

### Socialistic Power Projects

Directed by the cold, predatory and politically-minded hand of federal bureaucracy, the Socialistic State is taking over the United States.

In many, many areas of our business, professional, educational and economic lives the tyranny of remote federal controls is hijacking the way into free, private enterprise. This has been going on for many years.

However, since the New Deal took over in the early Thirties, Washington, D.C., has become the central point for the birth of the Authoritarian State. During these hectic years, often in the name of "emergency," the federal boys and girls have been stripping the States of their Constitutional rights, and with this movement toward centralized controls comes the loss of individual and corporate freedom.

Nowhere has this Socialized State entered the wedge of its philosophy more than in the realm of electric power.

IN THE NAME OF "flood control," it has created—at the taxpayer's expense huge water storage basins, each with its hydro-electric power plant, producing current and selling it at a loss. This loss, of course, is met by additional taxation, plus the fact that in arriving at its cost the usual investment, depreciation, etc., charges are not entered on its tricky books.

In 1935 Congress set up the Rural Electrification Administration to bring electricity to the farmers of the nation. Properly operated, this agency can and has, in certain areas, done an acceptable job.

But when the federal government, at taxpayers' expense, creates power projects that invade long-established private power company territories, here you see Socialism at its bureaucratic worst. We could write many columns upon the general subject, but won't. All we need point out is that when an agency of government, dominated by "politicians," competes with private enterprise, the latter group generally loses out, and the public suffers in the long run.

### Good Work, Howard!

Ten years ago Howard D. Crull went from Birmingham to assume the superintendency of the Port Huron, Mich. public schools. The job that awaited him there was a difficult one.

Port Huron's schools were not capable of meeting the educational needs of the youth of that community. The school district had within it certain groups antagonistic to a fuller development of Port Huron's educational standards.

A few weeks ago leading citizens of Port Huron put a surprise dinner for Mr. Crull and his loyal wife, Ann, during which praise was heaped upon the honor guest for his work as superintendent. Special emphasis was made upon Mr. Crull's personal courage in standing up against the antagonisms and prejudices of certain groups there, to the end that Port Huron's youth could have better educational methods, plus sufficient new school space in which to flourish them.

THE EDITOR OF this newspaper is happy to record, for local readers, the progress Mr. Crull has made during his 10 years in Port Huron. We know much about the problems that confronted him while he was, for a brief time, superintendent of Birmingham's public schools.

Congratulations, Howard! . . . and the same to you, too, Ann!  
May your next 10 years, or 20, or 50

—wherever you are—be attended with success; success not only in the inner knowledge that, whatever the odds may be, you measure up to that stalwartness of head and heart that alone can achieve worthy objectives in the public interest.

### Anarchy Close at Hand

Anarchy—"the state of society where there is no law or supreme power"—reigned for 25 days on the New England water front, as rebel dock workers disobeyed their union leaders. At the peak of the "strike" 114 boats were tied up.

This shows what happens when "a mob" takes over, knowing that leaders of government are afraid to maintain law and order, because of "politics."  
Yes, the U.S.A. is on the dangerous threshold of losing more of its freedom . . . always the result when men forsake the traditions of honor and integrity in public office.

### From Our Point of View

Sometimes we wish that George Washington and Thomas Jefferson could come back to the United States and look over the remains of the great republic they visioned us to become, and to remain. Washington would find the dollar so much less in weight that he couldn't throw it across the Rappahannock river, and Jefferson would have to get out a search warrant to find out where his ideal of States' Rights disappeared to.

When President Truman retires to his Missouri farm, we earnestly hope he learns how to enjoy his remaining years. Regardless of what history may make of his administration of federal government, he certainly worked hard at it. When he pens his memoirs, we hope he'll get close enough to the beat in his soul to write things that will help and uplift his countrymen. Being a practical politician often spoils otherwise nice people.

### So They Say . . .

Harry S. Truman: "We must never forget that the purpose of our strength is to bring peace, not war."

Herbert C. Bonner, Member of Congress from North Carolina: "We have got to get over the idea that American wealth is inexhaustible."

Dwight D. Eisenhower, General of the Army: "I have never had any political aspirations . . . period."

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### ONE THING OR ANOTHER

By George Wm. Averill

SURVEY RATINGS WON'T STAND COMPARISON

Newspapers, like other businesses, have to be constantly on the alert for promotion which seem on the surface to be worthwhile enterprises but which, upon closer examination, are of doubtful value.  
The Birmingham Eccentric, over the past few months, has been contacted repeatedly by newspaper research bureau in the East to buy 25 copies of a report—\$1 per copy—which shows the rating of each newspaper based on its local news, local advertising circulation and advertising rate.  
Purpose behind this state-by-state evaluation is reportedly to provide national advertisers with a guide in the selection of weekly newspapers for advertising purposes.

IN ADVANCE, free, marked copy of the report, I notice The Eccentric was given an "AAA" rating, which is the highest rating contained in the report. A number of other state papers also were placed in this highest classification (The lowest "mark" apparently used for any newspaper was "C").  
Among our newspaper exchanges are some of the newspapers rated "AAA." Only one seemed to have bought copies of the report and therefore felt (or was given

permission) to publicize this rating—which it did.  
In spite of possible criticism of "professional jealousy," I certainly would not place this one exchange newspaper in the same class with the other fine "AAA" exchanges and The Eccentric. You would only need to compare them with the other fine papers and I'd bet you a steak dinner, you'd agree with me.  
THIS IS by no means a criticism of the manner in which that single newspaper covers its particular community.  
It only indicates, in my estimation—and undoubtedly in the estimation of the other editors in the state who refused to buy the report—that the survey does not make a sound comparison of the newspapers it reviews.  
Therefore, I would caution national advertising agency executives from relying wholly on the report as the basis for apportioning their advertising campaigns. They would not be getting their money's worth if they did, in my estimation.

KLOCKMIST ARTHUR CROOME, quoting Bernard M. Barre, attributes the award of "AAA" to a lawyer friend, has come forward with new study on government—seminars. Terms and

their interpretation follow:  
To expedite. To confound confusion with commotion.  
Consultant or expert. The guy who has a desk between two expedients.  
To activate. To make carbons and add more names to the memo.  
To implement a program. Hire more people and expand the office.  
Under consideration. Never heard of it.  
Under active consideration. We're looking in the files for it.  
Reorientation. Getting used to working again.  
Reliable source. The man you just met.  
Unimpeachable source. The man who started the rumor originally.  
A clarification. To fill in the background with so many details that the foreground goes underground.  
We are making a survey. We need more time to think of an answer.  
Point up the issue. To expand one page to fifteen pages.  
A conference. Where conversation is substituted for the drudgery of labor and the loneliness of thought.

### People's Column

The Eccentric has a letter for you. It is a notice that was formerly lived on Villa road, actually we lived at 1231 Yosemite but Villa was in our subdivision. Grandpa doesn't make much difference.

To the Editor: I read in your paper of November 15, a notice that was formerly lived on Villa road, actually we lived at 1231 Yosemite but Villa was in our subdivision. Grandpa doesn't make much difference.

We have missed Birmingham since moving to Ohio.  
Mrs. Miller is now in California with her family. Grandpa Miller is in Cincinnati trying to do a job.  
You never realize the ease with which you live in Birmingham, Michigan, until you move to some other town. The Commissioners, its Mayor and the City Manager, I think, are the finest. The small merchants who have grown along with the city are doing a good job and the Community Home was very enjoyable to us also. I hope that it is still operating in full form.

THE PEOPLE of Birmingham seem to be a little different than most of the people surrounding this town. They are very friendly and tend to make other people's lives a little easier.  
We discuss leaving Birmingham several weeks before we decided to move.  
Mrs. Miller and I will always have a warm place in our hearts for your town and I hope that you and your paper will keep up its activities.  
ERNEST MILLER, Cincinnati, Ohio.

To the Editor: Since the passing of my father, Mr. Mather, M.D., who back about the turn of the century owned a residence on Woodward avenue near Brown street and my sanitarium on the corner of Brown and Southfield road, I have been going to pen a few lines to the Birmingham Eccentric about something I found in rummaging through his old desk that he had written to me.  
Here getting down to the real purpose of this letter, I want to mention that I really enjoy your stories. They are timely and should be read by all and agreed with by right thinking and right living Americans.

I look forward each week to The Birmingham Eccentric for some enjoyable reading and am proud that the city in which I was born in 1899 has such a fine newspaper and one that encourages character building and the up-building of morals.  
THE "SOMETHING" I found in rummaging through my late father's old desk is a small booklet entitled "Constitution and By-Laws of the Birmingham M.A. and Fishing Club, Birmingham, Michigan." It is dated 1901 and printed by the Birmingham Eccentric Press.  
This Constitution and By-Laws was adopted at a regular meeting held at National Hotel, January 5, 1901 and committee on Constitution and By-Laws were A. E. Greuber, Austin Parks, M. B. Dennis.  
If any of these gentlemen or anyone else who was a member of this old club wishes this booklet or you have a historical society in Birmingham for such old "relics," I will gladly send on to what ever suggestion seems fitting.  
CARROLL JAMES MATHER, 280 South Gratiot, Mount Clemens, Mich.

To the Editor: Last Saturday I took my children Dickie, age 6; Barbara, age 3, and a neighbor's boy, Chuckie, age 7, to a Birmingham movie matinee.  
It was a very pleasant experience until the newsreel was shown—what happened then really stunned me. When the President of the United States appeared on the screen, loud boos came from the children in the audience. And they continued until Mr. Truman finished speaking.  
Do you know what was happening to these fine children? They were hating a man for apparently no reason. They didn't know why they hated him, but they hated him anyway.

I AM SURE their minds were not developed to the extent that they could understand such things as: our foreign policy, the mink coat incident, irregularities in the Internal Revenue Service, or the policies of the Office of Price Stabilization. I am sure these children couldn't have analyzed these complex situations and all arrived at the same conclusion; they all disagreed violently with Mr. Truman.  
They picked up this hate, I kind of suspect, from their homes. Away from the lack of respect toward the President of the United States, but even this is permitted unless, unfortunately, they were taught, unintentionally, to hate violently someone whom they knew little or nothing of.

YOU KNOW, parents, it doesn't take an intellectual giant to see that in Republican Birmingham Mr. Truman isn't very popular. However, this doesn't give us the right to hate the President so violently that we contaminate our children. Let's think of that the next time we sound off against the President.  
Give the kids a break. I'm sure we'll be glad that we did.  
CHESTER S. BOLEX, 1884 Humphrey.

Birthdays, anniversaries, guests, births, parties are all news—the society editor about them.

Want ads cannot be accepted after 5 p.m. each Tuesday.

### The Old Master Painter



### 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.

#### 50 YEARS AGO

November 29, 1901  
This is the day that a good, lively turkey might well sit down and weep for some 61,475,522 lost relatives.

Here! I want another school marm. Any real good teacher out of a situation can hear of a good place near the village by calling on George Mitchell at the ECCENTRIC office.

At the county federation of women's clubs held last week Mrs. Durkee of Pontiac made a very eloquent plea to get the support of all clubs in having half fares for school children restored on the United Railway lines. The higher fares work a hardship on

families of many children who must use the lines daily.

The Episcopal Sunday School celebrated the arrival of a fine new library last Friday evening. A library of 140 volumes was opened and the event marked a pleasant social occasion at which ice cream and other delicacies were consumed with appreciation.

Our deer hunters are home safe and sound and dispensing venison around with a lavish hand. Twenty-nine deer, all hanging in A. R. Park's shop, make an imposing display of venison.

#### 20 YEARS AGO

December 3, 1931

A basket party will be sponsored by the local American Legion



### For A Very Merry Christmas Join Our Christmas Club

Yes, it's no trouble at all to assure yourself the most delightful Yuletide season ever, next year! Don't delay a moment! Join our convenient Christmas Club today! And see what wonderful results are yours! A tiny deposit each week—and next November we present you a check that includes the total of your savings. It's a check sure to be plentiful for gifts for every one of your friends and every member of your family! No strain on your budget! No one omitted—due to lack of gift funds! Don't put this fun-assuring Christmas Club plan aside—come in—become a member today!

THE BIRMINGHAM NATIONAL BANK  
BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN  
Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation  
Member Federal Reserve System

on Dec. 11, proceeds of which will be directed for welfare work in the village. Admittance will be a 50 cent ticket and a bunch basket filled with groceries. Dancing and games are planned.

A reduction of about \$8,000 in the village payroll will be obtained through salary cuts recommended by Village Manager James Parry. Two employees, Phillip Schlaack, street superintendent, and Mrs. Alice Haldane, policeman, are being dropped from the roll.

"Newsies" will start selling their wares within the next few days as the annual Goodfellow drive gets under way. All vicinity papers will be sold by the "Old Newsboys" whose aim is to supply Christmas gifts for unfortunate.

A loan of \$50,000 for the Birmingham board of education has been granted by a Detroit Bank. District officials feel this amount will carry school finances until tax payments are again being received.

A new zoning ordinance, adopted by Bloomfield Hills Village, will permit the construction of multiple dwelling units for the first time.

5 YEARS AGO  
December 5, 1946  
A 6-0 defeat Thanksgiving day

left the "Little Brown Jug" representing the local businessmen-bowling Royal Oak football team for the third consecutive year. The more than 5,000 fans at Press Field saw one of the best games staged between the Birmingham Royal Oak rivals in many years.

Ray Peck has done the impossible. The local businessmen-bowler converted a 7-10 split while bowling on the Bloomfield Hills recreational alley last week. Peck is a member of the local inter-church league.

Paul N. Averill will be chairman of the Birmingham men's groups in the county division of the Woodward General hospital building fund campaign. Ten men will be assigned to each of the 13 teams to cover the county for solicitations.

Birmingham school children are preparing for their third annual drive to collect shoes to be sent to Europe's needy children. The overseas shipment will be made through facilities of the Save the Children Federation.

The brownout declared to conserve electrical power, will not stop the lighting of the family Christmas tree according to Capt. D. S. Leonard, state fuel administrator. Capt. Leonard said trees inside homes could be lighted as usual.

CHRISTMAS GREETING CARDS  
59c to \$1.00  
BIRMINGHAM DRUGS  
9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Daily  
9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Sunday  
1220 S. Woodward MI 4-3215