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NOTE: The Eccentric is pleased to publish stories of events
connected with the official staff of the Michigan Govern-
ment. The right to publish such material is reserved. The right
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When a majority of Michigan voters went to
the polls last week and defeated incumbent
Governor Murphy, the voters did not place an unequivocal
approval upon the winning Republicans. That
fact ought to be recognized and placed upon the
desk of every Republican who takes over office
January 1.

The voters were merely halting upon a ques-
tion something like this: Are we satisfied that
impractical idealism no matter how highly
conceived is going to provide our State with
JOBS? Are we satisfied that Michigan's Little
New Deal is American in every respect, or that
the influence of President Roosevelt from
Washington is a satisfactory situation for Michi-
gan?

As in 1932, when Herbert Hoover was running
against Franklin D. Roosevelt, the people
readily voted on the question: Are we in a
serious depression? so they voted last week; not
so much for the ticket opposing Governor Mur-
phy, as against some of Governor Murphy's
policies.

Thus, it is easy to see, a majority of Michi-
gan's voters have merely given the Republican
Party in our State a temporary lease upon our
government for the next two years; if the
Republican Party, under the leadership of Frank
Fitzgerald, do a reasonably good job, they will
deserve, and win, the election two years hence.
If they fail, they will probably be voted out of
office.

Statements given out since the election by
Governor-elect Fitzgerald suggest that he knows
the problems confronting him; suggest that
more than at any time in his political career
he will approach them with a personal
determination to find solutions for them.

While Mr. Fitzgerald does carry the standard
of Republicanism in Michigan, his new office
makes him Governor "of all the people." That
fact alone, and the thought with this thought in
mind is the hope of all the people, regard-
less of political partisanship.

Good luck, Governor-elect Fitzgerald!

Defeat at the hands of a majority of Michigan
voters last week was the first time in the politi-
cal history of Michigan that a Governor-elect
has been defeated.

"Hail And Farewell," cal history of Michi-
gan that a Governor-elect has been defeated.
To Governor Murphy Frank Murphy that he
failed to win at the polls. Undoubtedly, he must
feel a tremendous personal sadness about it all
and all Michigan's governors within our
memory. Mr. Murphy is perhaps the most per-
sonalistic type to occupy that office. While
this newspaper has not agreed with the imprac-
tical attitude of the Governor on a number of
matters, we have never questioned his sincerity,
his personal belief, or his frank desire to bring
about the more abundant life.

Like many others, we have disagreed on some
programs, agreed on others; and to his eternal
credit, he it said that the Governor really be-
lieves in the American right to disagree with
public officials; no one can ever, honestly, ques-
tion the Governor's personal acceptance of this
inherent right of personal opinion, expressed at
election time. That is why, after learning of his
defeat last week, he stated: "I accept the
verdict of democracy."

The ultimate objectives of Governor Murphy
represent a partial Utopia; that he is not re-
sponsible for creating between capital and
labor a greater understanding of each other's
problems, of each other's equities, should be
admitted by all fair-minded persons.

Personally, this newspaper believes that the
Michigan people are entitled to know the most pur-
tinent human affairs are things that should be open
to every political party, though policies and
methods of getting them are rightly open to
debate. If Michigan had a Department of
Human Relations, we can think of no better
administrator of it than Governor Murphy.
Though we do hold that the Governor should
not be filled by one of more practical
experience.

So let's say "Hail and farewell to Governor
Frank Murphy?"
And when we say it let's not forget to thank
him for his crusading spirit, his manifest affec-
tion for his native State and its people. May his
future, whether in private or public life, be
strewn with happiness and success. That is—
ought to be—the wish of every Michigan citi-
zen, don't you think?

NEWSPAPER REPORTS from Hyde Park last week,
after the Republican victories throughout so
much of the nation, suggested that President
Roosevelt "will keep a smile on his face, prac-
tically undisturbed by the turning of the popu-
lar sentiment against New Deal Democrats."
This certainly has a grand fall, hasn't it?

One of the most important places in the next
Michigan Legislature, which convenes in Lan-
sing January 2, is that of
Eaton For Speaker!
Speaker of the House of
Representatives, aside from presiding over the
meetings of the House, has the task of appoint-
ing the various Legislative Committees; these
Committees, existing solely to handle the sev-
eral problems of government that relate to the
people's social, economic, and political prob-
lems, are part of the device that representative
government depends upon to provide good gov-
ernment.

To date, several State Representatives have
acknowledged themselves interested in the
Speakership. Not all of those mentioned are
capable of doing the job as it should be done;
of course, there will be plenty of "political
manipulation" on the part of some to win that
coveted Speakership, too.

Knowing something of the duties of the place,
of the personal qualities of a Representative for
the high office, we are suggesting that the name
of Representative Elton R. Eaton, of Plymouth,
be considered for the Speakership. Mr. Eaton
for many years has been closely associated with
Michigan's governmental problems; for four
years he was executive secretary to former Gov-
ernor Alex J. Groesbeck; he has served on the
term as a Representative, and last week was
re-elected. He is a crusader for decency, honesty,
and economy in government; he knows that the
Republican Party, once again in control at Lan-
sing, must deliver the merchandise of an honest,
practical liberal government; he is not on the
payroll of any "of the interests"; he has been
in the public eye considerably during the past
two years, having made a reputation for being
a public servant who can't be purchased.

If our readers are willing to take our word
for Mr. Eaton's capabilities for the Speakership,
we suggest that they get in touch with our own
District's Representative, George N. Higgins, of
Ferndale; and if they know other State Repre-
sentatives, it won't do any harm to tell them
you favor Eaton for the high office.

The Speaker, of course, is elected by the
Representatives themselves, when they meet
January 2.

So here's hoping that our next Speaker of
Michigan's House of Representatives will be
Elton R. Eaton, of Plymouth, Michigan.

Believe it or not—the most dangerous place
you can be is at home!
According to the National
Safety Council, the causes of deaths from home
accidents last year were di-
vided as follows: falls, 17,500; burns and ex-
plosions, 5,000; poisonings, 1,700; firearms, 300;
drowning, 1,000; poison gas, 100. The grand total
was 22,500. Of these, 12,000 were preventable.
The Red Cross, in company with other safety
organizations, has been carrying on a drive to
awaken the public to the danger of home acci-
dents, and to show how easily they can be
removed and avoided. Take a look around your
home. Is there a loose rug at the top of a
staircase? It may easily cause a fall that will
result in long agony in the hospital, or death.
Is there a medicine cabinet reached by
children? If so, they are in imminent danger of
fatal poisoning by such a common household ac-
cessory as iodine. Are guns kept unloaded and
out of reach of amateur hands?

You can think of many more such vital safety
questions. When you do, answer them at once—
and not by guess work, but after a rigorous in-
vestigation of every room in your home. And
once you've eliminated hazards, keep them
eliminated. Remember that a home that is safe
today may be filled with dangers tomorrow.
Keep safety in mind at all times—if you want
to keep your name in the name of your loved
ones off the future lists of home accident vic-
tims.

Few communities the size of Birmingham and
Bloomfield Hills are willing to undertake so
sizeable a task as the pres-
ent undertaking of a winter's musical program that brings
members of the Metropoli-
tan Opera to its people. Yet that is what the
Birmingham Musicals has been doing for sev-
eral years, and the appearance of John Carter,
tenor, in the Community House Tuesday two
weeks ago was another triumph for the
local lovers of harmony. With Mr. Car-
ter was James Quillian, pianist, whose playing of
the grand piano once owned by the late Osip
Gabolivitch, was a splendid background for the
youthful voice of Mr. Carter. For the event,
on behalf of the community, we thank the Bir-
mingham Musicals for their successful efforts.

**Music Lovers
Enjoy Treat**
FIFTY-EIGHT PER CENT of the world's gold re-
serve, valued at \$14,000,236,361.00, is now held
by the United States—most of it in the hills of
Kentucky. This makes Kentucky the richest
State in the Union—so now take back your sym-
pathy for those Kentucky Hill-Bills.

LAST WEEK MICHIGAN REPUBLICANS swept the
State almost clean of Democrats when they voted
against the general policies of Governor
Frank Murphy. All that remains is for the
Republicans to do a bit of sweeping within
their own ranks when they assume their offices
January 1. Or else the Democrats "may
take them to the cleaners two years hence."

EVERY POLITICIAN should have enough sense of
humor to accept defeat with the same grace that
he expected his predecessor of opposite
party faith to show when the tables were
turned.

REPUBLICAN ADAPTATION of Democratic pro-
gram: plowing under and killing off of many
unnecessary bureaucracies.

ALL BY ITSELF, "money talks," they say; when
in the hands of a politician, it merely represents
taxes—something taken away from you by gov-
ernment.


A NATION GIVES THANKS
—AND THIS YEAR
ESPECIALLY, WE IN THE
UNITED STATES ARE THANKFUL
THAT WE STILL HAVE OUR PRECIOUS
LIBERTY AND THAT WE ARE
LIVING IN A PEACEFUL AND
DEMOCRATIC COUNTRY—


Random Remarks
Francis Perkins, Secretary of Labor:
"I always have to be shown that
what is a good thing cannot be done."
Arthur Capper, U. S. Senator
from Kansas:
"For five years, the New Deal
has tried one experiment after
another."
George Bernard Shaw, British
author:
"People do not see my clothes.
They read my books."
John Strackey, British author,
banned from this country:
"Anyone must feel flattered
when his words are considered so
important that the strongest state
in the world feels that it cannot
afford to let him lecture."
Franklin D. Roosevelt:
"There can be no peace if na-
tional policy adopts as its basis
the threat of war."
William E. Borah, U. S. Senator
from Idaho:
"We cannot retain the respect
of Europe and not long our own
self-respect by directing nations
how they shall carry out their
treaties and obligations and do
nothing but direct."
Henry Ford, auto-maker:
"The man who never even money
thing will never be anything."
J. S. Wannamaker, president
American Cotton Association:
"The greatest need of the na-
tion today is to remove the trade
barriers that have been erected
since have been entirely lost."
Walter S. Stahr, Economist:
"The American people today
seem unable to think beyond sub-
sidies."
Daniel W. Tomlinson, official
Trans-continental and Western
Albion:
"The German air force is with-
out equal in the world in re-
spect to the number and performance
of aircraft."
Frederick Van Noy, U. S. Senator
from Indiana:
"Membership in the Senate is
not worth the loss of one's self-
respect or the sacrifice of the
country."
Eleanor Roosevelt, First Lady:
"We should work for things and
not against them."
Wm. E. Borah, U. S. Senator from
Idaho:
"In the line of war, we must
have an administration that does
not want to go to war."
**WASHINGTON
LETTER**
BY SPECIAL
CORRESPONDENT
**Trade Agreements With England
Will Rouse Storms of Protest**
WASHINGTON.—When the
trade agreement between the
United Kingdom and the United
States is made public a great cry
will go up that our diplomats
have once more been outwitted
by the British statesmen, be-
cause the number of concessions
we have made overbalances the
number of concessions we have
gained. Trade agreement experts
point out, however, that this is
not significant. Many are "pa-
per concessions." Sometimes
these are deliberate and some-
times accidental.
When the Netherlands agreed
to reduce duty on our wheat ex-
ports in 1936 our own short crops
that season made it impossible
for us to take advantage of the
concession. Canada decides that
we may export butter, among
other things, to that country at
a low rate of duty, but there is
no considerable movement of
dairy products to Canada. A
few dairy farmers near the bor-
der may save a few dollars so
across. Returning the compli-
ment we conceded that Canada
might send us cream at a low
rate of duty, though we don't
need to import that commodity.
Similarly we made the tariff on
our attractive to Cuba, though
we do not need Cuban corn.
Agricultural products such as
rubber, tea and silk which are not
produced in the United States, are
imported duty free. Duty-free
imports of such products are
amounted to \$415,894,000 for the
first eight months of this year,
or approximately two-thirds of
the total. These agricultural
products are consumed largely
by the farm population and are
non-competitive.
In political campaigns the fig-
ures for 1932-33 to 1937 have
been widely used to discredit
trade agreement policies. Oppo-
nents of the trade agreement
program have made much of the
fact that the number of agricul-
tural imports increased in that
period, but State Department
officials point out that the
increase was due to increased
demands and other factors, more
than to agreements.
In the first nine months of
this year, which they consider
representative, imports of agricul-
tural products have decreased
by more than a half billion dol-
lars over 1937 imports, and ex-
ports have increased by about
\$110,000,000. Government sub-
sidies represent only a small part
of this export figure.
Between 1933 and 1937 ex-
ports of agricultural products to
countries with which we had
trade agreements increased by
42 per cent and exports to non-
agreement countries declined by
4 per cent. Trade agreement
exports, however, are not so
many factors are involved in
any increase or loss of trade ad-
vantages that it is impossible to
determine how much of a gain
or loss in dollars and cents may
be attributed to the existence or
absence of such trade agree-
ments.

PEOPLE'S COLUMN
The Eccentric is pleased to receive communications for this
column. All communications must be signed, but signatures
will be kept confidential upon request. Letters must be limited
to 500 words, and must be in the office by Tuesday noon for
publication the following Thursday.

**AN OPEN LETTER
TO FRANK FITZGERALD**
Dear Fitz:
Well Fitz, we won't never
think we'll make it, but we
years of newdealism... but the
people have spoke their piece, and
they know.
Now Fitz... you got a problem,
an 'n' tough one. What with three
quarters of us workin' to feed the
other 25 per cent... that's what
makes her tough. Us 'fella that
workin' in six days and we jus' sit
here and eat... Fitz, an' your wife an' kid, but
we still gotta buy groceries for
family newdeal lawers in
Washington that live in them big
houses. You don't even get a house
if you kin do it rent free,
like maw and I do.
Maw sez she can't understand
it. I git 43 bucks a week for work-
in six days and we jus' sit here
and eat... Fitz, an' your wife an' kid, but
we still gotta buy groceries for
family newdeal lawers in
Washington that live in them big
houses. You don't even get a house
if you kin do it rent free,
like maw and I do.
I never mind about your new
I sez, "He didn't have to pay a
big share of his dough to support
the newdeal and all the rest of
it. It's like the French Revolution."
I sez, "What's the French Revolution
got to do with it?" Maw wants to
know, puttin' down her mawd'n
in lookin' foolish.
"It's like this," I says, as pa-
sants drove their rulers right
out of the country because they
got tired of feedin' 'em, and
at that time only one man in ten
was eatin' of the people. What do
you think of that?"
"Anybody," Maw sez, "at least
the newdealers don't wear them
fancy coats and tight stockings."
But maw be, I say, "I sez, did
them French fellas have a smooth
talker to sell the peasants on the
new deal? Or did they have a
"humanitarian motives." If they'd
had a good farm man mawbe
them French kings would be a
big deal. But you know what hap-
pened."
"What happened?" sez Maw, not
lookin' up.
"Well," I sez, "with 2 men out
of every 8 in this country livin'
off of some of the fancy things
that them French fellas, only we
don't know it."
"Well," sez Maw, "Junior sure
wears out his pants."
Well Fitz... I hope you give
us some of the things we need, and
leave off some of the fancy things
we kin git along without. When
my grandpa was a boy, the gov-
ernment was just a policeman.
They had voluntary firemen, the
schoolmar "boarded round," and
the diplo did their own will with
his own garbage, and moved his
every spring.
Don't get me wrong, Fitz...
there are a lot of things the gov-
ernment should do... like build
roads, clean the streets, and put
out fire. Sure it costs a lot of
money, but it's a lot cheaper than
I tried to do it myself.
But Fitz... we don't need all
these things that are not only ex-
pensive... they're downright lux-
uries. The government should do
the things that look like army barracks,
the federal theater, the orchestras,
and all them pamphlets about how
the cotton borer is the big
pictures in the post office showin'
fellow pitchin' ball, the government
movies, "unofficial" white towns,
and a lot of other stuff.
Why they tell me, Fitz, that
down in the South, a country man
live in homes heated by electricity,
go to free movies, and even get
free car licenses for their cars.
We don't want none of that and
Michigan Fitz, tell we can afford
it, and Maw sez we can't afford it
yet.
You can go out and do what we
want done, Fitz, without tryin'
to sell us the TV or the radio. I
know that would be a lot
more fun for you, and people
would like you for awhile. But it
would cost us an awful lot.
I like it costin us now... and well
look what happened to Murphy.

**New Faces
At Washington**
By RAYMOND FITCHAM.
As a result of the recent elections,
many new faces will appear when
Congress next meets in Wash-
ington. And, as another result, a somewhat
different concept of the legislators' re-
sponsibility to his constituents may
also be evident.
For again the people have spoken—
expressing by their ballots approval
of the policies the committee and the
appeals hurled at them by the suc-
cessful candidates in the course of
campaign oratory.
But to neither the candidate nor
the voter should the end of the elec-
tion campaign mean the end of re-
sponsibility for the welfare of the
nation and its people. Their responsi-
bility grows instead as the time
comes to make those pledges good.
In every state citizens have been
promised faithful representation and
a sincere regard for their interests by
the candidates in whom they have
voted confidence. This should mean
just what it says.
It should mean that he realizes the
office-holder thinks of his consti-
tuents first, and of his political aspira-
tions second.
It should mean that he considers
himself the servant of the people,
rather than the puppet of a party
leader, waiting only for the tug of
political strings.
It should mean that he realizes the
money he votes for reclaims expen-
diture by politicians and bureaucrats is
the people's money—earned and ap-
plied by them through their labors
and their sacrifices and their savings.
These are things which every pub-
lic servant should know. But sometimes
after Election Day, he forgets his
constituents. Sometimes the urgent
over of the political overheads seem to
draw out the last expectations of the
men and women who elected him.
To represent. That is why frequent
reminders of his campaign promises
to the folks back home are so im-
portant.
For the office-holder to remember
and fulfill his pledges is, in the long
run, the only way to win the trust
of the people.
And for constituents to hold him to
that responsibility is not only good
citizenship—under our system of
Government by the People, it is sound
Americanism.

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