

The Birmingham Eccentric

Published every Thursday... GEORGE B. AVERILL, Editor and Publisher... PAUL MEAL AVERILL, Business Manager...

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1938

NOTE: The Eccentric is pleased to publish stories of events which have new value and which are written by persons not connected with the editorial staff of the paper. All copy must be received before noon on Tuesday for publication.

The testimonial dinner given recently by Pontiac for one of its "boys," Murray D. (Pat) Van Wagener, S t a t e Highway Commissioner, went off splendidly.

"Pat," who just a few years ago was a well-known, is now being mentioned as a possible candidate for Governor two years hence, on the Democratic ticket. "Pat" does the editor of this newspaper recall when "Pat" came down to see him about six years ago, in search of support for his candidacy for Oakland County Board of Commissioners.

Centuries ago human beings believed that the earth was the center of the universe, that sun, moon, stars, and planets revolved around it.

The Vastness of Our Infinite Universe: Upon which we live was the sole end of creation.

Subsequently, modern instruments revealed the amazing galaxy of a hundred billion star systems, which light the Milky Way!

Recent discoveries reported by the American Philosophical Society by Dr. Harlow Shapley, director of the Harvard College Observatory, discloses that for the first time astronomers have been able to gaze beyond the clouds of cosmic dust that have concealed what lay beyond the confines of the Milky Way.

What was revealed? Harvard astronomers have already seen 147 new variable stars, disclosing a distribution of outer galaxies far beyond the confines of the rim of the Milky Way.

Man is arrogant in proportion to his ignorance. Man's natural tendency is toward egotism. Man, in his infancy of knowledge, thinks that all creation was formed for him.

Arrogant Man Is Ignorant: Man is arrogant in proportion to his ignorance. Man's natural tendency is toward egotism.

Everywhere, then, in this immense design, science brings new life to light. Life is the one pervading principle, and even the thing that seems to die and rot and putrefy brings engenders new life, and changes to fresh forms of matter.—Bulwer Lytton.

AFTER THINKING the matter over for quite a while, the editor of The Eccentric has come to the conclusion that democracy is merely a period in the ever-changing cycle of government, and lasts from the time one dictator, or King, is overthrown, until another is required to take his place.

Monday of this week we were seated in our office when an aggressive young man came in the door. G. O. P. Used to Mean Without much ceremony, he demanded, "Tell me where I can find Heinie W. . . (We had never heard the name before). We asked him to repeat it. He did with a show of impatience. We went over to take a look at the note book he held in his hand, extended the title and spelling, and he told him, "We never heard of that name around here. Who is he? What does he do?"

"Good night," our visitor exploded, "ain't they say Republicans in this town? I've asked several men and none of 'em know his guy. He used to work for Frank Fitzgerald." We did not know the man, never heard of him, told our visitor so, and asked what his errand might be, thinking he might give us some lead to the identity of the person he sought.

"I'm sent down here by Frank McKay of Grand Rapids, and if I can't get any information in this town, I'll go over to Grand Ledge where they know something about Republican politics." The gentleman left the office with a show of disgust and impatience.

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People's Column

The Eccentric is pleased to receive communications for this column. All communications must be signed. The writer's name will be kept confidential upon request. Letters must be received by 4:00 words, and must be in the office by Tuesday noon for consideration the following Thursday.

Mr. George B. Averill, Birmingham Eccentric, Birmingham, Michigan. My dear Editor:

Like other citizens of the great Commonwealth of Michigan, I am proud to progress in this Nation of States in a vital concern to me. I have often wondered how it is possible for some States to enact laws and enforce the same for the mutual benefit for the people within their borders.

With chaos in business and prohibitive taxes facing a people, as in the case of the war, and who have been good citizens of this State, and who flow face the scrap metal and the various pieces of machinery so called "big business," it seems a shame that our people be forced by circumstances over which they have had no control, to pay for the war and the maintenance of the war, and who have come from all parts of the Nation to pick up the gold in the Eldorado of the automotive industry.

It would seem to me that how would be a most ideal time to our legislators, that will have as its end the keeping out of our commonwealth the indigent people of other States who, as it were, "will-of-the-wisp" who probably were unstable citizens in their own commonwealth and never to be any better in our midst because of the employment conditions of the moment.

If these people are needed in the automotive industry to maintain a ratio in mass production, necessary to meet the demand for automobiles, it seems only fitting that the burden of their care must rest upon the State which has employed them, and that the motor industry of this State would have the general good of the people.

A picture of circumstances surrounding our difficulties is always manifest or seen by the average man. But the burden of taxes borne by the people, and constantly new means are sought to extract as painlessly as possible from the pockets of the people for public services. I certainly think it is time that the average thinking citizen should have a say in the matter in just how his tax dollars are spent. The attitude of merging us into a state of pauperism.

The spectacle as described in our daily papers, and the small business men going to Washington to give voice to their protest against this kind of national interest by invitation of the President, will certainly not be the solution of our problems, and it only lent emphasis to the indirectly of monopolistic business, and the interests of bringing other small business interests to mind over the fact that fascist-minded people when any incidents in business happen that should be news, they are propagated to the four corners of the world through the press, radio and other forms of communication with such rapidity that they act as subtle propaganda in the eyes, ears and nostrils of our citizens in general, so much so that they are no longer a matter of mind with the inevitable result of individual inertia; and everyone is hoping that of least resistance will start the ball rolling again, and by some means or other, the evil will be solved.

Now that I have expressed my thoughts, I presume someone is going to say that I am not particularly me that these are a free United States and that a citizen should be free to express his views within its boundary and make himself a problem. And I am not particularly denying that he has that right, and by the same token contend that the States should have the right, as well, to refuse admittance within their borders to people they know are apt to become public charges.

If it cannot protect itself in this way, then it must recognize the fact that its industries produce the means of their own destruction, and be held responsible for them.

As for me, I have hope and faith in the belief that when the mass of our own citizens are so informed, they will take the necessary steps to correct these evils and by some means or other, the evil will be solved.

Mr. John Q. Public has been a sucker for some of every sort in the past, and I trust that the days to come will show a little more rational thinking on the part of those that control the public purse.

Let those so interested in our sewerage disposal plant in Birmingham take the necessary steps, in relation to public concerns. I think a cheaper and better method is being sought to reduce the cost of this plant.

Sincerely yours, 1368 Cedar Drive, Birmingham, Mich.

Lucky Dog! A man sitting in a park with his dog fell into conversation with a woman who eventually asked him what breed the dog was. "Spaniel!" he said. "No, it's a spaniel old lady, 'ain't it a good thing he ain't over there now?"

First Sign of Spring. Clean Up Paint Up Dress Up Buy Now. Advertisement for paint and clothing.

Local Merchants. Advertisement for local businesses.

Happenings of Long Ago. Advertisement for historical events.

Paragraphs. Advertisement for various news items.

Random Remarks. Advertisement for miscellaneous comments.

Washington Letter. Advertisement for news from Washington.

WABECK STATE BANK. Advertisement for the bank.

Washington Letter. Advertisement for news from Washington.

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Washington Letter. Advertisement for news from Washington.

Congressional Comment. Advertisement for political commentary.

Washington Letter. Advertisement for news from Washington.

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