Mark Twain on "Guv'ment, Elections"

Mark Twain, our greatest humorist, died before there was an income tax. But he

saw what was coming.

Following are some of his salty comments on "Guv'ment," taxes, Congress, ments on "Guv'ment," taxes, Congress, and the highway robbery of one another—called "elections:"

"What is the difference between a taxidermist and a tax collector? The taxider-mist takes only your skin."
"The political morals of the U.S. are not

merely food for laughter. They are an en-

"We live in a country where there is no end to the laws, and no beginning in executing them.'

"Parliaments sit in chains forged by eir constituents."

"If you would learn what the human race is at bottom, observe it on Election Day."

"IT'S HARD TO FIND men so moral

that they'll stay bought."

"Public servant: Persons chosen by the people to distribute the graft."

"Fleas can be taught nearly everything that a Congressman can." "Congress does more crazy things with a graver earnestness than any State Leg-

"We have made many additions to the pension list, the sole purpose of which is the purchase of votes."

"The mania for giving the Guv'ment power to meddle in the private affairs of citizens is apt to cause trouble."

"We are likely to sink to the German or Frenchman who would regulate every act of humanity from the cradle to the

The foregoing are from a new book.

MARK TWAIN AND THE GOVERNMENT, published by Caxton Printers.

From The Eccentric's Point of View ...

One of the real "gifts" of one of the TV networks is manifest in the programs staged by the New York Philharmonic, with Leonard Bernstein as conductor. This competent and very talented young man does a wonderful job in explaining (so an average layman can understand) some of the techniques and technicalities of the art and science of harmonics. We hope he will never lack a sponsor, thus enabling him and his great orchestra to appear before the public. Music always has been an international language of good

will . . . and Bernstein & Co. really know

The human ear was fashioned for something other than providing a convenient place from which to hang eye glasses. The ear's most valuable contribution to man-kind's progress is for the practice of listening . . . even listening to the words spoken by another, without interrupting the speaker. Indeed, is it not true that to be in the presence of a polite listener, you appreciate such an audience?

> GEORGE R. AVERILL Editor and Publisher PAUL NEAL AVERILL Business Manager GEORGE WM. AVERILL Managing Editor DAVID F. GIBB dvertising Manag

The Birmingham Ercentric

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ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

It will be some years yet before those of us who remain behind really can evaluate the contribution which Dwight B. Ireland has made to the Birmingham public ol system.

It was a second-class system when he arrived here that summer day in 1942. He arrived here that summer day in 1942. Was hired to be principal at Baldwin school. Before he could take that job, the board of education tapped him for the superintendency. Ireland's predecessor had/suddenly taken a job as superintendent of nearby Highland Park schools.

enty of nearby Highland Park schools.

Thus it was that the then 42-year-old Ireland stepped into the biggest assignment of his life. His family had wanted him to become a doctor, as had other Irelands before him.

BUT DWIGHT FOUND HIS niche in education, although he was 26 when he received his bachelor of arts degree from Ohio State University. Three years later he obtained his MA, followed in 1938 by his PhD, also from OSU.

He began his teaching in Fostoria (Ohio) high school as a science instructor. Then a year as a graduate assistant at Southern California. He returned to his hometown of Washington Court House, Ohio, where he was high school principal for seven

He had been an assistant professor of education for four years at University of Rochester, N.Y., where he was asked to come to Birmingham.

FROM THE DAY HE ARRIVED here, Dwight Ireland dedicated himself to the Birmingham schools. This was his one big opportunity to contribute his best to public school education.

He spent long hours in his office, with

his faculty and staff, and in the buildings under his responsibility. He was a oneman show, to put it plainly. Ireland is the type of individual—and their name is legion—who feels responsibility very deeply, who finds it most difficult to delegate

Therefore, he did most of the work him-self. As the school district became larger, and the student population increased rapidly, Ireland found himself spending longer and longer hours at his desk,

MANY TIMES A PASSERBY could note the light burning in the corner office of the Hill administration building long after midnight.

Ireland still was at his desk.

About six years ago, several school

board members became concerned about the load he had personally assigned him-

"Dwight, you'll kill yourself going on like this," they argued.

"Get yourself some assistants and let them help you."
Well, it was a difficult job for Ireland to let go some of this work. So by necessity and at the insistence of others, he subsequently developed a capable staff of deputies, and assigned them important jobs. It took him several years to accomplish this.

IRELAND'S SCRUPULOUS REGARD for facts and figures was put in good use in the developing and financing of faculty, curriculum and construction improvements the expanding system required.

Under his supervision, a \$20 million school building expansion program was carried out. His carefully prepared and estimated needs have been uncannily ac-

However, during these years, Ireland made only a few strong friends—but his opponents' ranks grew.

A strong administrator cannot make

decisions and carry out a dedicated program without making enmities.

DURING THE 18 YEARS, these enmities have built up to the point where he feels today his program is largely suspect. Therefore, he will be leaving us August 1.

Although Ireland had many strengths (which will be difficult to replace), no man is indispensable. A very capable successor will be located, I have no fear.

I have known Dwight Ireland for 14 of his 18 years in Birmingham. We have had our differences, for I have not always agreed with some of his viewpoints, particularly regarding intercommunication between school administration and school board with the constituency.

HOWEVER, I GREATLY ADMIRE his dedication to his objective, I respect his knowledge of educational matter, I long for the energy he puts into his work, and I appreciate the great contribution he has to this community and its public

I only wish Dwight Ireland had gone down fighting for his educational program with as much effort as he has put into its

However, this will not tarnish the outstanding job he has done as an educator.



Nature Now Is on Page 5-B

PEOPLE'S COLUMN

Ex-B of E Member Recalls Ireland's Contributions

To the Editor:

Every Monday since I moved away it has been my delight to read The Eccentric. During the last few weeks, my eagerness to open it has changed to dismay over the mounting school problems.

Over the years The Eccentric has given fine school covertage, almost without exception it has been concerned withing elections, a teacher who has done some

Senois proteins.

Over the years The Eccentric has given fine school coverage, almost without exception it has been concerned with unusual activities, elections, a teacher who has done something notable or induction to the season of the heading has given fine a clear picture when the source of the heading has given fine a clear picture what is going on.

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school boards association conference at the Kelloug Center. Each Claims Resident
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WE WERE licky. We had a man with skills in every aspect of administration. We were not specialists and needed advice in many

and the control of th

Happenings of Long Ago

Bits of News Gleaned From Old Files Of The Eccentric

50 YEARS AGO
May 6, 1910
"Farmers are complaining about thankful that he is allive and OK ago is interfering with their spiring of the tanker he was on and spendwork and will make crops late, ing 18 days in an open boat in the little in the past two weeks because of the almost continuous ram. We is a standing on most of the little in the past two weeks because of the almost continuous ram. We is a standing on most of the little in the past two weeks because of the almost continuous ram. We is a standing on most of the little in the past two weeks because of the almost continuous ram. We is a standing on most of the fields.

"The population of Pontiac it is expected will surely reach the 15,000 figure, when the census enumerators get done with their work. Birmingham ought to tip the beam at 1,500 easily."

"The re-opening of the National tel took place last Monday."

"Miss M. Baldwin on her return rom her Washington D.C. trip eports a very pleasant trip."

30 YEARS AGO
May 8, 1930
"The village of Birmingham, with a population of 9,590 according to the official preliminary figures, has shown an increased growth of almost 200 per cent since 1920 when the population was 3,694..."

was 3,694 ..."
"More than \$2,000 loss was sus-ained by A. L. Kirby, huntsman at the Bloomfield Open Hunt club, flursday, when his home on the club property on Long Lake road was razed by fire." 15 YEARS AGO May 3, 1945 "Phil Pollock, with the m

STRICTLY FRESH It's one thing to itch for some-thing. It's another to scratch for it.

Inflation is the one thing that people are down on that's on the up and up.



WHAT DOES **B**. **C**. **P**. **A**.



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JOHN MOSS FLORIST 243 West Maple Ave. F. J. MULHOLLAND CO. 233 N. Woodward Ave. PRINCETON PREP SHOP R. B. SHOPS 142 West Maple Ave

SHERMAN SHOES 115 West Maple Ave.

UNUSUALS
150 West Maple Ave.
VILLAGE SPORT & HOBBY
(MeBride Hdw!)
151 S. Woodward Ave.
THE VILLAGE STORE
205 Pierce St.
WILSON DRUG CO.
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- *REAR-ENGINE TRACTION that comes with the engine's weight bearing down on the rear wheels. Why be a stick in the mud (or snow or sluch) with anything else when you can dig in and go with Corvair?
- * NO FUSSING WITH ANTIFREEZE or water or radiator repairs or water pumps. Corvair's air-cooled engine has nothing to do with 'em.
- * PRACTICALLY FLAT FLOOR ... front and rear. Room for your feet, even if you're sitting in the middle. Who but Corvair remembers your feet
- * ALMOST INSTANT HEAT . . . from an airplane-type heater. You don't have to wait for the engine to warm up-Corvair's heater warms in 30 seconds. Optional at extra cost.

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