THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC

ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR IN ADVANCE
WHITEHEAD & MITCHELL, PUBS.
BIRMINGHAM, FRIDAY, MAY 28.

CANNOT HOLD UP PUBLIC BUSINESS

DRY TRUSTEES MUST SERVE OR GO TO JAIL, SAYS THE JUDGE.

TREASURER IS MISSING

Nature is just as green as she looks. Now, punish all who violate the cocaine law.

Underground trolley wires never blow down.

Perhaps a little benzoate of soda would help in preserving the peace in the Balkans.

Just about the time a man gets a woman's waist line comfortably located, she moves it.

Here is where the baseball language begins to be substituted for less picturesque vehicles of expression.

What fun our grandchildren will have looking back at the hats their female ancestors wore!

If dogs save more lives than they cut short, what kind of a protective measure is it to kill the dogs?

The south pole crossed its fingers just as the Shackleton - explorers started on the last dash of 111 miles.

A poet has just died in Denmark leaving $1,000,000. We presume he dallied with the Muses as a side issue.

"Preachers," says the Brooklyn Eagle, "are not infallible." Why, no. They contradict each other frequently.

The preacher who insists that women shall take their hats off in church is dooming himself to slim congregations.

Camille Flammarion's next producing well is a mighty fine idea, but the chesty coal men still decline to be stampeded.

While we are condemning the man who rocks the boat, why not include the nervous woman who trails her hand in the water?

The man who kills another through reckless auto-driving has committed as serious a crime as though his weapon were a knife or gun.

Now that a fertilizer trust is being organized, of course something ought to be said about such an organization probably being in bad odor—but let it pass.

A New York paper publishes an editorial on "Why Girls Leave Home." In the majority of cases they go because they are invited by young men to do so.

It isn't going to be any easter for a gentleman leaving a banquet at 2 a. m. to call for a "tetrahedral kite" than it is for him to say that he wants a "taxicab."

It is not worth while to speculate concerning those canals on Mars until the astronomers have agreed among themselves whether or not they really are canals.

A lemon famine is threatened. This is not alarming, however. The fruit has been too freely handed out of late to make its scarcity a subject of general regret.

A speedy and highly satisfactory way to wreck an aeroplane seems to be to send it up without an occupant. We are making scientific progress, locally, every day.

No doubt, when some Chicago or Wall street financier has perfected a way to corner the oxygen in the atmosphere we shall be permitted the luxury of protesting, at least.

The truth is the hats only look like peachbaskets; if they really were peach baskets they could be bought for 11 cents a dozen, instead of costing an average of $15.33 each.

Down in Mexico there are some people who do not want Diaz for president again, but they take the precaution to come north of the Rio Grande before giving expression to their sentiments.

Diaz started in to be president of Mexico away back in 1877, and, with the exception of one intervening term, has been president ever since. The grand old man has made some history during those years.

Premier Asquith describes Edward VII. as "a great national asset." Yes, he is very popular with the masses, and lives strictly up to the constitutional principle that "the king reigns but does not govern."

Rev. Dr. McPherson may be right in asserting that the man who fails to pay his street car fare because the conductor has overlooked him is acting a lie, but there is another side to the matter, as one passenger found out when he tendered a fare that had been missed and was privately "called down" by the conductor for the proceeding. "When you do that," the latter said, "you may be calling the attention of an inspector or spotter to my carelessness and will get me a reprimand. Don't do it again."

Owing to the fact that a Dreadsought might be constructed with the money it would cost to communicate with Mars, it is not likely that that and will inaugurate any movement for the purpose of getting on speaking terms with our stellar neighbors.

Russia is now pardoning its naval commanders who surrendered to the Japanese. No one thought they would ever be punished, and the czar's government was alone to blame that the navy was in rotten condition when the war began.

Some dreamers will invent things that nobody would buy. Here's a man who has patented a fishing rod that accurately weighs and measures each fish caught.

Wise men will keep one umbrella at the office and another at home to fully appreciate these rains that promise so well for the crops. Even then, when the rain comes and they find that some other person has appropriated the umbrella it will take a distinct exercise of optimism to take the situation philosophically.

Happenings, Incidents and Troubles, Gathered Here and There, of Major and Minor Importance.

Judge Frank E. Knappen, of Kalamazoo, Saturday afternoon issued an order which will compel the three dry trustees of Plainwell, who have been staying away from the meetings, to attend the village board sessions or go to jail.

By the election of a wet president last spring, the element in favor of the saloons in the village controlled that body, so the three trustees representative of the dry element decided to stay away from all meetings, allowing no quorum at any session. Meanwhile all village business has been tied up and two saloonkeepers seeking admission to the village have been prevented from doing business.

The three decided to say that they will appeal the case to the supreme court at once. This is the first case of the kind that has ever been heard by a Michigan court.

Treasurer Is Missing.

The books of James S. Tozer, treasurer of the Modern Brotherhood of America, of Sault Ste. Marie, are being investigated. They are reported to be short $200.

Tozer has disappeared, and is supposed to be in Canada.

For years before coming to the Soo Tozer was a politician in Kent county, leaving there, it is alleged, because of family troubles.

Tozer claimed to be a boyhood chum of Thomas C. Platt and a classmate friend of the late David Wilmot, the Pennsylvania jurist and politician, whose proviso, attached in 1846 to an appropriation bill for the purchase of Mexican territory and prohibiting slavery therein, made him famous. The bill, by the way, with the proviso, passed the house, but failed in the senate.

Tozer's home and mail are being watched by detectives.

Work and Wages.

Whether or not the adoption of Miss Margaret Bucholtz into the family of the late John A. Dratz, of Muskegon, invalidates her claim for 953 weeks of service to the estate is a question that the probate court will have to decide in settling up the affairs of the Dratz estate.

Mr. Dratz was a wealthy Muskegon merchant when Miss Bucholtz, who was left an orphan at the age of 12, was taken into the Dratz home and worked for the family for 20 years, leaving in 1906. During this time she received no pay except her maintenance.

At the eleventh hour, during the hearing of the claims on the claims on the estate, Mrs. Buchholtz put in an appearance from Chicago and presented a claim of $2,859, valuing her services at $3 a week. The heirs will contest her claim.

Requisition for Daly.

Requisit on has been granted by Governor Warner for Milton J. Daly, of Chicago, who is in Jackson jail on a charge of bribing Warden Armstrong, of Jackson prison, in connection with the contracts to furnish steal for the prison's binding twine plant. The requisition granted was made by Prosecutor Reese, of Jackson. Daly has been arrested in Chicago under the indictment returned against him by the grand jury and released on bail.

Charles W. McGill, of the attorney general's department, who aided in the presentation of the grand jury, will accompany the officer sent to Springfield to aid in securing Daly. It is presumed that even if the requisition is approved by the governor of Illinois that Daly's friends will make a fight in Chicago to prevent extradition to this state.

Ex-Warden Armstrong has made a sensational affidavit to be used in connection with the requisition papers.

In his affidavit Armstrong says that Daly, who was the agent of the Hoover & Gamble Co., of Miamisburg, O., which installed the machinery, approached him and frankly told him the machinery he had in view was old; that if he would help him put through the deal he would make him a handsome present—at least $1,000.

Armstrong avers that the deal went through and that on May 13, 1908, Daly gave him $1,500.

Postmaster Short.

In checking up the postmaster's books at Mendon, Cass county, a postoffice inspector has found a shortage of about $2,000. Judge of Probate Theodore Hardies is postmaster.

At the time of the big fire at Mendon last fall a shortage of $600 was found, but this was repaid, and nothing further done about the matter, but this time it is likely the postoffice department will take action.

Mrs. Frank Wattles, of Alpena came to Jackson in search of her husband, who she believes left home with another woman. She has five children at home.

Ontonagon has a murder mystery. The finding of the body of a lumberjack a few days ago under peculiar circumstances led to an investigation which resulted in the locating of a bullet hole in the man's head, evidence, it is believed, that the man was murdered.

State Fire Warden Pierce has received his first report of a forest fire for the present season. A settler in Antrim county burned some waste timber and the flames spread, destroying several cords of wood belonging to a neighbor. The man who gave the fire a start paid damages amounting to $180 and will not be prosecuted.

Deputy Game Warden Thrasher, who investigated the case of the Owosso Sugar Co., which was charged with dumping decayed pulp in the Shiawassee river, in violation of an injunction granted Chesaning village some time ago, will probably prosecute the Owosso firm under the fish and game law, as hundreds of fish were killed by the refuse.

Sarah Mulholian, 70, was almost instantly killed in Charlotte by a Grand Trunk train Thursday afternoon, while walking along the side of the track. The woman, who was deaf, looked around just in time to be knocked down. She was dragged 50 feet and was dead when picked up.

Two Months' Bride Shot Dead.

Mrs. John Atkinson, a bride of two months, was accidentally shot dead by Arthur Merritt, aged 10, of Flint, Sunday.

Mrs. Atkinson and her husband were walking along the east bank of the Flint river, to a point where they expected to fish. John Kinney and his stepsons, Arthur and John, were practicing shooting at targets with their rifles on the opposite bank. Arthur saw a white cloth fluttering across the stream among some bushes and fired. Mrs. Atkinson fell over with the bullet through her forehead, dying without a word.

Young Merritt is so wrought up over the accident that he had to be restrained. He declares he will kill himself.

Mr. Atkinson, who was only three feet away from his wife and heard the whizzing of the fatal bullet, says his wife was wiping her face with her handkerchief at the time. This was the white cloth at which young Merritt aimed. The fishing pole Mrs. Atkinson carried was still clasped in her hand when she died. An adopted 6-year-old son had been placed by Mrs. Atkinson came to Flint last March from London, Ont. She was 22 years old.

Prisoner Picked the Locks.

Sheriff Henry Kinney and Deputies David Wright and Hugh Doyle, of Bay City, brought a batch of seven convicts to Jackson prison Friday. The prisoners were shackled together, but when they were turned over to Warden Wenger, the Bay City officers discovered they had left their keys at the jail in Bay City, 125 miles away. Every effort was made to find keys in Jackson to fit the handcuffs, but to no purpose. Then it dawned on Warden Wenger that he possibly had a convict who could unlock the handcuffs and release the seven convicts without a key. A convict was called in who, by means of a piece of wire, promptly picked the seven locks.

Probable Murder.

With the skull crushed and other evidences of foul play, the body of Albert Shafer, a well-to-do South Bend, Ind., resident, was found in Lake Champlain, near Berrien Springs.

Shafer is supposed to have met death a week ago, when he left St. Joseph and dined with a friend, afterwards starting for Berrien Springs. His friends say he had not been drinking, and there is no known reason why he should have taken his own life. Anyway, they ask, if he had committed suicide, how was his skull crushed? Shafer had recently been to St. Joseph a number of times.

Threaten Dynamite.

The game warden's department now has to equip the department tug with appliances to discover submarine bombs.

Last summer the tug ran into a small northern town and caused some of the fishermen who were game law violators, a lot of trouble.

Now comes a threat from the burg that if the boat comes into that harbor, this summer, it will be dynamited.

Offers Reward.

W. K. Morley, general manager of the Grand Rapids, Grand Haven & Muskegon railway, has offered a reward of $100, Mr. Buchholtz to be the identity of the person or persons who placed a tin can containing sand on the interurban tracks Yesterday, causing the wreck of the work train, in which two men were killed and a third was fatally injured.

The Second Death.

Sheridan J. Colby, one of the prominent figures in the Michigan legislature ever since 1899, died from tubercular trouble at Harper hospital, Detroit, Tuesday. He is the second representative who has died during the session, Rep. Agens being the first.

The Woman in White.

A Colombian Joan of Arc has appeared, a woman in white carrying a sword, leads the band of rebels who are using Panama as a base in an attempt to overthrow President Rafael Reyes, of the United States of Colombia.

The recruits, with the woman in white at their head, are now in Chiquinquira, their plan is to get arms by seizing rifles belonging to the Panama police and to capture a coast wise steamer, in which to effect a landing on the Pacific side of Colombia. A strong police force is pursuing the intruders.

MICHIGAN ITEMS.

The Northwestern depot at Stephenson was destroyed by fire Friday morning. Tickets, valued at $400, were burned.

The board of tax review of Bessemer was this year controlled by the Democrats. A raise of the mines within the city from $550,000 last year to $1,206,000 now is the result. The total valuation of the city is raised from $1,500,000 to $1,586,000. This is the first time since the raise by Pingree's tax commission in 1900 that the mines have been fairly assessed.

John Borowiak, aged 63, of Bay City, and having a large family, tried in vain to get a Sunday drink. He came home in an ugly mood and going to the cellar he swallowed several spoonfuls of Paris green and then rapped on the door for admission and a petition. She went to the basement and forbade her good-bye. Two Polish physicians were unable to save his life.

Thomas Miller, a Bay City miner, is in a critical condition at Mercy hospital with a fractured skull and may lose his life because of his anxiety to indulge in a Sunday drink. Miller went to a west side saloon and finding that Sunday closing was in force there as well ascended the outside stairway leading to rooms occupied by the proprietor. At the top he leaned against a rail, lost his balance and plunged headlong to the ground.

Mattie Sampson, 56, of Marenco township, fell a few weeks ago, and injured her head. Later, a hemorrhage of the brain developed, and she died today.

Friends of James H. Wade, former secretary of the University of Michigan, have presented him with a loving cup, one side inscribed: "To James H. Wade, twenty-five years secretary of the University of Michigan, with affectionate remembrance of university friends, May 21, 1909." Upon the reverse side is the monogram of the university.

Entangled in the tackle rope, yanked 45 feet into the air, then hurled with a huge iron smokestack to the roof of a building and crushed to death, was the fearful fate of John Karl, a resident of Maybee, shortly before noon Friday.

THE SESSION'S CLOSING HOURS

GOVERNOR PATS LEGISLATORS ON BACK FOR WORK THEY ACCOMPLISHED.

TEN MILLION BUDGET

Members Pack Up Things to Send Home and Indulge in Horse Play in Closing Hours.

Gov. Warner sent his closing message to the legislature Wednesday morning. In it he reviewed the work of that body, and complimented members on what had been accomplished. He regrets that no anti-lobby bill has been passed, but declares that the agitation for such a law drove many notorious lobbyists out of Lansing.

He especially commends the ad valorem taxing of telephone and telegraph companies, perfected primary law, abolition of fellow-servant doctrine on railroads, improved highway laws, anti-stock watering bill, and the home rule law for municipalities.

Regarding appropriations the message says:

"While the appropriations of the present legislature are necessarily larger than those made in previous years, I believe it will be plain to any fair minded citizen that, if our state institutions, especially those of an educational and charitable nature, are to be properly conducted, these appropriations will never grow less."

"As you all know, much of the revenue from various sources, which in other states is used to meet the general expenses of the state government, in Michigan goes into the primary school fund, and is distributed over the state to relieve local taxation. But even under these conditions the increase in the rate of state taxation has been no greater than the increase in the rate of local taxation for which the people themselves directly responsible. The rate of state taxation in 1907 was $2.81 per $1,000 of assessed valuation. This year it will be $3.25. In 1908 it was $3.06, while in 1910 it will be $2.59. The increase, therefore, per $1,000 assessed valuation this year will be only 54 cents over the corresponding year of 1907, while next year the increase will be but 18 cents over the corresponding year, 1908."

The Tax Budget.

The $10,313,432.91 budget for the next two years, beginning July 1, received the approval of both houses. The amount to be spread on this year's roll is $5,812,219.73 and in 1910, $4,500,120.18. This makes a budget shows an increase of $1,234,464.31 over that of 1907. The distribut on of this large sum to be raised is as follows:

State university, $1,309,575; Agricultural college, $346,820; Ypsilanti normal school, $308,000; Mt. Pleasant normal, $154,000; Marquette normal, $102,550; Kalamazoo normal, $174,500; College of Mines, $131,000; state library, $25,000; Soldiers' home, $350,000; home for feeble minded at Lapeer, $7,500; state public school at Coldwater, $84,700; state school for blind, $155,000; school for the blind, $122,250; school for deaf and dumb, $51,100; Kalamazoo asylum, $557,278.80; Pontiac asylum, $386,413.77; Traverse City asylum, $459,984.02; Newberry asylum, $672,20; Ionia asylum for criminal insane, $119,700.48; Wayne county asylum, $155,170.43; Jackson prison, $133,750; Ionia reformatory, $132,600; Marquette prison, $84,495; industrial school for boys, $178,000; industrial school for girls, $153,965; state fish commission, $76,350; military, $363,601.92; naval reserves, $50,600.30; state sanitarium, $36,000; Dalrymen's association, $600; Pioneer and Historical association, $1,000; geological survey, $4,000; biological survey, $2,000; adjutant general's department, $1,500; dairy and food department, $70,000; game and fish protection department, $300,000; labor department, $80,000; inheritance tax examiners, $12,000; reduction of an old state bond, $1,725.71; Custer monument, $2,000; horse drug commission, $6,000; Menominee agricultural school, $5,000; bacteriological department of the state board of health, $10,000; furnishings for Ionia armory, $2,500; fire sufferers' relief, $10,000; general purpose tax, $3,350,000.

Horse Play and Gifts.

The house had a great time Tuesday preparing for the close of the session today. The members were packing up their stuff all day and many and wondrous were the things which found their way into the boxes. One prominent member from Detroit carried off an umbrella and a gentleman from up state bemoaned the fact that it was impossible to put his favorite easy chair in a box.

During the noon hour there was in the committee of the whole the air was filled with files, books and papers which were hurled about from all directions.

Rep. Baker ascended to the gallery and carefully poured a glass of water over Rep. Field, sitting below.

Rep. Hamilton was not quite so frisky, but also indulged in horse play.

Senator Fox was very conscientious. He refused to allow his desk stuff to be packed away. He had secured an opinion from the attorney general that it was proper for him to take it home.

Lieut. Gov. Patrick H. Kelley was given a fearful enlargement in the senate by Senator MacKay, and just as his uninitiated friends were gasping with surprise and anger, E. V. Cleveland, clerk and Senator Moriarty made a presentation speech, giving him, on behalf of his friends and colleagues, a handsome chest of silver.

There are more and better horses at the state fair grounds, Detroit, than ever have been training on a Michigan track this early season.

Horace McLean, 18-months-old babe found a bottle of carbolic acid in the family home at Grawn village and will die as the result of drinking some of the poison.

Asked in Winchester, Va., how long he intended to stay in politics, Uncle Joe Cannon replied: "I guess I'll stay in the game until I die. My constituency is very kind to me, and as long as they continue to want me, I'll be on the job. I cannot bear the idea of retiring and loafing around while the other fellows are at work having fun. I'll stay until I die and then be buried at public expense."

"GOOD HUNTING."

Roosevelt has entertained the correspondent of the Associated Press for two days and said: "No newspaper has a representative with the Roosevelt party, nor any nearer means of gaining information of the party's doings beyond what is generally known. Any special dispatches appearing are in all human probability sheer inventions. Moreover, the details which purport to be thus obtained can only be due to bribery; and it is safe to state that a dishonorable man giving a bribe and a dishonorable man accepting the same would be willing to invent untruths for money or traffic in other forms of dishonesty."

The game bagged by the ex-president is given as: Lions, 4; rhinoceroses, 3; giraffes, 2; wildebeest, 2; Thompson's gazelle, 1; hippotamus, 1; python, 1; impalla, 1; waterbuck, 1; buffalo, 2.

Kermet seems to be have been out with a vengeance, too, as shown by this list: Lions, 2; cheetah, 1; giraffe, 1; hyena, 1; wildebeest, 1; leopard, 1; buffalo, 1, wart hogs, 7.

The Canal Defense.

Fortifications costing $7,000,000 are to be built for the defend the Panama canal. The most powerful and formidable batteries are to be planted so as to repel attacks from the Pacific ocean. There will be three batteries on the Pacific side. Lying off the mouth of the canal are 15 islands and the three selected for fortifications are Flamence, Culebra and Naosa. On the coast line at each side of the canal mouth there will be batteries, situated in Ancon and San Juan.

Six miles up the canal from the Pacific coast is to be a secondary battery. This will command the principal lock at Pedro Miguel. At Culebra, about the middle of the big ditch, a military post will be constructed. On the Atlantic side a range of hills runs down to the sea, commanding the entrance to the canal. Upon these, at El Boco Point, modern batteries will be constructed, mounting 60 of the highest power disappearing guns.

Ole Olson, employed on the Sumner Diggins railroad, was run over by a car at Cactus Olaco and had his right leg cut off at the knee. While making repairs under the car and the crew not knowing where he was, signaled the engineer to back up.

THE MARKETS.

Detroit—Cattle—Extra steers and heifers, $5.25@5.50; good steers and heifers, 1,000 to 1,200, $5.75@6.25; steers and heifers, 800 to 1,000, $4.50@5; steers and heifers that are fat, 500 to 700, $4.50@5.50; choice fat cows, $4.75@5.25; good fat cows, $4@4.25; common cows, $2.50@3.50; canners, $1@2; choice heavy bulls, $4.50@5; fair to good bologna bulls, $4.50@4.75; stock bulls, $3@4; feeding steers, 800 to 1,000, $4.25@4.75; fair feeding steers, 800 to 1,000, $4.25@4.50; choice stockers, 500 to 700, $4.25@4.75; fair stockers, 500 to 700, $4@4.25; stock heifers, $3.50@4.25; milkers, large, young, $45@55; common milkers, $25@35.

Veal calves—Market 25c lower than last week; a few choice at $8; best, $7.50@8; others, $5.50@6; milch cows and springers steady.

Sheep and lambs—Market strong at last week's prices; best lambs, $7.50@7.75; fair to good lambs, $7@7.50; culls and common lambs, $5@6; spring lambs, $8; fair to good sheep, $4.50@5; culls and common, $3.50@4.

Hogs—Market 10c@15c lower than last Thursday at noon. Range of prices: Light to good butchers, $7.15@7.25; pigs, $6.75; light yorkers, $7@7.15; stags, 1/3 off.

East Buffalo—Market was active and prices 25c@50c higher than last week; desirable kinds one small bunch of cattle sold at $6.40; fair to good fresh cows and springers sold from $2.50@60 per head lower than last week; best heavy export steers, $6.50@6.75; best handy weight butcher steers, $6.50@6.80; best heifers, $6@6.50; best cows, $5@6; best bulls, $5@5.25; stockers, $3.25@3.50; fair to good, $3.50@4.25; trimmers, $2.75@2.85; best feeders, $4@4.50; good to fair feeders, $3.50@3.75; best stockers, $4@4.25; light butcher cows and heifers, $4@5; medium, $3.50@4.25; common, $3@3.50; best fat bulls, $4.50@5; bologna bulls, $3.50@4; common stockers, $3.50@4; best heavy fresh cows and springers, $45@60; best medium, $35@45; common, $25@35; best milkers and springers, $45@60; best common, $30@40; light butcher cows, $4@4.50; best heavy, $5.50@6; common stockers, $3.50@4; best feeding steers, $4.50@4.75; best stockers, $4@4.25; common stockers, $3.50@4