

The Birmingham Eccentric
 Published every Thursday, at Birmingham, Mich., in The
 Eccentric Building, 222-224 North Woodward Avenue.
 Telephone 11, 12 and 13.
 GEORGE R. AVERILL, Editor and Publisher
 PAUL NEAL AVERILL, Business Manager
 EDWARD B. BROWN, Editor
 ARTHUR H. WILGENSEN, Advertising Manager
 NORMAN S. WALKER, Production Manager

Entered as Second Class Matter in the U. S. Postoffice at
 Birmingham, Michigan.
 SUBSCRIPTION RATES
 (In Oklahoma County) Outside Oklahoma County
 One Year \$1.50 Six Months .75
 Six Months .50 Three Months .35
 All newspaper and advertising copy must be in the Eccentric
 office by Wednesday noon to obtain insertion for that week.

The Eccentric is a member of
 National Editorial Writers Association, United
 Presses Club, and Oklahoma County Weekly Press Association.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1939

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 Wednesday. The right to
 reserve the right to publish such material is hereby reserved.
 The material submitted is to be held in the style of the paper
 and is not to be returned. The author of the material is
 understood to warrant the truth of the facts and to hold the
 Eccentric harmless from all legal consequences. Any erroneous
 reflection upon the character, standing or
 conduct of any person or corporation appearing in this paper
 shall appear in the columns of the Eccentric will be gladly cor-
 rected upon proper request to the attention of the publisher.

In this week's issue of The Eccentric, starting
 on page one, you will find several letters that
 reveal the attitudes of various groups and individuals upon
 the subject of "relations between the Birmingham
 public school students, teachers, and mer-
 chants." These letters are the reactions to a
 feature in the newspaper last week, in
 that story The Eccentric factually and objectively
 reported what had recently taken place
 at a meeting of the Birmingham Retail Mer-
 chants' Association, when the merchants passed
 a resolution expressing their disapproval of the
 students' teachers' and merchants' out-
 standing material. The meeting was held
 of Birmingham, if those same materials could
 be obtained on the same terms here; at that
 meeting the merchants opposed the idea of buy-
 ing advertising space in the proposed Baldwin
 high school publication on the basis of a
 special situation duplication of
 already existing advertising media, and an
 unnecessary expense to the local business and pro-
 fessional concerns.

During the past week, we have learned, con-
 siderable mental commotion and activity has
 taken place in and around the Baldwin high
 school; members of the faculty, as well as many
 students, are upset by last week's story as chronicled
 in this newspaper. To their rescue have
 come several private citizens; students have de-
 veloped their own plan, in that they have
 teachers from direct responsibility for student
 action in making outside purchases. The pub-
 licity given to the situation has, at least, pre-
 vented more detailed facts and, to a consid-
 erable extent, cleared the atmosphere. That is
 all that should be.

No doubt, next week, the Retail Merchants
 will reply to the letters printed in this issue
 of The Eccentric. The Board of Education's wil-
 lingness to have students submit details of pri-
 vate purchases made by these students in a
 curricular student activities will reduce misun-
 derstandings.

So far as the Eccentric is concerned with re-
 gard to the problem raised, we are not at all
 opposed to the printing of The Piper, or of
 the Birmingham Eccentric in Birmingham. If the students prefer a type of
 official printing that we cannot do, why not
 approve their decision to take it where this cheap
 method can be used for The Piper? If, for
 their monthly paper, they can get it done
 cheaper in Indiana, why should the Eccentric,
 whose labor costs exceed those in Indiana, in-
 sist that the work be done in Birmingham?
 Most assuredly, we have no complaint about
 where either The Piper, the senior class' annual
 publication, or the proposed monthly paper,
 per, is printed. All The Eccentric can ask for
 is an opportunity to bid on certain specifications
 which it can, mechanically, meet.

So far as the solicitation of local advertising
 to support such a paper is concerned, The Ec-
 centric reiterates its statement of policy, to wit:
 neither the public schools, nor any other tax-
 supported unit of government, has the ethical or
 constitutional right to make competitive in-
 roads upon private business; in the case of so-
 liciting advertising, it is plain that it is a
 fragmentary competition, and it will not
 bankrupt this newspaper; our opposition to
 soliciting local advertising is based upon the
 principle involved, and upon nothing else. The
 fact that local merchants have registered their
 opposition on the basis of partial circulation
 duplication and added expense is the mer-
 chants' legitimate argument; if it coincides
 with our own view, that is merely coincidental.

Certainly, the Eccentric's own record and
 reputation for supporting local government,
 the local schools, the churches, as well as other
 agencies for the uplift and improvement of so-
 ciety, need not be re-recorded here. In his let-
 ter in this issue, Mr. H. Ross Mack alludes to
 this point.

On the basis of this valuation, the nation's
 physical assets in 1930, in terms of the pre-de-
 valuation dollar, amount to \$2,740 per person.
 Of this \$1,233 represents production assets and
 \$1,530 represents comfort goods.

THE WELFARE PROBLEM in Michigan is quite a
 sizeable one. Its administration will be as good
 or as bad as politics lets it be. Politics will be
 as good or as bad as the citizens allow it to be.
 Citizens will be as good or as bad as their in-
 tellect, plus interest in good government, let
 them be. The government is not controllable
 by its citizens in a democracy—if that's what
 we want it to be. For much of the cause of
 poor government, just look into your mirrors,
 Citizens.

Friday evening of this week, November 3, at the
 intersection of East Maple avenue and the new
 Hamlet boulevard, the
**Completion of
 Wider Woodward**
 ward cut-off, cere-
 monies will be
 held to celebrate the completion of the super-
 highway that reaches from Detroit's northern
 family, Birmingham's first settlers; it was
 Saginaw highway project started nearly 20 years
 ago by the then Governor Alex J. Groesbeck. It
 was Michigan's first "super-highway." It has
 served as a pattern for other highways in this
 State.

Opening of the new cut-off through Birming-
 ham is the final link in this great vehicular
 transportation system; the program arranged
 for the affair appropriately climaxes the road;
 its theme goes back to the days when the Indians
 traveled "The Old Saginaw Trail," and restores
 to contemporary view the arrival of the Hunter
 family, Birmingham's first settlers; it concludes
 with presentation of the development of ve-
 hicular transportation, from the covered wagon
 to the modern, streamlined motor car.

Many communities plan to be represented at
 the ceremony Friday night. It begins at 8:30 in
 the evening and is expected to attract thousands
 of men and women, boys and girls.

Birmingham will be present, of course. That
 means every person in this vicinity who can be
 there.

So, folks, we will be seeing you Friday evening,
 at the new intersection.

Be An American! American Re-dis-
 cover Week
 The name, it seems, has been tied up with
 Columbus' so-called discovery of the New World.
 Actually, as everybody knows, the New World
 was known to some very intelligent races long
 before Columbus verified the fact for the educa-
 tion of certain ignorant Europeans.
 But, let's not get away from Rediscovery
 Week, which is, after all, what we started out to
 discuss. The purpose, we are told, is to provide
 an opportunity for "reaffirming the principles
 of American democracy."

The idea seems to be that nobody can affirm
 faith in democracy if a week is set aside for
 the purpose of some public ceremony is ob-
 served. However, if you happened to live in
 some area where no savant is leading the peo-
 ple in the motions of worshipping democracy,
 then we hope you will accept our reassurances
 that you can affirm your faith in democracy by
 living a decent life, cooperating with your fel-
 low man and observing a just and equitable
 tolerance towards the sins and omissions of man-
 kind.

A recent uprising among schools throughout the
 State for failing to support their local merchants
 is gaining momentum.

Ask School Support
 The last school to be brought to
 our attention is the Birming-
 ham system where, last week,
 the Retail Merchants' association of that city
 voted to adopt a resolution urging that
 buying originating in Birmingham schools, es-
 pecially with student groups, be transacted
 through home merchants.

Certainly, Rochester merchants could express
 plenty of opposition to the practice of letting
 private firms market or services to out-of-town
 concerns. It would seem to us that it is an
 unconstitutional use of taxpayers' money to make
 school property the medium to compete with
 local industry.

Certainly, Rochester merchants have been
 most generous in their support of school proj-
 ects and have always contributed in advertising
 and money to anything the students and faculty
 sponsored. They should receive consideration
 from the student body.

The condition in Birmingham is similar to
 this community and other throughout the State.
 Both in home and purchased outside the city;
 and a contract for class pictures was given to a
 Detroit business place.

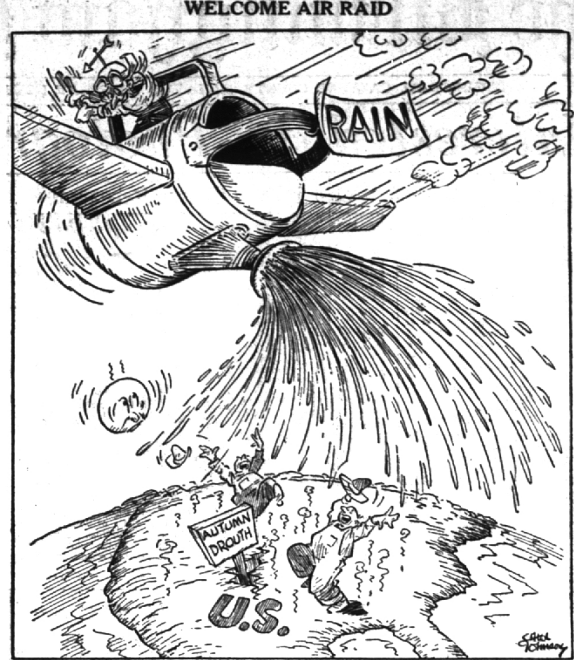
We believe whenever any work can be
 handled locally and through local merchants, it
 is the duty of school groups to place orders here
 instead of out-of-town. Merchants ask school
 groups and they should receive it in the future.
 It should be up to the faculty heads to see that
 they receive it. Merchants consent placing of
 orders out-of-town.—Rochester (Mich.) Clarion.

The total physical assets of the United States
 are estimated at \$49,949,000,000 by the Rev.
 Edward Kellar, director of
 The National's Bureau of Economic Re-
 search, University of Notre
 Dame.

The valuation is based on figures available
 for 1930 and is in terms of the pre-devaluation
 dollar. The reader should note that only physical
 "things" are included in the estimate.
 Stocks, bonds, mortgages and paper money are
 not included for the reason that they only evi-
 dence ownership of things.

The world again in a
 major war and the threat of
 conflict spreading, a pre-Armis-
 tice day lesson on the righteous-
 ness in the Kingdom has great
 significance.

WITH the world again in
 a major war and the threat of
 conflict spreading, a pre-Armis-
 tice day lesson on the righteous-
 ness in the Kingdom has great
 significance.



**Congressional
 Comment**
 by
 Representative
 Dondero
 17th Michigan District

Strikes in United States: During
 a seven-year period, 1928 to
 1934, there were 1,364 strikes in
 the United States, an average of
 1,052 strikes annually. In the
 following four years, 1935 to 1938,
 inclusive, there were 11,636
 strikes in this country, an average
 of 2,934 strikes annually.

Pre-NLRB Period
 Year Number
 1928 604
 1929 921
 1930 637
 1931 1,838
 1932 1,693
 1933 1,856
 1934 1,784

Post-NLRB Period
 Year Number
 1935 2,172
 1936 4,740
 1937 2,772
 1938 11,638

In 1930 a total of 182,975 work-
 ers were involved in 637 strikes,
 and the number of man-days idle
 was 1,000,000.

THE conflict being waged in
 Europe is in itself a war between
 autocracy and democracy, be-
 tween the power of might and
 the power of right. It is also a
 part of a larger war in which we
 must all engage, one which cannot
 be fought with material weapons.

Paul wrote long ago to the
 Christians at Ephesus: "Be not
 angry, but against flesh and blood,
 but against principalities, against
 powers, against the rulers of the
 darkness of this world, who sit in
 spiritual wickedness in high
 places." This warfare is a right-
 eousness of love against hate, of war-
 fare against wrong, of peace against
 war and violence. Here in our
 lesson, those who would engage in
 the warfare must be equipped with
 words and the example of their
 great Commander.

WELCOME AIR RAID



amounted to 3,316,998. In 1937,
 the second year following the en-
 actment of the National Labor
 Relations Act, labor strife reached
 its peak with 4,740 strikes in-
 volving 1,899,921 workers and
 the number of man-days idling
 amounted to 28,424,857; almost
 eight times the number of strikes in
 1930, involving ten times the
 number of workers. In the post-
 NLRB period strikes have play-
 ed 4,454,858 workers and resulted
 in 66,931,423 idle man-days.

Federal Taxes: In the fiscal
 year ending June 30, 1939, inter-
 nal revenue taxes amounted to
 more than \$5,181,000,000 and
 of this amount, nearly five per
 cent, or more than \$258,000,000
 was collected from Michigan tax-
 payers. This total represents a re-
 duction of 16 per cent as com-
 pared to collections in the fiscal
 year ending June 30, 1938. Al-
 though Michigan has the largest
 number of taxpayers, according to
 the reports of the American Insti-
 tute of Public Opinion, are under
 the impression that they pay too
 many taxes to the Federal govern-
 ment because they pay no income tax,
 automobiles, automobile accessories,
 70 different Federal taxes. For in-
 stance, taxes are collected on
 the purchase of gas, oil, sugar, man-
 ufactured tobacco, liquors, excess
 profits, unjust enrichment, estates
 and gifts, gasoline, playing cards,
 cosmetics, sugar, bituminous
 coal, renovated butter, oleo-
 margarine, narcotics, firearms,
 automobiles, cameras, cameras,
 guns and parts, cameras, news-
 papers, and dozens of other com-
 modities and transactions.

In This Day
 It is getting so if you still are
 alive on Monday you are suspect-
 ed of having gone to church on
 Sunday.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Weapons of a Righteous War

The International Uniform
 Sunday School Lesson for Nov. 5
 Text: Matthew 5:17-38, 48-49;
 6:1-4

WITH the world again in
 a major war and the threat of
 conflict spreading, a pre-Armis-
 tice day lesson on the righteous-
 ness in the Kingdom has great
 significance.

WE need not press a lesson
 like this into its most ex-
 treme and most controversial ap-
 pects to extract the truth out
 of it. But there is a profound
 message alike for all who wish
 to adopt these words literally and
 for those who believe that there
 are circumstances and situations
 where force must be opposed to
 force to prevent the ruin and
 destruction of all that one holds
 dear.

**Happenings
 of Long Ago**

Fifty Years Ago
 Nov. 7, 1889
 For sale cheap for cash, a war-
 ranted cut silver watch, stem
 winder, correct time, Elgin move-
 ment and as good as new. Call on
 Mitchell at this office.

Twenty-Five Years Ago
 Nov. 6, 1914
 Fashion hats were cut with kimono
 sleeves and set gracefully to the
 figure by means of odd drapings.
 Smokes powder and a Maxim
 silencer are introduced to the
 stage for the first time in Bazaar
 and Vailler's absorbing play of human
 interest, "Within the Law" which
 will be produced at the Garlick
 Theatre, Detroit, next week.

John D. Rockefeller advises work-
 men who are beginning to get
 to take up rock. He thinks that it
 will do old women as much good
 as does old men. And for young
 women he thinks it an excellent
 game as it will prevent their ever
 getting old.

Five Years Ago
 Nov. 8, 1934
 City of Birmingham's law suit
 protesting against the 1934 Okla-
 homa County property equalization
 was filed Friday in Circuit Court.
 A companion suit is to be filed
 by the City of Bloomington in the
 High School football team.

While it is true that some col-
 lege football teams have been
 football, there is usually another
 factor in the case. For example,
 Wayne County property equalization
 is in the middle of the middle of
 a huge city with students by
 the thousand right in the heart of
 these institutions do not have
 that "school spirit" which so dis-
 tinguishes the University of Michi-
 gan. And school spirit is not at
 all 90 per cent of football.

Knocking on Wood!

with JOHN H. HARWOOD
 INFORMALLY SPEAKING:
 "Good breeding consists in con-
 cealing how much we think of
 ourselves and how little we think
 of the other person." — Mark
 Twain.
 The girl who thinks no man in
 the world is good enough for her
 may be right, but sometimes she
 is left.
 "It requires a good eye now-
 days to tell where a nudist colony
 ends and a bathing beach begins."
 —Norfolk, Virginia, Pilot.
 If water evaporated from our
 oceans did not return as rain they
 would dry up in 3,000 years. Bet-
 ter book passage early if you're
 considering a trip to Hawaii or
 Europe.
 First the Royal Oak was sunk
 and the City of Flint seized. Duk-
 e, everybody, Birmingham may be
 next.

For Public Speakers
 Mrs. Roosevelt, after this
 commentator feels perfectly free
 to give them advice. We spent
 several days at Ann Arbor last
 week and heard a good many
 speeches. A large study of the
 audience and the attention paid
 to the speaker showed that the
 value of illustrations and
 anecdotes. In publishing it has
 been said that one good picture
 is worth a thousand words; the
 same applies to the elocutionist.
 The speaker who does not con-
 face an audience hungry for bits
 from the personal lives of the
 Great, but rather talk about the
 few such morsels. But how we ad-
 mire her perfect composure as
 she faced over 5,000 people!

**Random
 Remarks**

Herbert Lehman, Governor, New
 York:
 "The cant parties should for the
 present forget politics."
 William R. Castle, Under Secre-
 tary of State under President
 Hoover:
 "From the beginning I disapprov-
 ed the arm embargo as utterly
 useless in keeping us out of
 war."
 Norman Thomas, Socialist:
 "To build up an immense trade
 with one group of belligerents and
 not with another is an act of eco-
 nomic warfare."
 Clarence K. Streit, author of "Un-
 ion Now":
 "The dream of Stalin requires
 repeated frank lessons in Russia."
 Frank L. Perrin, author:
 "Democracy cannot be imposed
 by force or by treaty."
 Robert A. Taft, U. S. Senator
 from Ohio:
 "The stay-out of the Euro-
 pean war if we want to."

Arthur H. Vandenberg, U. S. Sen-
 ator from Michigan:
 "This is not our war."
 Maurice Duval, French General:
 "We must expect in the not
 very distant future a violent push
 on our frontier."
 Gustav Gloff, Research specialist
 for American oil company:
 "Not the guns of France or
 Great Britain, but the 'knocking
 out' of her airplane motors will tell
 the doom of Germany in this war."
 J. W. Studebaker, U. S. Commis-
 sioner of Motor Vehicles

AS WE'RE SENDING HIM
 TO COLLEGE
 "Put no more in the pocket than it will
 hold."
 OCTOBER
 28—The city of Philadelphia
 was chartered, 1701.
 30—Turkey signed the armis-
 tice agreement, 1918.
 NOVEMBER
 1—Benvenuto Cellini's
 bust of Catherine
 1500.
 2—The state of Kansas
 adopted prohibition,
 1880.
 3—Pablo Picasso visited
 King George VI in
 throne of Greece, 1935.
 4—Samuel Seabury, first
 bishop in U. S., con-
 secrated, 1794.

WABEEK STATE BANK OF DETROIT
 FRIENDLY BANK
 To Further
 Serve Our
 Community
 WE NOW MAKE
 AUTOMOBILE LOANS
 PERSONAL LOANS
 MODERNIZATION LOANS
 F.H.A. MORTGAGE LOANS
 Reasonable Interest Rates—Favorable Repayment Terms
 YOU NEED NOT BE A DEPOSITOR
 Call or write any of our offices for complete information

WABEEK STATE BANK OF DETROIT
 MAIN OFFICE IN THE FISHER BUILDING
 DOWNTOWN OFFICE IN THE FORD BUILDING
 BRANCHES IN BIRMINGHAM - FERRAIDE