

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, and the highway robbery of one another—called "elections."

"What is the difference between a taxidermist and a tax collector? The taxidermist takes only your skin."

"The political morals of the U.S. are not merely food for laughter. They are an entire banquet."

"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 their 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

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

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 Legislature."

"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 tomb."

The foregoing are from a new book, MARK TWAIN AND THE GOVERNMENT, published by Caxton Printers.

will ... and Bernstein & Co. really know how to speak it!

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 mankind'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?

The Birmingham Eccentric

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"Shouldn't We All Start Paddling?"



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 coverage, almost without exception it has been concerned with unusual activities, elections, a teacher who has done something notable or a student's honors or laboratory progress.

Without any other information, the thorough, two-sided coverage in your recent issues (though I winced at some headlines) has given me a clear picture of what is going on.

DURING MY TWO terms on the board of education, I attended many financial committee meetings in Lansing with Dr. Dwight H. Ireland, and for four consecutive years the annual three-day school boards association conference at the Kellogg Center, East Lansing.

I became acquainted with many Michigan superintendents and board members and always returned home in a glow of pride at the high respect and admiration for Dr. Ireland which was held by all those in the state who had to do with school systems.

The commonest phrase was, "You in Birmingham are so lucky."

WE WERE lucky. We had a man with skills in every aspect of administration. We were not specialists and needed advice in many areas.

I can never remember asking a question on any phase of this multi-million dollar business, that Dwight Ireland could not answer at once without needing to go for references or to other people.

The manifold problems became so day-consuming that most of his evenings were spent on a paper work which kept him informed of the myriad details.

EVERY CHILD who has gone through the Birmingham system has an immeasurable advantage toward his future because of the superintendent who so ably staffed and structured his schools.

By answer another, "Former Resident" (unsigned) the letter writer says, "There is no one indispensable—not even Mr. Ireland." This is true. There are many

marine for almost a year, arrived home Tuesday morning, rather thankful that he is alive and OK after experiencing the torpedoing of the tanker he was on and spending 18 days in an open boat in the South Atlantic."

STRICTLY FRESH

It's one thing to itch for something. It's another to scratch for it.

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

30 YEARS AGO
May 8, 1920
"The village of Birmingham, with a population of 9,990 according to official preliminary figures, has shown an increased growth of almost 200 per cent since 1902 when the population was 3,994."

More than \$2,000 loss was sustained by L. Kirby, burglar at the Bloomfield Open Hunt club, Thursday, when his home on the club property on Long Lake road was razed by fire.

15 YEARS AGO
May 3, 1915
"Phil Pollock, with the merchant

Happenings of Long Ago

Bits of News Gleaned From Old Files Of The Eccentric

30 YEARS AGO
May 8, 1920
"Farmers are complaining about the continued rainfall which they say is interfering with their spring work and will make crops late. They have been unable to do but little in the past two weeks because of the almost continuous rain. Water is standing on most of the fields."

The population of Pontiac 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 hotel took place last Monday."

"Miss M. Baldwin on her return from her Washington D.C. trip reports a very pleasant trip."

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A head for figures has landed many a man behind the eight-ball.

The trouble with loafing at the time is that you can never take a rest from it.

For most people the resolve to write faithfully becomes just another uncertain item.

WHAT DOES B. C. P. A. MEAN TO YOU... ?

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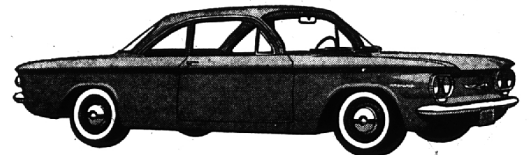
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- | | | |
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DEVON GABLES
Telegraph & Long Lake
DOUGLAS CLEANERS
268 West Maple Ave.
HIGGINS & FRANK
551 S. Woodward Ave.
LAKE JEWELERS
Woodward at Maple | JOHN MOSS FLOREST
243 West Maple Ave.
F. J. MULLHOLLAND CO.
203 N. Woodward Ave.
PRINCETON PREP SHOP
237 Pierce St.
R. B. SHOOPS
142 West Maple Ave.
SHEPHERD SHOES
115 West Maple Ave. | UNUSUALS
150 West Maple Ave.
VILLAGE SPORT & HOBBY
(McBride Bldg)
151 S. Woodward Ave.
THE VILLAGE STORE
205 Pierce St.
WILSON DRUG CO.
Woodward at Maple
YOUNG'S OF BIRMINGHAM
203 Pierce St. |
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