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With the opening of the schools of Birmingham, it might be well for parents and teachers to do a little maintenance about the pupils that present a problem to both of them.

Children going to a school system should not be regarded as raw material to be subjected to certain definite processes in the expectation that the finished product can be certain or standardized. Factors of inheritance and environment combine to make each child a special subject requiring, more or less, individualized treatment.

Parents who expect a school and its teachers to take a rough specimen of untrained humanity and develop it into a polished human being are looking for a good deal. They must not expect the school to take the place of the home and the church. The guidance that a teacher can give to a pupil is valuable and necessary but it should not replace entirely all functions of parents.

Teachers, on the other hand, facing a mass of little human beings in their classrooms, should not overlook the importance of identifying each pupil as a separate and distinct human entity. The good teacher is not a mass-worker. There must be the recognition of the peculiar difficulties that confront each student. Report of an intelligent tolerance for the child, if the greatest improvement in the individual is to be secured.

Naturally, we are very proud of the school system in this community. Along with millions of other Americans, we thoroughly endorse the common sense which offers educational opportunity to all children upon practically equal terms. The schoolhouse, in our opinion, is the bulwark of democratic processes, which should be understood, respected and observed by officials and teachers as well as students.

Congressional Comment by Representative George A. Dondero

To the Editor: Many people who do not pay taxes directly to the United States government, such as income taxes, seem to feel that the greatly increased cost of running our government is of but little concern to them.

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 1937, the Federal government collected more than five billion dollars in internal revenues and customs. This is the largest amount collected in a single fiscal year with the exception of the war year 1920.

It is interesting to note the difference in the nature of the Federal receipts in 1929 and in 1937. In 1920 income taxes represented 69 per cent of the total receipts; in 1937 income taxes represented but 45.3 per cent of the total, the balance of 54.7 per cent coming from the treasury through excise, alcohol and other forms of taxes.

Apparently the Federal government was "soaked" by the rich in 1920 and the tax burden of the rich, instead of being increased as it was in 1937, from 69 per cent to 45.3 per cent of the total Federal taxation.

Consumption taxes are a burden on the masses who purchase commodities and use certain types of services. In fact, in addition to the tax on liquor, there are taxes on many common items and on such services as electric power, telephone messages and telegrams.

In 1937 the Federal government collected 594 million dollars in taxes on liquor, the highest amount that has ever been collected on tobacco. These tobacco taxes fall the heaviest on the working man who smokes the highest on cigarettes and smoking tobacco. If you are able to afford to smoke cigars, the average cost of each cigar tax is not so great. The ration of tax to retail selling price is about 4 1/2 per cent for cigars, 15 per cent for smoking and chewing tobacco, and 10 to 20 per cent on cigarettes.

People's Column

The Eccentric is pleased to receive contributions for its People's Column. All communications must be signed. The contributors must be identified by name and address. Letters must be addressed to 212 North Second Street, Birmingham, Michigan. The publication of the column is subject to the discretion of the Editor.

Editor, The Birmingham Eccentric, Birmingham, Mich. Dear Sir: A couple of months ago, the National Recreation Association asked me to attend the National Convention at Pittsburgh, Oct. 3-7, and to extend the invitation to others interested in planning for the wise, constructive use of our increasing leisure time.

Following are some of the themes of the Discussion Meetings: "How to Secure the Cooperation of All Agencies Concerned in a Community Recreation Program." "How Shall We Build Sound, City-Wide Recreation Programs?" "How Can the Physical Equipment of the Recreation Movement, As well as the Personnel, Be More Adequately Planned and Maintained?"

"Recreation Problems of Smaller Cities—Approximately 5,000 to 30,000 Population." "How Can the Vast Resources of Volunteer Service Be Related to Recreation?" "What Are the Effective Steps in Financing Growing Facilities and Programs?"

Conferences will also be included dealing with specific phases of Recreation, such as: Dramas, Nature Study, Music, Gardening, Church Programs, Pet Shows, Arts and Crafts, Camping and that within the Family Group. Gertrude Corson (Mrs. H. H.) Sept. 13, 1938.

SOCKO!

THIS YEAR'S BUMPER CROP

WASHINGTON LETTER BY SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

AAA Officials Will Fight for Pay-Own-Way Farm Basis

WASHINGTON.—New farm legislation in the next session of Congress will reflect what happens in the next two or three months to commodities affected by current AAA policies, in particular, corn prices, subsidized wheat exports, price-fixing for agricultural products has sponsors, but not within the Department of Agriculture.

AAA officials hope to see processing taxes reinstated in the farm program. Out of favor with Congress, they seem to Secretary of Agriculture Wallace and his bureaucratic farmers the only practical way to perpetuate "balanced economy."

CASH INCOME BILLIONS

HIGH SCORE FOR 1937

WASHINGTON PARAGRAPHS

Explained: The reason the old West got results was because it suspended the bad man instead of the sentence.

Where To Find 'Em: A single sheep who keeps the wolf from the door by crooning. Some of us ought to study the wolf.

Only A Part: Women will have all the national wealth by the year 2035, say a banker. They must be saving their alimony.—Toledo Blade.

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William Allen White, editor of The Emporia (Kansas) Gazette, is perhaps the best known contemporary newspaperman in America.

"No One Man Is To Be Feared" is the title of his new paper. He has a piece of common sense about the problems that beset the world today. Won't you read it?

"The obstacle to the thing we call recovery is not fear of one man. If Roosevelt, Mussolini and Stalin were to die within a month, the obstacle would remain. For hundreds of millions of men, round pegs in square industrial holes not functioning fully to capacity, although our presidents and dictators all were dead, would still feel that the distributive system of Christendom is not perfect.

"Universal education and the common use of machinery have fused a new dynamic of discontent in the world. In Europe, the common man will turn futilely to the dictator. Soon the dictator will turn Roosevelt. Roosevelt also is temporary. His followers are here to stay. Unless the wisdom of man can find some fair way to secure exceptional rewards to exceptional men who have organizing talents and at the same time to establish a universally high standard of living which will satisfy the common man, there is only a common talent, we shall have no peace in business or industry."

More than 300,000 persons in California have signed petitions backing a proposal to pay \$30 every Thursday to every person over fifty who is not employed or an employer.

It is almost 60 years since Henry George wrote "Progress and Poverty" and 52 years since he ran for mayor of New York.

Single Tax Persistence: We know it now—and would have won but for coalition of Republicans and Democrats. He was not the inventor of the single tax principle, but did more than any living man to disseminate both here and abroad that idea that land alone should be taxed and society should collect the "economic rent created by the community."

Never regarded as sound by "orthodox" economists that idea has, nevertheless, persisted and is even now enjoying an increased popularity.

Henry Ford has purchased a \$50,000 property in New York, which it will occupy for school purposes in the Fall. Classes under its auspices meet in many sections of the country, and they are composed for the most part of persons of maturity, experienced in business and professional life. Regardless of the merits, or lack of them, in the theories propounded, the methods employed, if correctly described have forthright merit.

"We just follow the old Socratic way of teaching. We don't ask anybody to accept any ideas. We don't try to persuade anybody, we just swallow anything they don't like, and we don't mind arguments. No holds are ever barred in our class rooms."

Thus Dr. Frank Chodorov, director of the schools. It is frankly conceivable that education would be hobbled, instead of perpetuated by the same means. Every academic exercise turned into free debate. Some metes and bounds have to be set to such chicanery. Too much of the teaching in our higher institutions, however, is pretty stupid because of its take-it-or-leave-it basis. It is wrong to assume real control comes from active student initiative for who, after all, are instructors but former students in a different role?—Royal Oak Daily Tribune.

Henry Ford is taking the lead in getting away from centralization in manufacturing. A report states that he has started sixteen comparative small plants located at different advanced points in Michigan, with a view to ready to start operations. Mr. Ford finds the best help comes from the country, but instead of bringing men from wholesome rural areas to congested centers, he proposes to go to them with opportunities for employment. The lack of income that drives people from the country to the city, he proposes to overcome. The report says Ford is determined to provide in the country chances for "greater self-generated security than the industrial cities can provide. It is important to let people live in the steady, sane atmosphere of the countryside, away from the ills and ills of congested areas." Scattering small manufacturing plants throughout the country will permit escape from many obstructive and annoying labor troubles. Speaking of the Ford plan, the report concludes: "If other manufacturers learn this lesson, in a few years there will be hundreds of village industries scattered throughout the industrial states."

PROOF OF THE FACT that the United States has plenty of food was seen in the egg and vegetable barrage thrown at Norman Thomas, Socialist leader, in New Jersey last week. In many other countries where food is not so available, part of the earth would have been thrown, Mr. Thomas, by the way, as a gentleman, even though a Socialist, He really merits decent treatment, even in New Jersey.

SOMEONE ONCE SAID that "this is an age of terrific indictments and feeble solutions." About the only thing one should attempt to do is to do what one can, within the sphere of one's own influence. That success lies in knowing how to do it. So much of human activity, it seems, is ignorant, intolerant, and selfish.

THE MERCHANT WHO fails to advertise is easy competition for the merchant who does advertise.

SOME PEOPLE—too many people, alas!—assume that success depends upon the amount of money one makes. The happiest men and women are not the ones who have the most money, as one can see by observing within any village. He who makes money his goal trades his ideals, his hopes, his happiness, for stuff that has no guarantee of happiness; money is "hard," and he who loves money too well becomes like the stiff he loves.

THE FEDERAL SOCIAL SECURITY Board reveals old age pensions in Ohio were paid in some instances to persons who were found to be dead. That's one more "30-Every-Thursdays" "2000 a month" candidates

WALTER H. Judd, Member of Congress, New York, addressing Republican Conference.

Herbert Lehman, Governor of New York.

John Roosevelt, going to work in Boston.

George Ed Eyston, automobile salesman.

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WABECK STATE BANK, BIRMINGHAM, MICH. COMPLETE BANKING FACILITIES