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 GEORGE B. AVERILL  
 Managing Editor  
 MADONNE E. PORTER  
 Business Manager  
 ARTHUR N. WINGERDEN  
 Advertising Manager  
 DONALD W. WALTER  
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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 the day preceding publication.  
 The Editor reserves the right to make such superficial changes in the  
 work submitted as are necessary to the style of the paper.  
 The Editor reserves the right to use the style, language, and  
 mechanical situation in the composing room, headlines written  
 by the writer, and illustrations, if they cannot be used.  
 Any erroneous reflection upon the character, standing or  
 reputation of any person or organization which may  
 appear in the columns of The Eccentric will be gladly corrected  
 upon being brought to the attention of the publisher.

If you, as a citizen of Michigan, want to know how  
 extravagant your State government has become be-  
 tween 1933 and the end of 1937, just glimpse these  
 figures:

**Michigan's Expenses Increase 37 Per Cent**

|      |              |
|------|--------------|
| 1933 | \$14,166,898 |
| 1934 | \$15,184,838 |
| 1935 | \$17,197,310 |
| 1936 | \$19,714,888 |
| 1937 | \$23,485,319 |

This is an increase of more than 37 per cent in five years.

If you don't like the rising cost of State govern-  
 ment, with its tremendous increase in the number of  
 people on the State's payroll, why don't you let your  
 Governor know about it?

For folks, remember that EVERY penny that  
 Michigan spends comes from your own pockets!

Unless you register opposition to this growing tax  
 rate, you can rest assured that politicians will con-  
 tinue to extract money from you by the further  
 imposition of new and higher taxes.

Your government, you see, is always a *perpetual  
 hunger*, and in the very nature of its organization, tends  
 to grow larger and larger and larger—until it is  
 ending to make citizens servants of the State, rather  
 than the State a servant of the people.

The editor of The Eccentric, along with thousands of  
 others, receives vast quantities of material sent  
 out by individuals, organizations and agencies, all  
 of which are accompanied by silent prayers that the  
 material be printed so that our readers may be influenced  
 by the arguments advanced.

If all of this stuff got into print there would be  
 no room for other news of any kind, and even the  
 advertising, upon which newspapers depend for exist-  
 ence, would have to give ground to the flood of un-  
 solicited copy. Most newspapers object to giving  
 publicity to this material for two reasons: first, some  
 of it is plainly an effort to get advertising that should  
 be paid for; secondly, the ulterior motive behind it  
 casts doubt upon the reliability of the facts and argu-  
 ment presented.

One of the functions of a modern newspaper is to  
 enable readers intelligently to act upon matters of  
 public interest. For this reason, most editors now-  
 a-days are inclined to present both sides of any prob-  
 lem and to give all essential facts to readers. Basically,  
 propagandists are skilled in the art of concealment.  
 They give some facts that tend to create favorable  
 impressions, but carefully ignore others that may  
 raise doubts. The newspaper that publishes such  
 flattery is not only unhelpful but actually misleading  
 its readers who are unaware of the special interests  
 of the concealed author.

Naturally, we do not mean to imply that a news-  
 paper should have no editorial convictions. Any in-  
 telligent editor develops opinions from a study of  
 conditions and existing data. Alert readers, if they  
 recognize his intelligence, are not only interested in  
 his views but are glad to have the benefit of his  
 thinking, provided they believe in his honesty of  
 purpose.

There is no obligation resting upon the average  
 newspaper, however, to be a sounding board for the  
 views of any individual in the nation, or the local  
 community. The business of the editor is to decide  
 what his newspaper should print. The world and its  
 people present many problems. Opinions differ as to  
 their importance and inasmuch as a newspaper cannot  
 take up more than one of the difficulties it must  
 confine itself to those that, in the opinion of its  
 editor, are the most important.

The scorched earth policy of the Chinese, which  
 leads them to destroy everything that cannot be  
 saved from capture, including buildings, cities  
 and machinery, has been severely criticized by military  
 critics of other nations.

It seems foolish, for example, to blow up factories,  
 schools and other buildings that might stand to  
 serve the people, sooner or later. The economic loss  
 is enormous and the Chinese can hardly afford such  
 destruction.

Latest dispatches from China, however, indicate  
 that the Chinese may not be so foolish after all. It  
 seems that the Japanese, in several sectors, after cap-  
 turing undestroyed centers, have systematically re-  
 moved all machinery for Japanese use in other areas  
 and then destroyed what could not be transported.

If this is so, the only question is whether the  
 property is to be destroyed by the Chinese or the  
 Japanese, whose policy of removing it to Japan  
 or Manchukuo makes it a total loss to the Chinese  
 under any circumstance.

Not long ago we noticed a couple in a public gather-  
 ing, and the husband and wife were sat  
**Parents, Children Owe their only  
 Much To Each Other**  
 child, almost an adult.

We wondered at the time if this young person  
 fully realized all the importance of his (or her) re-  
 lationship to the older couple who had carried the  
 burden for all three up to that time?

For the older couple, it is almost a thing of the  
 past. Except for a brief interval in a few remaining  
 years, most of their life still held was wrapped up in  
 and centered around the activity and the future of  
 their child.

Yet, as we all know, these parents, and others, are  
 now powerless to affect the child's destiny very  
 much. Unless character had been built in earlier  
 youth, no amount of love and interest can inject it  
 now. The child is very much out of the parental  
 range for all time.

The moral of this, if any, is two-fold. Parents  
 whose children are young should not neglect the  
 training of their boys and girls. It is a task which  
 cannot be delegated. And children, as they enter  
 life on their own responsibilities, should not overlook  
 their power to wreck and make miserable the closing  
 years of their parents' lives.

"War on Squattermania" in New England has reaped  
 a rich harvest. The citizens of Massachusetts ar-  
 gued to the situation and determined to deal with just plain bad government  
 which has formed the hundred taxpayers' asso-  
 ciation; and these associations have been able to  
 block state extravaganzas totaling \$10,000,000, as  
 well as saving even more in local budgets.

These associations represent no special class and  
 must be strictly nonpartisan. Moreover, they must  
 be vindictive. Most public officials are honest; most  
 of them welcome strong backing against the minority  
 groups which prey for extravagance. Hence "Back  
 'em or show 'em up," was the announced policy  
 in dealing with elected officials, with the stress on  
 cooperation rather than combat.

In 1934, the local successes of the 200 taxpayers'  
 associations led them to incorporate in a statewide  
 federation. It immediately trained its guns on the  
 State House. If didn't take in millions, which the  
 average voter couldn't comprehend but got out into  
 details; to the \$1 tax fares charged by the Executive  
 office for a distance of two blocks; to 410 waste-  
 baskets which the Federation found they could sub-  
 stitute with 71 ten baskets; down to the many un-  
 necessary office holders, which even included a man  
 to teach housewives how to fry fish.

Voters who spend their strength howling about  
 high taxes should realize that our biggest tax load is  
 not federal but local. The ordinary citizen, as Mas-  
 sachusetts has shown, can do something effective  
 toward materially reducing the burden, without im-  
 pairing essential public services.—Condensed from  
 Reader's Digest—(Pamphlets)—"How to Organize"  
 and "How to Operate a taxpayers' association" can be  
 obtained from the Massachusetts Federation of Tax-  
 payers Association, Inc., 904 Park Square Bldg.,  
 Boston, Mass.—Ionia County News.

Freddie Bartholomew, 14-year-old film star, is in  
 court again. This time he asks the judge to exempt  
 him from paying his father's income tax. He  
 claims that he is earning his own money from  
 his acting in the settlement of the suit. The judge  
 recently made by his parents who sought to regain  
 custody of the boy from his aunt.

Freddie's petition pointed out that he had \$18,800  
 in the bank and would get \$100,000 in 1938 from  
 his studio, but that after paying \$67,000 Federal and  
 state income tax, \$13,000 attorney's fees, \$5,000 as  
 agent's fees, and \$9,000 for living expenses, he would  
 only have a few thousand dollars left.

Apparently young Bartholomew is working for a  
 government, his attorneys, and his agents, not to in-  
 clude his parents. He lists as possible expenses claims  
 against him amounting to \$43,700 filed by other  
 agents.

After reflecting upon the woes of this young man  
 we have about decided to abandon our 1938 plan of  
 making a \$100,000—we seem to be better off without  
 it!

The effort of the nations of the world to establish a  
 system of collective security has failed although the  
 United States, as a nation, had no part in the undertaking  
 and through its absence, contributed to the calamity.

For its part, this nation rested upon the theory of  
 isolation, a belief that we could be of the world  
 when it suited us and apart from the globe when it  
 apparently was dangerous. We claimed equal ad-  
 vantages, offered much advice and sat off in our own  
 corner, content and confident that all would be well  
 with the United States.

The sums of money now being spent on armament  
 by the United States is proof positive that we belong  
 to the modern world, with all its errors and with all  
 its dangers. The supplementary naval program hint  
 that we may be more in the world than we thought.  
 Certainly, this enormous expenditure for warships  
 is not through choice. It is forced upon us by other  
 powers and the indisputable fact that no nation can  
 dodge participation in world affairs.

The individual who has no great principles to guide  
 his life finds the present an era of great tribulation.  
 There are wars, rumors  
 of wars, economic diffi-  
 culties, political puzzles,  
 and a host of other prob-  
 lems. The supplementary  
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**SPRINGTIME ON THE FARM**



Michigan's share of the national debt added to the local debt gives us a total indebtedness just short of 40% of our assessed valuation. As a political subdivision of the United States we are pretty heavily mortgaged and a substantial portion of that mortgage has been added since March 4, 1933.

Alabama's share of the national debt combined with local debt amounts to 11.9% of the assessed valuation of all property in Arkansas the combined total represents 18.8% of the assessed valuation in Florida, 19.7% in Mississippi, 14.4% and in South Carolina, 12.2%.

Reduced to per capita share, this administration has in five years imposed upon every resident of the 17th Congressional district of Michigan more than \$134.40 in national debt, nearly as much as was his per capita share on March 4, 1933. Figuring the average family at 1.5 persons, this amounts to more than \$600 per family. This does not take into consideration the increased taxes each family has paid into the Federal treasury during this period of time. This represents only that portion of government expenditures not met by current revenues.

Every resident, whether the owner of real property or not, must contribute to the payment of interest on the national debt and for the liquidation. This is so because practically all our Federal taxes are indirect. Since March 4, 1933 the administration has placed an additional debt burden of nearly 30 millions of dollars upon residents of Oakland county. This can have only one result—increased indirect taxes and in turn increased commodity costs.

Every resident who professes to be paying off the national debt should be taken more closely to the heart than the professional politician who professes to be his political adherents.

It is also painful to note that Wayne county, with a population of 1,888,946 and assessed valuation of \$2,905,960,428, shares the national debt upon a per capita basis to the extent of \$1,462,388, an amount equal to 25% of the total assessed valuation. State and local debt accounts for an additional \$72,205,776, making the total of all debt \$2,244,694,972; an amount equal to 26% of the assessed valuation.

Oakland county, with a population of 211,251 and assessed valuation of \$249,601,090, shares the national debt upon a per capita basis to the extent of \$63,797,802; and of this amount about \$22,632,808 represents Federal borrowings since March 4, 1933.

**WASHINGTON LETTER BY SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT**

**TVA Foes Use 'Scandal' Charge in Fight on U. S. Power Program**

WASHINGTON.—The old war between public power and private utilities has broken out again, with the vast TVA project as the scene of the latest battle.

Personalities make the war more colorful than ever. Most active among proponents of public power is Senator George Norris, popularly referred to as the father of TVA. He is who is most anxious to see that his baby is not too severely spanned. Siding with him, but in violent disagreement among themselves, are the project's three directors—Arthur Morgan, David Lilienthal and Harcourt Morgan. It was their administrative failure that brought the present demand to wash TVA's linen in a Senate investigation.

Enemies of the TVA would like to see Arthur J. May, chairman of the House Military Affairs Committee, included among those appointed to make any such investigation. May long has been on the side of the anti-TVA forces.

NOT even TVA's most enthusiastic supporters can object to an investigation, because such objections would appear founded on a fear that Senate snooper would uncover administrative dirt. Nevertheless, there are many who would like to see any such investigation squelched, fearing that it might be dominated by foes more anxious to

**Random Remarks**

Harry S. Truman, U. S. Senator from Missouri:  
 "People can only stand so much and one of these days there will be a settlement."

Gerald P. Nye, U. S. Senator from Oklahoma:  
 "Some action should be taken to prevent the chance of this country being driven into other people's wars by 'pressure groups'."

Hugh S. Johnson, former NIRA head:  
 "Ludendorff was the greatest military commander produced in the World War and one of the greatest in history."

Sven Hedin, Swedish explorer:  
 "The reign of the white race in the Far East is coming to an early and definite end."

Arthur Capper, U. S. Senator from Kansas:  
 "The people who pay the bills and do the fighting have something to say about entering a war."

Franklin D. Roosevelt, President:  
 "The Congress has a perfect right constitutionally to exceed the budget, but if it has exceeded, obviously the Congress must accept full responsibility."

George Lansbury, British Labor leader:  
 "Unless something alternative to the present armaments race is speedily found and applied, mankind will witness the destruction of Western civilization and re-appeal into barbarism."

FOR OTHER DAYS  
 I will keep all the bestest that I have ever known, safe gathered in my heart.  
 Until with keeping it becomes a part.  
 Of all my days and hours, Then I will have and sorrow come to me,  
 They will be overshadowed by the simple melody of little moons.  
 A pair of robins, nights of poetry,  
 The simple melody of low loved tunes,  
 The silvery slenderness of little moons.  
 Tall trees, fine gardens in the full of bloom,  
 Vast fields of clover and the wonderment of many a dawn and dusk,  
 Scarlet geraniums in a small bare room  
 Set in a row along a window ledge;  
 The amber, amethyst and ruby glow  
 Of flowers in a church, thick falling snow,  
 Deep crystal sand along the water's edge,  
 The silver mist of rain, the joy of sleep,  
 The woods in early spring! All these I'll have.  
 Beatrice McDonald

**PEOPLE'S COLUMN**

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

To the Editor:  
 Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears; I come to bury Brutus, not to praise him. The evil that men do lives after them; the good is oft interred with their bones; so let it be with Brutus' bones.  
 Here, under leave of Brutus and the noble Romans, I come to bury Brutus, not to praise him. The evil that men do lives after them; the good is oft interred with their bones; so let it be with Brutus' bones.  
 I have withdrawn from my fraternity; my action was not voluntary, as some may be led to believe. The law of Michigan defines a public school fraternity as an organization whose basic membership is composed wholly or chiefly of pupils of the public schools perpetuating itself from year to year. I am a member of the Michigan Fraternity of Public School Teachers. I have withdrawn from my fraternity; my action was not voluntary, as some may be led to believe. The law of Michigan defines a public school fraternity as an organization whose basic membership is composed wholly or chiefly of pupils of the public schools perpetuating itself from year to year. I am a member of the Michigan Fraternity of Public School Teachers. I have withdrawn from my fraternity; my action was not voluntary, as some may be led to believe. The law of Michigan defines a public school fraternity as an organization whose basic membership is composed wholly or chiefly of pupils of the public schools perpetuating itself from year to year. I am a member of the Michigan Fraternity of Public School Teachers.

To the Editor:  
 Several days ago Dr. Kenneth L. Heaton, of the Michigan State Department of Public Instruction, sent me a reprint of his article in "Character Magazine." The article is entitled "Fourteen Principles of Child Guidance."  
 Dr. Heaton's point of view deals with the teacher and the School of Public Instruction, and is equally applicable to the parent and the Home, and for that reason I feel that his article is of interest to all of us. I have read the article with the greatest interest and I shall be glad to reprint it and the Character Magazine at the Public Library.

1. A deed of misconduct is often only the symptom of an underlying difficulty.
2. The understanding of the origin of a maladjustment often suggests the proper treatment of the child.
3. The intelligence factor is important in determining the best form of guidance for the child, but is not the only factor.
4. Home cooperation is essential for the complete adjustment of the child.
5. Maladjusted pupils are not often helped by maladjusted teachers.
6. Pupils are not often aided by teachers who do not have control of their own emotions at the time guidance is offered.
7. Many problems are solved by setting up substitute forms of behavior.
8. The cooperation of the child must be secured if success in the reconstruction process is to be attained.
9. Good conduct must be made attractive to the child.
10. Guidance should lead to greater independence and self-reliance rather than to greater dependence upon the will of adults.
11. If the teacher centers his effort upon proving a child guilty of misconduct he may antagonize the pupil or break down his self-respect.
12. The teacher should avoid yielding to the attention of other pupils the failures of the individual unless benefit is to be derived from group interest.
13. The teacher is most effective as a counselor and guide in essential matters if he is not overconcerned with trivialities.
14. The child should be kept courageous as he faces the future and should never be allowed to feel that his life is "bad" and incapable of improvement.

Gertrude Corson (Mrs. H. H.)

I believe the greatest benefit of a high school fraternity is its power to promote the growth of friendship. When it is successful in this it is worth while, if an honest and sincere friendship can be built up within the fraternity, it will include every other benefit that such an institution can bestow. And I have pointed out that the high school is peculiarly fitted to foster cultivation of the highest type of friendship.

The Friends I have formed by my fraternity, the best kind of friendships, would never have come to me otherwise. I am truly grateful to my fraternity for giving me the opportunity to make these friends. They are my best friends, the best kind of friends. If, at every other stage of life, boys and men need and have common interests to form the highest and most useful kind of association and friendship; if, without such common ground, from the cradle to the grave, we find no such thing as unselfish friendship; if your boy has his grade and your college man his fraternity and your business man his club and your church or Masonic lodge, if you devote himself to a bigger cause than his own selfish desires and thereby getting a vision of real friendship and real usefulness to others will make him a real man and a real citizen of the community in the after years; why will you for four years attempt to deprive him of the best thing that the high school fraternity?

Apologies take their place alongside silk as something in the production of which Japan leads all the world.  
 An inventor says he has a machine that will help people if they are really in love. Now all that's needed is a machine to tell them if they can stay that way.  
 Controversy over the TVA is to determine which New Dealer holds the powerhouse.

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