution for men gave proof that Kings and Emperors were not needed for government and that religion and church could best be left alone to do their own dirty work.  
With this new Freedom, with the shackles of anachronistic usages, men were able to invent and create new devices for saving men and women from the miseries of the old world, crowded the world, and changed the world to a world of mechanical progress.  
Through the centuries, there had been no important innovations in the matter of wresting a living from Nature. It was the same in all lands save such variations as were caused by natural differences in the mountains, forests and plains.  
Thus, from the beginning of the last quarter of the eighteenth century, the mechanical inventions, the discovery and harnessing of electricity and the invention of the internal combustion engine, during this brief period of 150 years, transformed the world as we know it today.  
The entire previous history of man.

**NINETEEN SHORT YEARS AGO**

**"IT MUST NEVER HAPPEN AGAIN!"**



**People's Column**

The Eccentric is pleased to receive communications for this column. Contributors should be limited to 500 words, and must be addressed to the people's column, The Eccentric, 220-222 North Woodward Avenue, Birmingham, Michigan. Please do not publish the following Thursday.  
Guilford, Fla.  
Birmingham, Eccentric.  
Hullo Home Folks,  
Father and I landed in Florida Saturday noon, and was it hot! But towards night, it was nice and cool. Flowers in bloom, birds singing. Not a soul had hauled in the stove-pipe getting ready for winter.  
Well, it was glorious all the way down. Now, if you will see I got my Eccentric regularly. I won't be so far behind with the happenings of good old Birmingham, when I get back. Especially the young who, if there is anything you want to know about the T'egers down here, I'll keep you posted. My address is  
Mrs. Henry W. Kline,  
Students of the Republic,  
Guilford, Fla.

The Eccentric is a member of:  
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**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1937**

NOTE: The Eccentric is pleased to publish stories of events which have some value and are not connected with the editorial staff of the paper. All copy must be presented to the editorial staff in the office, and not to the circulation department. If the copy is not accepted, the author will be notified. If the copy is accepted, the author will be notified. If the copy is accepted, the author will be notified.

**This Is "Education Week"**

Every year the public schools of the United States observe "Education Week," when various activities are staged to bring the school and the home into closer and more sympathetic understanding. This week, November 7 to 13, is the period for observance for 1937.

Birmingham's public schools have presented to the parents a program that includes each of the local schools; when The Eccentric reaches you today a portion of the program will have been run off, but there still remains tonight for the parents of children who attend the Adams and Pierce schools to their endeavors, the personal appreciation of parents of Howard D. Crull, local superintendent of public schools, suitable programs have been prepared.

Birmingham has always been proud of her public school system, and "Education Week" offers a splendid time when parents may lend their active assistance and interest to make our schools better.

After all, while school teachers do get money for their endeavors, the personal appreciation of parents goes a long way toward making up a reward for the serious busines of trying to educate Young America.

**Michigan's New Marriage Law**

Effective November 1, people in Michigan who want to get married must, within 15 days prior to the ceremony, be examined by a physician in order to prove to the chap who issues marriage licenses that they are fit. This new requirement has been placed upon the State's statutes in an effort to improve the generations that will come; it is also done to improve the health of persons who—whether they know it or not—may be afflicted with some disease.

**Gambling Debunked**

Most parents seeing boys gamble, will either take punitive action or shake their heads and ease the situation by comment to the effect that gambling is an instinct, that instincts are a part of human nature, that you can't change human nature. But Dr. J. Halsey Gulick, academy headmaster, did neither when boys in his charge played the slot machines.

He went to police headquarters, secured a confiscated gambling device, and had it set up in the mathematics room of his school. Then he arranged with the mathematics instructor to work up a problem involving the law of mathematical probability. The boys were to play the machine with "phony" money to solve the problem. And they discovered several surprising things.

They learned, for example, that a player hits the "jack pot" once in 4,000 times. At a nickel a "throw," that meant it would cost about \$200 to win \$5. They learned also that the next highest payoff was once in 2,000 plays, and made it cost \$100 to win \$1.

Probably, Dr. Gulick smiled a bit—to himself. Perhaps he made a few notes for a book on boy psychology. But anyway, it is reported that gambling isn't so popular in his school as once it was.—Rotarian Magazine.

**Prophets Differ About Winter**

Each one of them is sure that his signs are right, that his system is positive and that he isn't being wrong but "once" in the past 50 many years.

The activity of insects, the work of animals, and the condition of various plants contribute to the judgment of these weather savants. There are other factors, such as the cycles, the moon, the wind, the migration of birds, and other mass information that details catalogue.

In this way of knowing what kind of winter you prefer nor do we have any way of knowing which of the prophets tell the truth. Hence, the reader might as well make up his, or her, prophecy in accordance with individual preferences. The chances are that you will be wrong, but what if it—maybe, you'll have a lot of fun.

**Eagle Injures Young Girl**

It's some story that comes from the Jarrett community, about forty miles north of Austin, Texas, where "an eagle of enormous size" fastened its claws in the body of a 13-year-old Negro girl and attempted to carry her from the cotton field where she was working.

Her screams brought a rescuer, who beat off the bird with a gun, reached the scene and it was killed. The girl, says the report, was badly injured by the eagle, which had a wingspread of nearly seven feet and claws that were nearly as long as her arm.

Practically every legend is familiar with the legend that big eagles have flown away with little boys and girls. The tendency is to doubt the occurrence and the same applies to the Texas story, but it has been printed in reputable newspapers and we presume it is the truth.

One does not have to go to Long Island to sense some such situation. Probably a larger proportion of the young people of communities similar to Mason will be found with some relationship to the church, than on the average throughout America. Yet we venture the assertion that not more than one in four of the people who can be classified as "young people" and who have their homes within five miles of Mason were in church or Sunday school any day last Sunday. Altogether one out of every three have never attended church or Sunday school at any time. And certainly in the modern public day school, not much of religion is taught.

Rev. Glabien reports that of 15,000 pupils in certain of New York's public school quizzed on the subject, only 16,000 had ever heard of the Ten Commandments. What chance has any nation to advance and what complaint can any people make regarding this alarming situation right here in substantial, law-abiding Ingham?

Missionaries are sent to far away lands to oppose paganism. They are sent there to bring some higher power. He may do otherwise after the wrong formula but at least he stands in awe of some superior authority. A savage who has never known civilization is far less a menace to society than one who has thrown off all the restraints of society.

Modern society is saturated with the desire for bodily cleanliness but it is not clean in the inner body. Filthy pictures, filthy stories, and indecent conduct feature the modern newsstand offerings and little less than this permeates the atmosphere of movie world with which most children are well saturated. Trickery in politics, cheating in public life, racketeering in business is growing common. Even the government feels itself above the rules of honesty and scraps its obligations at will.

A sordid picture! Yes, and were it not for certain other tendencies running counter to those recounted above, the future would indeed be drab. However, Christianity is not dead. In ages past it has had its low curves and its high. Some day there will be a revival of decency, a revival of honesty, even a revival of religion. Whether or not the church leads in this return to law and order remains for the church and its leaders to decide.—Ingham County News.

**Paragaphs**

Definition  
Sofa: A long, upholstered seat on which children may recline at full length and wipe their mudd feet.—Akron Grove Banner.

Red "Encouragement"  
No one seems to know why the eight Russian generals were stood against the wall, but as Voltaire once said, it may have been to encourage the others.—Stockton (Cal.) Independent.

A Slam  
It ought to be of some significance that, after 15 years of radio the biggest hit of the air is a ventriloquist's dummy.—Chattanooga Times.

Also The Owner  
"Snakes will keep rats out of a cellar." You can see the rats, and the owner of the house sitting at the top of the cellar steps and wishing they weren't afraid to go down.—Toronto Star.

**Bleeding Hearts**

[V. J. Brown in the Ingham County (Mich.) News-News]  
Over at Charlotte is published one of Michigan's outstanding weekly newspapers, the Charlotte Republican Tribune. Its editor, Carl H. DeFoe, is probably one of Michigan's best known citizens. For half a century Carl DeFoe has been a close student of state affairs. He was once a state senator—and a good one. Later he served a distinguished government in the capacity of executive secretary and yet later served as secretary without such title. The closer relationship the convict has with the underworld the more certain is his prompt parole—by-stander paroles because as the Charlotte editor puts it "Crime is just as much a product of the social order as culture."  
What the NEWS sought to point out and what it again here attempts to reiterate, is the complete failure of our modern parole system. It is ever political. It releases those with pull on the outside and leaves to rot in the walls the unfortunate individual without such pull. The closer relationship the convict has with the underworld the more certain is his prompt parole—by-stander paroles because as the Charlotte editor puts it "Crime is just as much a product of the social order as culture."  
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**Washington Letter**

**Washington Letter**  
BY SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
**Congress Moves to Aid Farmers With Permanent Crop Loan Plan**  
WASHINGTON—At a reported rate of 50 cents a bushel, the government will carry out to farmers on corn, but of an \$85,000,000 fund. This is the first step in the direction of a permanent crop loan system. Roosevelt hopes Congress will take it possible to finance future loans of this kind by authorizing Commodity Credit Corporation to raise the necessary money through the sale of its own obligations.

Help for distressed cotton farmers for whose benefit the \$100,000,000 crop loan program has been authorized, and the recently approved \$85,000,000 corn loan, gross increase in the reported \$285,000,000 Treasury deficit.

As a temporary measure the R. F. C. will give the Treasury its notes to raise the money for the corn loans, but the plan is to shift this responsibility to Commodity Credit Corporation as soon as Congress acts on farm legislation of special session.

In a letter to Jesse Jones, Chairman of the R. F. C., the President said, "There has been under consideration, and you know, Commodity Credit Corporation loans, including corn, for the past several months. I have decided to recommend to Congress, as soon as it meets in special session, legislation that will provide the Commodity Credit Corporation with ample capital and with authority to use the funds necessary for its operation through the sale of its own obligations. . . . This legislation referred to has been enacted. The RFC will be relieved of this temporary com-

**Armistice Day—1937**

By RAYMOND PITCAIRN  
National Chairman  
Soldiers of the Republic  
"You are in some special sense the soldiers of freedom."  
That was the message delivered by the people of America, through their Electors, to the young who made up our National Army two decades ago.  
That is still the thought of America when Armistice Day is observed on the Unknown Soldier at Arlington. Higher than any paid to any famous Captain.  
On that anniversary of peace, Americans recall the ideals to which we once subscribed so wholeheartedly.  
On that anniversary, we recall the sacrifices made in the cause of human freedom; in the conviction that the will of the people must supersede the will of kings and despots.  
In America we not only remember these things, but continue to strive valiantly for the ideals of democracy.  
In Europe many nations are forbidden to celebrate, is the complete failure of our modern parole system. It is ever political. It releases those with pull on the outside and leaves to rot in the walls the unfortunate individual without such pull. The closer relationship the convict has with the underworld the more certain is his prompt parole—by-stander paroles because as the Charlotte editor puts it "Crime is just as much a product of the social order as culture."  
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