

The Birmingham Eccentric

Published every Thursday, at Birmingham, Mich., in The Eccentric Building, 225 North Third Street, Telephone 11, 12 and 13.  
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Entered as Second Class Matter in the U. S. Postoffice at Birmingham, Michigan, May 11, 1938.  
Subscription Rates:  
(In Oklahoma County) (Outside Oklahoma County)  
One Year \$1.50 One Year \$2.00  
Six Months .75 Six Months \$1.00  
Three Months .40 Three Months .60  
All newspapers and advertising copy must be sent to the office by Tuesday noon to obtain insertion for that week.

The Eccentric is a member of:  
National Editorial Association, Michigan Press Association, University Press Club, and Oklahoma County Weekly Press Association

THURSDAY, MAY 25, 1939

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Michigan's medical men, observing the march of the State toward socialized medicine care of human beings...

State Goes Medico—Dentists, Lawyers Next In Order

It was signed by Governor Dickinson last week. For \$12.50 per year one may insure care for his health. This makes it possible for people with limited incomes to get medical treatment for as close to zero as possible; the new law also states off, for a time at least, free medical care at the expense of those who pay taxes.

There is no question but that countless thousands of human beings suffer, many of them die, because, desiring help from physicians and surgeons, they cannot pay the bill. Since there is so much human suffering of a physical nature, and since the majority control elections, it was plain to alert medical men that they would have to extend systematic help; the law they sponsored does this, yet keeps The State from going completely socialistic in the matter.

This medical law, in our opinion, is but the beginning of such legislation. Next will come the dentists, then the lawyers, both of which groups control services that are very necessary to the health and well being of so many people.

Socialization of many things seems on the march in America. It is part of "the revolution" that seems to be overtaking us.

Will the so-called "profit motive" in American commerce eventually give way to "production for consumption"? The drift is that way, to be sure. The only final defense for the continuation of the free competitive system in America is that freedom of expression, of commerce, of politics, of religion, guaranteed in the Bill of Rights. But gradually that, too, is being removed by legislation from the American competitive system; groups unfamiliar with the methods of undermining true democracy, though themselves mostly honest in their efforts to have government control phases of our commerce, are the unwitting tools of forces in this world that create the Totalitarian State.

"Knowledge is power," is an old axiom; ignorance, too, is power in the hands of those who know how to twist it to negative ends.

The Bible adds: "Get knowledge... but with knowledge get wisdom."

"Many a sin has been committed in the name of a sanctified cause." That quotation can be applied to many of the "pressure money" human affairs, including religion.

For The Schools

What Michigan needs, in the realm of education, is a group of courageous educators who will make fewer trips to Lansing to get more millions of the taxpayers' money. We believe in the cause of education; we believe that the people should support more of it, but we don't like the "pressure" methods so often resorted to by educators to get money. We'd like to see them use more dignity in their defense of the right of every child for knowledge.

The dictionary is really pretty good reading when you get acquainted with it. Some editions give the roots from which our words are derived and in those derivations may be found some interesting stories. Take for example the following word histories:

Words With A Past

Confidence comes from the Latin words "con" and "fidere," meaning "with" and "trust." The Romans had a dicty named Fides in whom they trusted.

Respect is derived from "re" and "spicere" again Latin for "back" and "to look," hence, respect depends on past performance.

Economy goes way back through Old French and Latin to the Greek words for "house" and "manage"—the word long meant good household management.

Debt is a word that must be traced back through French and Latin to arrive at the roots "de" meaning "away from" and "habere"—"to have."

Integrity goes back to the same Latin root as integrity, which means "untouched," or a complete whole.

Transaction was originally two words "trans" meaning "across" and "agere," "to drive," so it's really a sale with effort behind it.

CREDIT, which contains the first letters of each of these words and depends upon the qualities they stand for, comes from the Latin "credere"—"to trust, or believe!"

—(Credite Magazine)

Yes, Mr. Olson, We Print The News!

Yes, Mr. Olson, we print the news! The meeting of the local Board of Education's public meeting of that week, a question raised by K. B. Olson, of 540 Hawthorne Road.

J. Mark Hardin, the Board's president, had failed to tell to people in attendance at the meeting, regarding the merits or demerits of changing this school district from graded to third class, "when we are ready to give out the information it will be published in the papers."

To which Mr. Olson questioned: "Will the papers print the news?"

Mr. Olson's laudatory enthusiasm for maintaining the status quo of the district, plus his ebullient natural love for excitement, probably caused him to phrase that question. Or else he must have been moved by a momentary belief that "the papers" print the news.

Well, last week's Eccentric answered Mr. Olson's question; in it was printed in full the Board's statement covering the change to a third class district.

In conclusion, for Mr. Olson's benefit, and for the benefit of others, this newspaper re-states its orthodox policy: our news columns contain honest results of honest efforts to cover and report the news; our editorial columns are admittedly our own opinions, not purchasable at any price; our advertising columns are for sale, for managers based upon what we believe to be truth and ethics; our columns are always open, without cost, for the expression of views and opinions of our readers, whether we agree with what they say or not.

Yes, Mr. Olson, The Eccentric printed the Board of Education's data.

The whole of Europe covers less space on the earth's surface than does the United States.

Human Nature Same Everywhere

Economic and social problems arising from different nationalities are not peculiarly the forerunners of herds of people of different nationalities.

The same problems exist within our own United States. One proof of this was shown recently when representatives of 32 States got together to "iron out" trade barrier legislation that exists among them.

So, if citizens of one country like ours with one language, one common heritage of freedom, find themselves fighting, using the weapons of State legislation, how can one assume that international boundary lines are the chief cause of human differences?

On the average, you will find that a nation, or the world, merely reflects the human nature that lives within a block. A single nation, or a group of nations, like a mirror, merely reflect the situations before them.

Whenever an airliner crashes the news makes the front page of the press and reports of passengers killed remain in the minds of people for a long time.

Safety Record In The Air

Consequently we are glad to give publicity to the fact that the airlines of the United States, according to the Civil Aeronautics Authority, made an all-time record in 1938.

Flying 17,863,270 miles with only one accident, resulting in the loss of four lives, the airlines are proud of their safety record. In the previous winter, 14,824,274 miles of flight resulted in 19 fatalities and in the year before fewer miles flown resulted in 38 fatalities.

Two Hours and Twelve Minutes a Day

Work for two hours each morning. Struggle and sweat and groan. Work for a hard-earned dollar. But know it is not your own.

For, as the deficit deepens, the rate of tax ascends, you work through the morning earning the cash that politics spends.

So work for the fads and fancies. The surveys and questionnaires. Political neocronisms.

That are laboring your affairs. Work for the office-buffers. Professor and theorist and clerk.

Work to support the scolders. Who are damning you while you work.

Work for the foreign "isms". For those who are preaching hate.

Work to finance the snooping. Of those who "investigate". For the bureaus, boards and commissions.

That are putting you on the shelf; Work for the politicians. Before you can feed yourself.

But when, by your hours of working, The great tax maw is filled, Then work for the institutions.

That are founded to build. Work to throw off the shackles. Now slowing us down to a crawl.

Work, or the day is coming. When the tax will take it all. (Nation's Business)

IT COSTS YOUR AVERAGE CITIZEN entirely too much to own and keep a home. Why should most people have to slave for most of their lives to obtain shelter? One reason is the high cost of land, plus the system of taxation that allows scant property to be held for speculation.

Modern taxation systems are confused, as erroneous, as a system of mathematics that makes two plus equal anything but four.

NEXT WINTER'S NOTE: 250 coal dealers of Michigan gathered at the University of Michigan to discuss problems connected with their business. They will be assisted by members of the faculty who are interested in burning questions of the day. B-r-r-r-r!

Happenings of Long Ago

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

May 23, 1859

Mr. Robert DeLade, a popular Birmingham dentist of Charles Day, Birmingham, under the general Charles M. Smith, visited the family of Robert Hawthorne in 1877, and had a very enjoyable time.

On or about June 1, F. W. Sherman's boat at Orchard Lake for the service of the public. He has a large clean picnic grounds in connection with the boat landing, and Sunday school picnics are hereby notified that they will always be welcome and that rates on the boat will be made especially low, just for them.

Right here is a chance for a city man to secure a good and convenient suburban home. The residence of Henry W. Randall on Martin street in this village is offered for sale at a bargain. It is a cottage of eight rooms, with a clean, barn, well, cellar and every convenience and within five minutes walk of the depot, postoffice, bank or churches.

Mr. James Merrill not only sold his mammoth Newfoundland dog, Jumbo, despite the cries and moans of his children, for a ten dollar bill to a railroad conductor. Last Sunday night, for to be particular, Monday morning about two o'clock Jones Taber says the dog came home with one hind leg in a sling and a general total wreck. Edna and Charlie are happy now.

Mr. R. Drinkhall of Royal Oak was recently involved in an accident by his horse jerking him to the ground and dragging him for a considerable distance. The horse was broken but the gentleman received a bad shaking up and had to be taken to the hospital. The horse became frightened at some young men running horses.

Twenty years ago

Drop in at Coby and Jennell's drug store and get a cold drink from their new fine marble soda fountain. Say it is a gem of art and convenience and must be seen before it is too late. The fountain is a masterpiece of art and convenience. Every proprietor will be glad to show you its valuable and artistic features.

That Mexico-Bulgarian duel of Dr. Frer's that three Judge A. W. and three Judge B. W. were struck and pranged just as they were down his spine, and when the judge jumped up and down on his tummy, has been sold to Detroit parties. He was not safe in Birmingham. The judge is a suit now.

Miss Harriet Culver, editor of the Birmingham Post-Herald, in a letter to the Free Press, and Miss Belle Chamberlain who has been conducting Danants at the new Hotel Addition, and the recent Sunday of Carnegie Elizabeth Mitchell. After giving beautiful Birmingham a good time, she was carefully taken to Detroit in the machine of the new president.

Allen H. Fraser, Accompanying the Judge and Mrs. Fraser was Mrs. Fraser who has recently returned from Pasadena. We have an idea the Judge might be a little better in his cases in our fair city, as we have a notion he likes the looks of our town.

Not many graduating classes can boast of "degraded" girls. But our high school class, about to "step out" into the world, supposedly "hard work" can actually produce two girls to be sold to the city as "prostitute" girls, as it were. It is badly claimed that one young lady can "produce" the goods," a regular diamond.

Ralph Ivan Coryell and Alan Roy Storer are in line to succeed from the Michigan Agricultural College this June, with 300 others—the largest number of graduates in the history of the college.

One street is oiled now and oiled well—largest. It has been generously done and dust for wheels will be a thing unknown. Good.

Five Years Ago

Andrew L. Moore urges sweeping reform of state tax law. Levy against real property on basis of its yield only, state senator asks in address at Community House. Vacant land should be exempt from property owners' division of the Birmingham Real Estate Board is told.

School Board election may go by default. Harmony appears in district affairs for first time in three years. No contest in sight as last day for filing petitions nears, and only two candidates seek two vacant posts.

Merchants win fight with city to keep angle parking. Commission unanimously against restoring parallel system; Sunday ban proposed as greater safety measure are asked to co-operate on rules. Mayor Harry Allen calls permit "an abomination" but says system will be a thing unknown. Good.

Memorial day rites are planned by American Legion unit. Parade through city streets will start at 10 a. m., with mounted and foot marchers from more than six military and civilian organizations.

Charles W. Smith will deliver address at Greenwood Cemetery as city honors heroes. Boat in bay is asked for public school teachers. Charles W. Crandell, superintendent of schools, recommends minimum wage schedule be established here. Move is tabled for further study.

Ray Beahm's request for license to sell beer in Bloomfield is just outside Birmingham limits, meets strong opposition and may be tabled permanently.

American Legion Auxiliary plans "Poppy Sale" Birmingham will be asked on Saturday to contribute to veterans' rehabilitation fund.

Scientists from Cranbrook Institute of Science agree that skeleton of man discovered here last week are at least 70 years old. Science collection at Baldwin High School will reconstruct bones.

Congressional Comment

Representative George A. Dondero

May 19, 1939

Recently the American Institute of Public Opinion asked the question: "In case Germany and Italy go to war with England and France, should we send American Navy abroad to help England and France?" The tabulation of the answers received leaves no doubt as to the people's attitude toward sending our troops overseas.

As reported in the newspapers participating in the American Institute of Public Opinion, 84% of our people do not favor sending our troops overseas. This is particularly significant in view of Secretary Morgenthau's recent statement to the effect that he would not venture a guess as to what might happen if our national debt reached 50 billion dollars.

The following is taken from the annual report to stockholders of a large corporation having extensive properties in widely scattered sections of the United States:

"In past reports our board has submitted plans and commented at length on the tax burden imposed upon the business of our company. It has been pointed out that the continued increase in these burdens seriously threaten the investments of our stockholders in business enterprises.

"This threat has not lessened; in fact, all direct taxes of our company and subsidiaries in 1938 were more than 50 times the consolidated net income after such taxes. The total direct and indirect taxes exceeded the total wages paid. This fact is of particular significance to our stockholders and to the public. It is a misconception to assume that the tax problem concerns only the profits of the rich. Taxes paid by business become a part of the cost of its products. As prices rise, the burden of the tax is shifted to the consumer. The tax burden is a cross-section of the American people and the return to security holders and those in authority.



PEOPLE'S COLUMN

The Eccentric is pleased to receive communications for this column. All communications must be in plain, bold, and legible type, and must be sent to the office by Tuesday noon for publication the following Thursday.

Birmingham, Mich., May 24, 1939

Dear Ed., There isn't much in that real estate business for the boys to worry about. Not that it would have made any difference anyway, but the law that a graded district having a population of more than 10,000 is governed by the same law as a district of the third class when it comes to purchasing school sites.

The purchase of school sites and those other real estate operations are based on necessity. We have had in the south-eastern part of the district for nearly 10 years now an unused school site of approximately 6 1/2 acres, large enough for adequate playground space and the erection of an elementary school capable of serving the needs of 750 pupils. And it's still to be built.

On the other hand there is quite a library within the district and it seems absurd to think of the board providing or establishing another library or a museum or an agricultural farm in the face of existing tax and bond obligations. However fine the might be in the education and development of our children.

For one thing, we have a bonded indebtedness of approximately \$1,225,000.00 against an assessed valuation of only \$16,000,000.00 and no bonds shall be made and no bonds shall be issued for any sum which together with the outstanding indebtedness of the district shall exceed 2 1/2% of the assessed valuation.

And when voting on a bond issue the voters must appear at a public hearing and vote on the total assessed valuation of the district. We are even now bonded to 50% of that sum and what a time we are having.

Those things you know, have the mind for taxation and there is the rub. While the legislature has limited taxes for general purposes, it has no limit on the tax for school purposes.

Jo's Jest

When the wind blows in Oklahoma, it forces a hanging iron chain to a horizontal position, says Senator Josh Lee of that state. Almost as strong as the wind in the Senate, eh, senator?

A psychologist says that 36 per cent of traffic offenders are feeble-minded. We pedestrians will ask him to compute that again.

Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau professes red noses. Just so he keeps it to flowers, and doesn't let it run into ink.

Boston experienced its worst dust storm in years recently. You could hardly see the beans on your plate.

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