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THURSDAY, AUGUST 29, 1940

NOTE: The Eccentric is pleased to publish stories of events which have local and national interest. All copy must be accompanied by a return address. The Eccentric is not responsible for the return of unsolicited material.

Who Is O. L. Smith? O. L. Smith, known to his friends throughout the state as "O. L.," was born in Union City, Brant Co., Ont., Canada.

He is one of the two Republican representatives who have been elected from Wayne county since 1936. Even before that he gained a particularly good education in state government by serving four years as executive secretary to former-Governor Alex J. Groesbeck.

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Mr. Eaton is not a "politician" type of individual. A politician tries to guess what the majority is going to do and then jumps that way. The thinking of Mr. Eaton type come out for what they think is right.

Since public schools closed down late last spring, important changes have taken place in the world. Adolf Hitler's legions have blitzkrieged their way through the Low Countries and France, and continental Europe. A new preparedness program has been launched in the United States.

Mr. Smith has served for many, many years on the official board of the Methodist church, has served on the board of Directors of the Michigan Children's Aid Society, as lay delegate to conference, and has always been a leader in his church affairs.

Mr. Smith is an energetic, fearless fighter for clean government. He is the City Commission impudic to those who attend its meeting? In a letter in last week's Eccentric, a reader expressed the view that the City Fathers were "in it for the money."

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People of Michigan do not have to be told how important the office of lieutenant governor is to the state. As one commentator remarked, "For E. R. Eaton, it is a heart beat between that office and the governorship itself."

Of the eight candidates seeking nomination for this important office on the Republican ticket at the coming primary election, there is one whom we personally know has the necessary qualifications.

That man is Elton R. Eaton, editor of the Michigan Association of Public Schools. During the years we have known Mr. Eaton, he has never straddled an important issue; he has kept himself entirely free from any suspicion of dishonesty; he has demonstrated time and again that he is a hard worker and a determined fighter.

He has been and still is an outspoken critic of the kind of state government we have in Michigan. Several times he has introduced measures which might have paved the way for a political clean-up, only to have them killed in committee—or elsewhere.

But even the qualities mentioned above are not necessarily enough. A candidate for lieutenant governor must know plenty about the mechanics of legislative procedure, and be well acquainted with the men who operate the legislative mill.

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Schools Prepare to Defend Democracy By New Emphasis on Citizenship

By GENE ALLEMAN Michigan Press Association

LANSING—To Dictators Hitler, Mussolini and Stalin who dream of world control, the answer of Michigan public schools is this: "Defend democracy through education."

While news headlines stress armaments, Michigan educators quietly push plans for a long-range defense of democracy through an intensive program of citizenship training in every Michigan community.

The little red schoolhouse of "Country Schoolmaster" literary lore has been replaced in some parts of the state by the modern consolidated school. Yet as a symbol of free education it remains the American suburb against the new flood of European ideologies.

It is a startling realization of the march of events has extended. Here is the reasoning behind the Michigan school movement.

On March 14, 1936, the German Fuehrer declared: "I do not believe there can be peace among the nations until they all have the same law and system of law. That law will someday extend over the world. That is no fantastic dream, but an achievable object."

"In America we are going to fight for our idealism through the classroom and community, or both, and whatever the future may be, we must be ready for it."

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Knocking on Wood! THE big question before the British, and before the Administration here, as well as: Will Hitler soon order an invasion of Britain? A most important question, and one which has been discussed in circles of the Nazi high command, for when a policy so important is under consideration, unanimity of opinion would be impossible. What does it mean to the United States?

From a political standpoint, the longer invasion is delayed, and the longer the war term has in its present state of blockade by blockade and aerial raiding, the less will the crisis seem in the United States, and the smaller will be President Roosevelt's chances of winning a third term.

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What we find a little time for winning the election, Mr. Roosevelt would hold today, he would be victorious, the latest polls have shown.

One commentator wrote the other day that President Wilson failed to win the election because he was not picked and eaten immediately, for in standing the sugar they contain rapidly turn to starch.

One Source of Strength Whatever the nation's preparedness is important; and whoever is elected, he deserves reasonable support at times like these.

Debate a Hot Potato Debate fast and furious rage in Congress over the peace-time draft bill. There are plenty of good arguments on both sides.

People vs. Politicians The Michigan Constitution League, backed by politicians afraid to come out in the open, has been organized to combat the proposed system amendment to the State Constitution.

Strong Talk, Brother The world's fastest airplane was shown last week; also the world's largest, but writers in magazines in the East, like Life, bemoan that "all is lost" for the instant sapping of (Continued on Page 3, Part 2)

Financial Dilemma Also in the education for democracy picture is a realization by educators that public schools face more tough competition for public funds.

Strictly Fresh A POLL shows only one person in eight remembers anything of the contents of the major parties' platforms. "The liar."

Five Years Ago On August 29, 1935 Ernest Bailey, 64 year old janitor at the First National Bank had only partially recovered today from the effects of imitating cyanide.

Auto Loans - New on Used - Low Rates BUY INSURANCE FROM YOUR OWN AGENT The cost may be added to your balance

Wabek State Bank of Detroit BIRMINGHAM OFFICE—WABEEK BLDG. FERNDALE OFFICE—141 WEST NINE MILE RD. MAIN OFFICE—FISHER BLDG., DETROIT DOWNTOWN OFFICE—FORD BLDG.