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NOTE: The Eccentric is pleased to publish stories of events which have occurred in the past. All copy should be connected with the editorial staff of the paper. All copy should be received before noon on a Tuesday. The night is reserved for news of the day. The paper is published every Thursday. It is published for the publisher and is not responsible for the opinions or statements of any person, firm or corporation which may appear in the columns of this paper. The Eccentric will not be held responsible for the opinions or statements of any person, firm or corporation which may appear in the columns of this paper.

While it is very probable that Birmingham will continue to grow, and its existing school facilities will be used more and more, there is little likelihood that for more schools until the present schools are used closer to their maximum capacity.

Problem of Housing more and more Local Students

Baldwin high school is bearing the burden of the heavier load of students, records for this year reveal. Just recently the Board of Education arranged to move the art class from the high school to the old Hill school, so that more room in the larger building will be available.

While it may require that some students go longer distances to the grade and junior high schools, the District's lot size is the only way that the District will be able to save off near-future bond issues.

"During the 'Twenties, when this area really 'boomed,' new school buildings were erected in every section of the community, resulting in a tax burden that still weighs heavily upon local taxpayers."

The Board of Education, and Supt. Howard D. Crull, are dependent upon to meet the situation with a mind to the finances involved, to the end that the District will not have to go into further debt until absolutely necessary.

One of the favorite forms of pastimes in recent weeks has been the circulation of stories about the "peacock" in the civil service system.

Does a Peacock Lay Eggs?

"Does a peacock lay eggs?" is an absurd question which was widely reported to have been asked. Others equally absurd were reported to circulate to discredit the system and those administering it.

"Disturbed by these reports, we last week wrote Stuart H. Perry of Adrian, former St. Johns publisher and now a member of the Civil Service Commission. Mr. Perry writes:

"The test questions are absolutely germane to the job involved, and there are no 'Q' questions, trick questions or silly questions. The examinations are based on the questions which have been used for years in civil service examinations in other jurisdictions and EVERY LIST HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND APPROVED BY THE HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT OR BUREAU IN QUESTION."

Coming from Mr. Perry, a lifelong Republican and a man of recognized ability and prestige, we are inclined to believe him and not the rumors which are emanating from people who have failed in their examinations or others who have a political axe to grind.

Peacocks do NOT lay eggs—if it makes any difference—but gossipers do gossip and liars continue to circulate evil and false rumors.—Clinton County Republican News.

A NATIONAL SALES TAX of one percent is proposed by Bernard M. Baruch, eastern financier and advisor to President Roosevelt. Mr. Baruch says that this money is necessary to finance the preparedness program of the United States.

OF ONE FACT WE ARE CONVINCED: Your average "big businessman" is about as ignorant of the true answers to the problems of unemployment as the average man who has never been in a mood of irrational anger and hysteria.

THE BEST ADVICE for deer hunters to prevent accidents and fatalities is simply this: go forth upon trail and runway only with thy camera, and come forth with pictures for thy memory—not venison for thy belly.

EVERY DOLLAR PAID in the form of taxes is a dollar taken from the purchasing power of those who pay it. Some taxes are necessary, and legitimate, of course; but most of the taxes we pay today are extra levies to maintain governmental bureaucrats. The only place to stop further taxes is at the ballot box.

HERE'S A RECENT YARN: You recall that President Roosevelt tried to defeat Senator George, of Florida, a few weeks ago; he was unsuccessful. After the election Jim Farley, head of the Democratic Party, called up Senator George and made overtures of friendliness. Said Mr. Farley, "You know, Senator, the President is his own worst enemy." And Senator George quickly replied: "Not as long as I live, Jim!"

Those Four State Amendments

When you vote November 8 you will be handed not only the ballot carrying the names of men and women seeking public office, but also one carrying the four Amendments for the State Constitution.

But you surely want to know a little about each, so let's turn our chairs up closer to the old fireplace and do a bit of comfortable chinning.

The first Amendment relates to this question: "Shall the Constitution be amended to provide for a four-year term of office for Governor, and Prosecuting Attorney, Sheriff, Treasurer, and Register of Deeds?"

The whole idea is to eliminate the costliness of biennial elections, also to make it unnecessary for good and faithful public officials to have to seek re-election every two years.

Amendment No. 2 on the ballot provides for the non-partisan nomination and appointment for a four-year term of office for members of the State Supreme Court Justices for eight-year terms.

Amendment No. 3 on the ballot provides for the appointment of a judicial commission of nine members, who shall, in the case of a vacancy, be appointed by the Governor.

Amendment No. 4 is perhaps the most controversial of the Amendments; it relates to the centralization of the many various existing local welfare and relief agencies; it would seek to eliminate too much duplication of bureaus and offices.

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JUNIOR HAS HIS OWN IDEAS

WELL—DID YOU EVER-MOTHER! FIRST TIME I EVER SAW JUNIOR TAKING THE LEAST BIT OF INTEREST IN THE CROPS!



Many Difficult Questions Raised By Wallace's Two-Price Proposal

WASHINGTON.—The proposed two-price system of Secretary Henry Wallace is meant to increase the farmer's income by getting his surplus to low-income consumers at low prices.

But various problems are presented. In the first place if there is to be one price for the poor and one price for others, how will it be decided which poor people shall be allowed to buy at lower prices, and how can unfair competition with merchants and distributors be avoided?

It has been suggested that distribution might be facilitated if poor families were given identification cards and required to present them at local distribution centers to buy "second price" goods.

Farm programs which curtail food production, raise prices and work a hardship on those families least able to afford adequate food. Farmers will get more money if some of their produce is sold to the poor than they would if it were destroyed.

A two-price system would be much more easily applied to milk, fruits, butter, eggs and vegetables than to manufactured goods, such as cotton.

Both farmer groups and business men now sell the same products at different prices. Sometimes the same product is sold at varying prices with different brand names.

The theory of a "two-price" system is an old one, familiar to economists. But if it were adopted by this administration, the system would probably arouse fierce protests from those who dislike subsidies.

It is possible that some low-cost distribution plan without subsidies could be worked out on a national scale, as it has been worked out in New York City for local distribution of milk. Or farms could produce a subsidy to consumers, at the expense of the treasury.

Wallace's idea is not original with him. A Frenchman named Dupuis figured out the possibilities of a two-price system in 1900.

He set up a theoretical farm who built a tall bridge over a river. This second owner noticed there was a factory on one side of the bridge that needed labor and that there were workers on the other side who couldn't afford to pay the bridge toll.

So he decided to let workmen cross at a certain time in the day for half price. The bridge proved a success.

Recently the civilized world has emerged from the black shadow of a great fear. It was the fear of war—a war which could have plunged both men and nations into new and terrible sufferings.

From this immediate threat they have, as this is written, been released—perhaps with a sense of grateful wonder.

What has the ordeal taught them? No one can say. But many will hope that the world will be a better place than it was before the war.

At the present time the world is bristling with armaments. Russia, Italy, France, Germany, Great Britain and the United States are the major powers of the western world.

China has been the scene of continuous warfare since 1920; Japan has been at war with Russia since 1904, followed by the wars with Japan begun in 1937.

Happenings of Long Ago

Bits of News Gleaned From Old Files Of The Eccentric—The Items That Make Up The Historical Background Of The Birmingham Of Today.

Seventy Years Ago Isaac J. Stroger is decorating Harry Wattles' house with a coat of paint, and he is doing it nicely, too.

Nearly a year ago Mrs. George Billings was pricing some music boxes in Whitehall & Mitchell's store and Mitchell playfully remarked (you know Mitchell is nothing, if not playful) that he would present her with the finest one in the lot if ever there should be a young Billings put in an appropriate mood at her home.

Uncle Billy Hawthorne had severe attack of paralysis on Monday last. Dr. C. M. Raynolds was immediately summoned and promptly relieved the sufferer. We hope he will soon recover.

It was the Frisco-Cleveland club in the procession Tuesday evening! A lovely array of boys and girls, in their most becomingly dressed was indeed a novelty.

A movement is on foot to organize a mounted brigade of torch bearers for the greatest parade in the political campaign in Birmingham, on Friday evening, Nov. 2. Steve Trumble will speak and there will be great fireworks. A special display—everything goes this year.

Twenty-five Years Ago Mrs. Thos. Edwards is spending a few weeks at Caro on account of the sickness of her aunt, Mrs. Ann Pitt.

Mr. J. W. Sablin of Malden, Ill. is visiting friends in Birmingham. Of course the good man is pleased with our pretty village.

One of the prettiest autumn weddings was solemnized Thursday evening, in the late grand old Hotel Evans, in Bloomfield, when her eldest daughter, Miss Marion Evans, was married to William Adams, of Birmingham.

Following the ceremony the bride supper was served in the dining room, where pink and white roses were effectively used in decoration. About 75 guests were present. The bride received many beautiful presents.

Fred W. Irving, of Chicago, sent \$1 for this great opportunity for one year just to keep track of his brother Will who just came to town and Old Man Mitchell, the Postmaster.

A very large crowd of satisfied spectators enjoyed the Dedication exercises of the Mausoleum at Rowland Park Cemetery last Sunday. All were delighted with the pleasing program and the entire Cemetery grounds, which reflect great credit on the skill and care of its landscape man and Superintendent, Mr. J. A. Wendolph.

You can't fail to notice Cobb & Jermelle's big Cut Rate sign. You can't save a cent now, you're going to Detroit for your chemicals and patent medicines!

The faculty of the high school will give a reception to students and friends the evening of October 27. The high school quartette will make its first appearance. Mrs. Fred G. Crawford will read and Miss Marie Margaret Henemann, of Detroit, will sing.

All who had the privilege of hearing Edward Willott in the first number of the lecture course

Walter Enzer, vegetable research specialist: "A cartilage ceases to be a diaphany after you have tasted a thousand of them."

Carter Glass, U. S. Senator from Virginia: "I believe in a man who is willing to spend somebody else's money."

Ellen T. Brown, 30-year-old woman doctor: "Never worry, no matter what."

Alexis Carrel, doctor, inventor of artificial heart: "We cannot resuscitate dead people but our work is progress."

Mary Pickford, one-time screen favorite: "One must marry a hairdresser to keep the new high collar in perfect order."

Beatrice Hoodlum, widow of the magnian, who tried to communicate with her dead husband: "I tried to contact Hurd for ten years after his death, and nothing happened."

Leonard, King of Belgium: "The mission of Belgium is to work for peace and meditation."

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CHARLES LINDBERGH receives the order of the German Eagle from Bert Hermann Goring. Many of us still prefer "Loose-Engle" conferred by the American public in 1928.

The angry city of Cambridge demands that Harvard University be made a distinct municipality and men of Harvard retaliate with a demand for a plebiscite. Yale and Princeton probably will complete the partition on the gridiron.

Stop-watch romance: Movie Actress Iva Lupino and Actor Louis Hayward say they will sail on a honeymoon trip to New York via the Panama Canal, IF THEY HAVE TIME.

Week's unluckiest kid: Boston child prodigy, has an "L. Q." five above the genius rating.

Random Remarks: Leslie J. Stevenson, traffic engineer: "America's most annoying municipal headache is the parking problem." Adolf Hitler, German dictator: "No people can make better use of peace than we." Francis B. Sayre, Assistant Secretary of State: "Hating peace can never rest upon physical force and military armaments." John McCormack, singer: "It is foolish to linger until the day comes when you can read a look of sympathy in the eyes of your friends." Alexander Krensky, former Premier of Russia: "The democracies have lived too long in a world of illusions." James E. Keane, Catholic Bishop of Cleveland: "Any move to stimulate buying power coming from business firms alone, does not carry enough force." Charles E. Edison, Assistant Secretary of the Navy: "It must be remembered that we have two coats to defend." Kingsley Wood, British Air Minister: "We must proceed without a pause or halt with our defence." Greta Garbo, luck from Sweden: "I never talk about my private life." Tom M. Girdler, steel magnate: "There is still no indication of any great upswing this Autumn." Emil Ludvig, historian: "Germans instinctively feel that they are fighting the dream of the Gothic sword." Hendrik Willem Van Loon, historian: "The British Empire is at the beginning of the end; it is starting to crumble." William Allen White, Kansas editor: "Half of the civilized world to day beyond our borders has surrendered the rights, privileges and blessings which democracy accord to free men."

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