

## THE FIRST PHONE COMMENCEMENT FINE DAIRY FARM GINGER & SNUFF

**to Birmingham and its Early History.** J. Allen Bigelow, the First Telephone Manager

**Will Be Held Next Week, June 22 and 23, at the Methodist Church and Promises to be Very Fine**

**Detroit Company Will Have One on the Farm Formerly Known as the Cooper Farm**

**Or How to Make Good, is the Subject of a Lecture at the Baptist Church This Friday Night**

Dear Mitchell:  
When these old pioneers are recounting the days when bears used to come up and steal a pig, or the pig's dinner, did you ever halt in your mad career after game and think back to the days of the first telephone in Birmingham? In bear days--telephones would be worse than bears--now let us chronologically a bit. Bigelow shook hands one day, away back in the early seventies--and, by the way, Bigelow was postmaster then and had a store where now Charles J. Shanahan has a handsome and up-to-date drug store. The man comes in with a pleasant smile and says:

"Ah, is this Mr. Bigelow?"  
"Yes," says Bigelow.  
"Well, my name is Sherman--L. A. Sherman, of Port Huron. I am a brother-in-law of Thomas A. Ward, of this place."

"Bigelow replied: 'Yes; how are you?' Ward is a mighty good fellow, but is a little daffy on fish."

"Well, I know he is, but that will never keep him out of heaven--for fish yarns don't count. But, now we are acquainted, I have a proposition to place before you."

"Now, see here," yelled Bigelow. "Now, see here Mr. Sherman, are you any relative of old Tempus, if so, I must listen; if not--you get out with a big O, take the next train back from whence you came and tell your family, if you ever see them again, that you escaped with a whole hide and a suitcase from Birmingham and a crank."

About this time a terrific rooster's crowing interrupted the siesta, for you--you, George Henry Mitchell, was clerking for Frank Hagerman, and Almeron Whitehead was working for Bigelow, and you two boys had read in the papers how to make a talking machine and had one in successful operation between the two stores of Hagerman and Bigelow, and all that darn crowing was the signal that they wanted "Whitney." You got him. Your talking machine was made with 1795 tin cans, one at each store, with a tin stretched over the end of the can like a drumhead with a waxed cord connecting, and it worked fine.

"Well--" Mr. Sherman smiled, and as you and Whitney did your talk act through your tin cans, he took off his overcoat and said:

"You are just the man I am glad to meet." Before I forget it I must say that Mr. Sherman is an honest promoter. To resume:

Sherman laid aside his overcoat and in a pleasant, genial way spread out some circulars, and by the way, in those days a merchant had plenty of time to read circulars.

"Now, then, Mr. Bigelow, the very thing I want to interest you in is--telephone. Just what your young friends have installed for fun."

Well, this was a bumper. He was organizing a telephone company for general public use--headquarters at Detroit--and eventually would spread all over the country. At present the most interesting Birmingham line would go on to Pontiac, Holly, Owosso, Grand Rapids, and in fact would soon envelop these grand United States.

Now, Mitchell, do you remember just here was a great commotion. For two teams had driven into town at the same time--but Sherman held his audience.

His proposition was: Take some shares in the company, which he thought was the better, or, take a book or two of coupons. The book of coupons, he explained, were in shape so that a subscriber could take them at from \$50 upwards. That a central office would be established in Birmingham and the purchaser of these books of coupons would be allowed to pay for their service with these coupons. This explanation was gone over and over again by Sherman, and finally he placed books of coupons enough to insure a central office in Birmingham.

Ira Slade, commission merchant, then in the warehouse where Smith Bros. now are, and by the way their telephone number is the same that Slade had, No. 1, announced that he would have a phone placed in his place of business office. People looked at him in awe and wonder, for in those days a phone cost \$50 a year; besides it cost 25 cents for each talk to Detroit.

Well, Sherman was no snide promoter. Soon along came the phones--wonder! Birmingham was lively just then. Skeptics--a few, as in 1844, when the United States senators stood long for the message from Baltimore to get in a visible form on the telegraph. Good men, who now have no use for a phone, such as Partridge, Stanley, Taber, Squire James, Poppleton, Hugh Irving and many others, who reluctantly admitted that it was a fact and that Birmingham was the place to live in after all, for did we not

The commencement exercises of the Birmingham high school will be held during the week of June 20 and 21. The class has 17 members, one of the largest which has graduated in a number of years.

The Baccalaureate address will be given by Rev. W. H. Jamieson, June 20, at 7:30 p. m. in the Presbyterian church.

The class night will be held June 22, in the Methodist church. Hon. Patrick Kelley will address the class commencing at eight o'clock. Mr. Kelley is well known by the townspeople and his address promises to be very interesting.

Colds that hang on weaken the constitution and develop into consumption. Foley's Honey and Tar cures persistent coughs that refuse to yield to other treatment. Do not experiment with untried remedies as delay may result in your cold settling on your lungs. Sold by all druggists.

have a telephone and could we not talk to Detroit? Sure thing. And now look at the situation! Less than a span of a man's life when one telephone was a wonder. Now there are 350. Then a residence phone cost \$50 per year; now it costs but \$15. Long distance rates are now very low and we can talk with our neighbors at Royal Oak free, and farmers' lines reaching out as far as six miles are all free to talk night or day 24 hours every day in the year.

Right here in Birmingham we have watches on the alert. If the baby has the croup, we rub the chest, ring the bell and say: "Give me Dr. ... and the deed is done. And do you know that four years ago, if anyone had said that Birmingham would have an exchange of 50 subscribers they would have been considered odd subjects for the E. M. Asylum, and now you have over 300, and I say, "Oh Lord what are we coming to?" No man could have done it but Mitchell. But say, the telephone and the wireless have gone round the world, and so has our navy. Glory enough for one life!--only to want to live long enough to see the Panama canal pass the ships of the world. Amen. From the Michigan State Telephone Gazette for May 1909.

### Over 90 Per Cent of Appendicitis Cases

Are caused by a congested condition of the bowels, commonly called constipation. Why not relieve yourself of this condition and prevent the danger of appendicitis by becoming a user of Dr. Herrick's Sugar-Coated Vegetable Pills. The best known and most widely sold liver pills in the world. This is not a new remedy, but one that has stood the test of time for over 25 years on the market. Sales always increasing, showing the immense good they are doing. Price everywhere 25c per box. Ask for a free sample. Sold by James W. Cobb.

### ROYAL OAK COMMENCEMENT.

Commencement exercises of the Royal Oak high school will be held Saturday evening, June 19, at 8 o'clock. The exercises will be held at the Royal Oak Hotel. Following are the exercises:

- Orchestra. Song. What is life to me Winnie. Invocation. Rev. O. W. Willets. Song. Perhaps. Frank Rose. A Teacher Creed. H. R. Pattengill. School plays. Orchestra. Presentation of diplomas. H. S. Gardner. Sing me to Sleep. Benediction. Rev. W. St. John. March. Miss C. Keller. Song. Dr. Sutherland. Invocation. Rev. W. St. John. Ladies quartette. One Sweet Solenn Thought. Misses Bell, Parkhitt, Masgehan and Storr. Salutatory. James Wilson. Instrumental solo. Miss C. Keller. Essay. William Hiltzinger. Essay. Loreta Conrad. Address. Dr. Sutherland. Address. Mr. George H. Beach. Song. Dr. Sutherland. Benediction. Rev. O. W. Willets.

### A Thirling Rescue.

How Bert R. Lean, of Chevy, Washington, was saved from a frightful death is a story to thrill the world. "A hand cold," he writes, "brought on a desperate lung trouble that baffled an expert doctor here. Then I paid \$10 to a visit to a man special in Spokane, who did not help me. They went to California, but without benefit. At last I used Dr. King's New Discovery, which completely cured me, and now I am as well as ever." For lung trouble, bronchitis, cough and cold, asthma, cough and whooping cough it is supreme. 50c and \$1. Trial bottle free. Guaranteed. J. M. Williams, Charles J. Shain and James F. Wooster.

Rheumatic Pains relieved by use of Dr. Miller's Anti-Pain Pills. 25 Cents 50 Cents.

Tuesday last, the Cooper farm, located about a mile directly north of this village, and on Woodward avenue, passed into the possession of the Walker Gordon Farm company, of Detroit.

Wilburn F. Harris, manager of the farm, stated that as yet none of the person interested in the property had visited the property. The consideration for the 345 acres of the best land in Oakland county, is said to have been, \$43,000. That amount includes the well kept buildings, tools, machinery, stock and all rights in the general well located in the center of the farm.

The Walker Gordon farm company are planning to establish a dairy farm and that end in view, will place 100 good grade dairy cows there as soon as possible. The company have made arrangements to furnish the Walker Gordon laboratory, of Detroit, with all the milk used by that concern.

Officers of the recently organized Walker Gordon company are not unknown to Oakland county residents, the majority of them owning already large estates in Oakland. E. C. Warren, of Detroit, is president; George G. Booth, of Cranbrook, Bloomfield Hills, vice-president; Henry S. George, of Hills and Long lake, treasurer, and I. Johnson, of Detroit, secretary. The board of directors consists of W. T. Barbour, Briar Bank, Bloomfield Hills, and Messrs. E. S. Ford, W. E. Buell, and George Peck, of Detroit.

At least \$15,000 will be expended immediately in the erection and equipping of commodious and modern stables and dairy rooms and apparatus. Other changes and improvements on the farm are under consideration. Until the past few years, the Coopers kept a large stock farm, going in for horses, which necessitated the building of a number of barns. These are in a good state of preservation and will be used by the new company.

Originally, there were a number of fruit trees on the farm but two years ago, the San Jose scale got in its work and several hundred trees had to be burned. Since then, no effort has been made to restock the farm.

The new company will continue the sale of the Pinna water from the mineral spring that was reopened the first of last March. Since that time quantities of the liquid have been shipped weekly to Detroit.

Notwithstanding all this change on the old J. R. Cooper farm, Mr. Wilburn B. Harris' services have been secured as foreman for the coming year, and the company are to be congratulated in securing his services for there is no better able to manage their interests here than this same Wilburn B. Harris.

### IF YOU WOULD BE A SUCCESSFUL FARMER, HORSEMAN AND STOCK-RAISER, YOU MUST USE HARVELL'S CONDITION POWDERS, THE OLDEST AND MOST RELIABLE ON THE MARKET.

Used with great success by the leading stock raisers of this country. Acts as a tonic, increasing digestion and circulation, thereby increasing the appetite and the growing powers. For sale everywhere at 25c per package. Not at all expensive and affords a most profitable paying investment. Sold by James W. Cobb.

### BAPTIST CHURCH NOTES.

Sermon themes, Sunday morning, "Christian Manhood;" evening, "The Law of Liberty."

B. Y. P. U. prayer meeting topic, Pilgrim Progress series, "The Hill Difficulty." Leader, Lloyd Jackson.

The long expected lecture by Rev. F. L. Church will be given on Friday evening of this week. It is to be regretted that the definite date was not known so as to have been announced at the services Sunday.

Have you seen the new flower beds in front of the church? It reflects great credit upon Mr. Bortle and his class, also upon Capt. Bortle who assisted his daughter in planning and executing the improvement.

### Trouble Makers Ousted.

When a sufferer from stomach trouble takes Dr. King's New Life Pills he is mighty glad to see his dyspepsia and indigestion fly, but more--he's tickled over his new fine appetite, strong nerves, healthy vigor, all because stomach, liver and kidneys now work right. 25c at James W. Cobb's, Chas. J. Shain's and James F. Wooster's.

NEWLY MARRIED COUPLES TAKE THE D. & C. DAILY LINE STEAMERS ACROSS LAKE ERIE. These are the dearest of the June brides and many bridal couples enjoy the delightful lake ride between Detroit and Buffalo. A trip on the palatial steamers, Eastern States and Western States, fills all requirements, furnishing romance and scenery in the most desirable form. Steamers and parlors reserved in advance. Send 2c stamp for illustrated booklet. DETROIT & BUFFALO STEAMBOAT CO., 5 Wayne St., Detroit, Mich.

Rev. F. L. Church will lecture in the Baptist church on Friday evening of this week at 8 p. m.

It will be remembered that Rev. Church was at one time pastor of the Baptist church of this place, since that time he has held pastorates in the far east and at Owosso. He is now pastor of the North Baptist church at Flint.

He has recently entered the lecture field with his entertaining and instructive, humorous lecture entitled, "Ginger and Snuff or how to Make Good."

A reception will be held at the church from 7 to 8 o'clock to enable him to meet and greet old friends. There will be no admission charged for this lecture but a silver offering will be taken for the building fund of the new Flint North Baptist church in the interest of which this lecture is given. Everybody come prepared to spend a pleasant evening.

Tell some deserving rheumatic sufferer that there is yet one simple way to certain relief. Get Dr. Shoop's Book on Rheumatism and a free trial test. This book will make it entirely clear how rheumatic pains are quickly killed by Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Remedy--a liquid or tablet. Send no money. The test is free. Surprise some disheartened sufferer by first getting for him the book from Dr. Shoop, Racine, Wisconsin. Charles J. Shain.

### MICHIGAN W. P. A.

We are indebted to Miss M. Baldwin, who is a member of the Michigan Women's Press Association, for the following account of its annual meeting:

The Michigan Women's Press Association, which held its annual meeting at Port Huron last week, was well attended. Many newspapers of the State were represented. Many topics were discussed, prominent among them, "The Demoralizing Influence of the Colored Supplement." And the general opinion was that if mothers did their duty in excluding it from the home it would cease to exist.

"The Duty of the Newspaper to the Child" was ably discussed by Miss Miggins, of Alma College.

A prominent figure in work of all kinds is Miss Maggie Waltz, of the Finnish Ladies' Journal, at Calumet. Coming to this country from Finland a poor girl, she now owns and controls the above-named journal, is sole owner of the Waltz Block in Calumet, and has a summer home on Grummond Island. She works untiringly for her people. Through her efforts 6,000 names have been placed on the equal suffrage petition. The Finnish people in this country are interested in this question because their people in Finland have full political liberty.

The people of Port Huron entertained their guests with auto rides, boat rides, and a reception at its fine hotel--The Harrington.

The members of this association were most cordially invited by President R. F. Brown, of the Eastern Michigan Press Club, to attend its yearly outing in September.

Miss Emma Bower, as chairman of the local committee, made every one happy.

To avoid serious results take Foley's Kidney Remedy at the first sign of kidney or bladder disorder, such as backache, urinary irregularities, exhaustion, and you will soon be well. Sold by all druggists.

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Cures Croup, Whooping Cough, Croup, Sore Throat, Hoarseness, Bronchitis, Asthma, Croup, Whooping Cough, Sore Throat, Hoarseness, Bronchitis, Asthma, Croup, Whooping Cough, Sore Throat, Hoarseness, Bronchitis, Asthma.

## MARKED DOWN

Men's Pants, worth \$1.50, \$2.00 and \$2.50, now cut to \$1.00, \$1.50 and \$2.00 per pair.  
Boys' Knee Pants 25c, 35c and 50c--good line.  
Ladies' Gauze Underwear at 10c, 15c and 25c.  
Ladies' Hosiery fine line at low prices.

## F. BLAKESLEE BIRMINGHAM

ORANGES  
LEMONS  
RIPE OLIVES  
PLAIN  
OLIVES STUFFED WITH CELERY  
OLIVES  
MARK ARMSTRONG'S  
NEW CHEESE

CUCUMBERS  
BERMUDA ONIONS  
STRAWBERRIES  
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The successes that have been won on a foundation of cheapness are as scarce as torrid days in Iceland and as unsatisfactory as soap bubbles. Real success only follows worth, and worth commands its price. Our Quality Guaranteed

## Druggist Jas. W. Cobb Grocer

## You Don't Need to Go Outside of Birmingham for Anything in Farm Implements and Tools

We have the largest line in this region and can supply needs at the lowest possible cost. We sell the profit-making kind, that do their work well and make the farmer happy. Look over your implements and see what you need, and in and see us. A guarantee goes with every sale, and no deal with us is completed until you are satisfied.

## HOPPS HARDWARE CO.

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Why not have your work done mechanically?  
Motors Wiring  
Fixtures  
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**MADAM STRYKER** Electrolysis manuring, shampooing, hairdressing, electric and vibratory face massage, electric scalp treatments, hair dyeing and bleaching; toilet articles, hair manufacturing, switches, pomades and doll wigs, made from combs; chiropody, corns removed without pain, bunions and ingrowing nails treated. Davis Block, Room E, Bell Phone 3203, Corner Saginaw and Huron Streets Pontiac.

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## The Adolph Enggass Jewelry Co.

- DIAMONDS
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- SILVERWARE
- CUT GLASS

## Quality Guaranteed

## PRICES LOWEST

## THE ADOLPH ENGGASS JEWELRY CO.

Opp. Hudson's--22 Gratiot Ave. DETROIT Established in 1865.

## How Much, Please?

Want a choice cut of prime roast beef or tender, juicy lamb? Maybe it's pork you want, or a nice delicious steak? Ham, sausage, bacon or chops may be your preference. Whatever it is, we have it, and at quick-market prices. Our meats are not the kind that are hard to cut and still harder to digest. It is young, tender, and wholesome. Call Phone 24 for prompt service.

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Why not have your work done mechanically?

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Cures Croup, Whooping Cough, Croup, Sore Throat, Hoarseness, Bronchitis, Asthma, Croup, Whooping Cough, Sore Throat, Hoarseness, Bronchitis, Asthma.