

Devoted to Our Own Locality—We Labor for Its Interests.

THIRTY-FOURTH YEAR. NO. 1.

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, FRIDAY, MAY 5, 1911

WHOLE NUMBER, 1714.

A PIANO CONTEST

Get in Line for a \$400 Oakland Piano and many Valuable Prizes Given by Dealers.

When it became known that the Eccentric intended to inaugurate a popular voting contest, interest began to develop and many were inspecting the plan with the view of aiding some friend in winning the handsome \$400 Oakland Piano of some of the other prizes that are offered.

Many nominations will soon be in and votes will be cast.

Read full instruction, particulars and rules on another page.

Such valuable prizes as are offered are worth working for and will no doubt fall to the lot of the industrious, worthy and interested ladies who make an effort to win. A piano is the pride of any household and the fact that a number of other prizes not usually found in contests are being given away, make it doubly interesting.

The prizes given by the merchants in the list are fine ones and the contestants who make a good showing and fail to win the piano will be awarded one of the other valuable prizes.

Read the rules elsewhere in this issue or we will mail them upon request. Inspect the offerings of the merchants and learn how you may secure votes for yourself and friend. Be sure and ask these merchants for coupons.

A large vote is given on subscriptions.

Use the twenty-five vote coupon in this issue and cast it for some one, as it may be the starter of a winner. Fill out the nomination blank and send it to the publisher as this act may be the means of helping some lady to win a handsome piano or some other valuable prizes enumerated in this list.

This contest is without doubt the biggest business getting enterprise that has ever been presented to the people in this section.

Elsewhere in this issue will be found a display announcement concerning this contest, also a nomination blank and a vote coupon. Nominate some friend and send in the coupon.

While the Eccentric enjoys a prosperous business, it is our policy to give after more and in our present method of helping others we hope in turn to help ourselves.

We expect to increase our subscription list at an exceedingly rapid rate, therefore benefiting our advertisers. Remember that our merchants are interested in this contest and give 25 vote coupons with every \$1 purchase.

If you cannot understand the rules of this contest, call or write to this office and we will be pleased to go over the proposition with you.

Merchants who are giving the coupons are as follows:

The Birmingham Eccentric: 5 \$100 piano due bill.
Wilkinson & Bassett; Towel bars, soap dishes, bath seat, etc. \$10.
Cobb-Stanley-Harris Co. Value, \$5. Announced later.

Hunter & Edwards Co. Value, \$5. Announced later.
W. H. Hoge & Co., value \$5. Announced later.
V. Nixon, value \$5. Announced later.

A Burglar's Awful Deed
May not be alye a home as completely as a mother's long fingers. But Dr. King's New Life Pills are a splendid remedy for women. They give me wonderful benefit in constipation and female trouble," wrote Mrs. M. C. Dunbar, of Louisville, Kentucky. "I tried King, try them." See at C. J. Shain's.

THE MISSION AT ST. MARY'S.

The Mission which closed at St. Mary's church on Sunday evening was a remarkable success. Never, perhaps in the history of the parish was there so many a manifestation of faith and piety. The toll that came at early dawn, many bright brought very many from the village and the men to the 5 o'clock mass.

The sermons given by Father Comand were practical expositions of Catholic doctrine. The thoughts, the beautiful diction, the graceful gestures, the resonant voice of the priest held his audience under a spell from the beginning to the end. At times they were moved to smiles, at times to tears.

At the solemn closing on Sunday night the auditorium of the church was taxed to its capacity. Those who were present will ever forget the inspiring scene as the close of the services. One hundred men holding lighted candles formed a living cross before the altar and proclaimed aloud their allegiance to God and the Church. It was a magnificent spectacle. Many non-Catholics were present and were deeply impressed.

It started the West
When the astounding claims were first made for Bucklen's Aina Salve, but since its widespread use it has proved them true, and everywhere it is known as the best Salve on earth for sore throats, swollen glands, hemorrhoids, swellings, eczema, itchy hands, Fever sores and piles. Only 25c at C. J. Shain's.

IS MUCH NEEDED

A Few Facts Showing How Much a New School Building is Needed in Birmingham Right Away

The problem of successfully providing for the large number of school children who continue to enter our schools, is no longer a proposition to be considered at some future date, but has become an active question of the present moment. While the room is already utilized, we are called upon each week to receive new pupils in regular classes—transfers from other schools. The following is a statement of the number in the grades at present.

Subprimary	43
First Grade	47
Second	47
Third	47
Fourth	48
Fifth	39
Sixth	35
Seventh	23

The congestion at the beginning of the present school year, in September 1910, was very great. To relieve this condition somewhat, a corner of the hall, containing one of the windows, was partitioned off into a room. Into this room were received the subprimary pupils, at present numbering 43. The small front room, with one window only, formerly used as a kindergarten, was given to the first grade.

The lighting of this room is exceedingly poor. In a space which would accommodate well 20 or at most 25 children, we are compelled to crowd almost double the number or 39 pupils. Youth and after drinking some of the water became very agitated. We also went fishing, catching large numbers; visited Alligator farm at South Beach; gathered numerous shells, and had an oyster roast upon the beach. After taking in all of the many interesting sights of the old town, we took a boat on the Matanza river and went to Crescent Beach, twelve miles distant, and partook of a fine dinner. Crescent Beach is owned by Mr. J. C. Middleton where he and his wife cater to the many visitors and tourists who call at this very popular resort. This is where the sportsman can get his fill; plenty of nice fish, such as whiting, trout, cat fish, sheepshead, rock fish, sea bream, drum fish, clam crackers, sharks, porpoises and alligators. I know where I speak, for I came the 8th of March and since that time and up to date, April 12th, I have caught all kinds of nice fish, including also the porpoise and 'gator, and I expect to cultivate their acquaintance before leaving here for Michigan. My last experience was with a 400 pound shark, measuring six feet in length. Don't forget the place 'Crescent Beach'! He'll you obtain more fun and better fare for your money than any other place in Florida, and have all the oysters, clams, and stone crabs you can eat, free and without any price.

Crescent Beach is upon a very high strip of land known as an island. It is bounded on the east by the ocean; on the west by the Matanza river, on the south by the Matanza river, and is covered with mangroves and live oak. It is cut by an inlet at St. Augustine, and also at Summer Haven, six miles north of Crescent Beach. The Matanza river is part of the inland waterway of the United States, and is navigable to Key West and Indian River.

History tells us that this part of Florida, was first owned by the Indians and that the French Huguenots came here 35 years ago, and tried to colonize the spot where they now live. The Spaniards, who claimed this beautiful country which is now the United States, Spaniards built these old forts that still stand, in defiance of time and storm, great monuments marking the spot where that band of Frenchmen, women and children were brutally murdered or driven into the sea by the Spaniards who spared none but the Catholics.

Upon this very spot where I now write that band of French home-seekers were led out, murdered and their remains left to the buzzard and vulture. Time covered their bones and skulls with a sand. Some of the remains of their petrified bones and skulls have been dug from these shell mounds by Mr. Middleton and are now here in this house, silent monitors of the past.

Among some of the larger fish which I have caught with hook and line, was a clam cracker or sea haddock. I was fishing for drum fish at the time, and was baited with half of a large sea crab. I had a bite and hooked what I supposed was a drum fish, but after tarrying around for half an hour with 200 ft. of line and heavy sinker, I succeeded in bringing to the boat one of the worst looking specimens to be called "fish" that I ever saw. The body was about two feet long with a horrible looking head, and a long slim tail, three feet in length and tapering to a fine point. When brought to the boat the "critter" clung to the boat by splashing the water into it with his great wings or flippers. I slacked line and let him take another run to deep water; when brought in again he continued to splash water in-

WILL HELP TOWN

A Birminghamer, "Away Down South in Dixie" Having a Good Time Fishing—Catchin' 'em.

Mr. John H. Bortle, of West Maple avenue, passed this winter, all over the South. He did not stay at one place, but just became a rover and "roved" to his heart's content, whenever and wherever his sweet fancy willed. In a very interesting letter to all the Eccentric readers, he graphically tells us all about it as follows:

After leaving the Mississippi river, we arrived at Memphis December 3rd. Weather cold with rain and snow. We went to hotel and stayed until December 7th, and then took the train for Patoka, Florida, near Chocoma, Atlanta, Jacksonville to Patoka; here we spent one week, after which we went to Carlton, where we stayed three days and then on to St. Augustine, at which place we arranged for board and prepared to stay awhile. I went fishing, catching plenty of fish called "Whiting" some blue fish and hard shell crabs, all fine eating.

December 19th, I went fishing and caught a 50 pound rock fish and ten crabs. Next day went to South Beach, to the Alligator farm, and to Sea Beach, and there watched the porpoises roll in the surf.

I stayed in the ancient city of St. Augustine, Fla. during December and January and part of February. February 23rd, Mr. and Mrs. Clark, of River Rouge visited me for one week. We took the river trip to Fountain of Youth, and after drinking some of the water became very agitated. We also went fishing, catching large numbers; visited Alligator farm at South Beach; gathered numerous shells, and had an oyster roast upon the beach. After taking in all of the many interesting sights of the old town, we took a boat on the Matanza river and went to Crescent Beach, twelve miles distant, and partook of a fine dinner. Crescent Beach is owned by Mr. J. C. Middleton where he and his wife cater to the many visitors and tourists who call at this very popular resort. This is where the sportsman can get his fill; plenty of nice fish, such as whiting, trout, cat fish, sheepshead, rock fish, sea bream, drum fish, clam crackers, sharks, porpoises and alligators. I know where I speak, for I came the 8th of March and since that time and up to date, April 12th, I have caught all kinds of nice fish, including also the porpoise and 'gator, and I expect to cultivate their acquaintance before leaving here for Michigan. My last experience was with a 400 pound shark, measuring six feet in length. Don't forget the place 'Crescent Beach'! He'll you obtain more fun and better fare for your money than any other place in Florida, and have all the oysters, clams, and stone crabs you can eat, free and without any price.

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WILL HELP TOWN

A Chance for Investment, Meeting Called and Every Citizen ought To be in Attendance.

A special meeting of the Council and a Citizen's Mass meeting is called by Pres. Geo. E. Daines, this Friday eve, May 5th, at eight o'clock, for the purpose of considering the advisability of assisting the American Games Manufacturing Co., which is a proposed Michigan organization, to take over and operate the plant of the Birmingham Handle Co.

The American Games Manufacturing Company will be a concern devoted to the manufacture of wood working games and devices, such as croquet balls, croquet sets, tennis sets, etc. under the management Mr. R. C. Carr of Detroit, who has had many years experience in this particular line of work.

The owners of the plant, Messrs. Ronan & McKenzie, a concern here of its enterprise, so assured are they of its success.

Sufficient orders are already on hand that will tax the entire capacity of the present plant this summer and coming winter.

Other towns have offered factory buildings and sites to the organizers, but Birmingham is so situated that the eastern, western and export markets can easily be reached via Detroit, both by rail and water.

The capitalization of the company is \$50,000.00 which allows \$10,000.00 in cash for working capital, after the payment for the plant, improvements and furniture has been made. The stockholders and all funds deposited in local banks. The purpose of the meeting is to consider if the village should offer the promoters of the company a small bonus to establish a concern here.

The company will employ from 40 to 50 hands all the year around, and the orders already received amount to more than \$150,000.00.

All citizens interested in Birmingham development are requested to attend, as representatives of the company will be present and explain matters in detail.

To the boat, and with the help of the little boy and me, we pulled up anchor and towed the "Thing" and pulled it up on the sand, after which I towed him to the boat landing at Seven Mile beach. Norfolk Beach and I told that it was known as a Clamcracker, because they could crush clams and mussels like a boy can peanuts. I had no doubt of this for I turned him over and saw his horrible mouth full of teeth. The mouth was seven inches long square across the underside and about about six inches from the nose. It took one hour to subdue the thing. My next big fish was a fifty pound drum and it took without any price to bring to gaff. The next was a 60 pound drum and he fought hard for forty-eight minutes. This was a fine specimen and I decided to mount him, so I towed him three miles behind our boat and tied him to the dock here at Crescent Beach; went out next morning to kill him and found only the head and eight inches of his body left. He had been cut in two by a shark. Well, it was some time before I could get my life I ever harmed a shark, but in this case, I got busy in dead earnest. I camped on his trail with gun and hook and line; he kept out of the sight of my gun, and ran away with all of the bait and line. I was not to be beaten by a shark. I got a hook made of Harvested steel ten inches long and four inches across the bend of quarter inch size, and on this I put four three mallet. For line, I used 150 ft. quarter-inch manilla rope, and some four feet of stout chain, and cast it off the dock here in front of the little cottage I call home. I then went to my room to wash and shave. Presently Mr. Bortle, a shark, who had been on the dock, began to call: "Mr. Bortle, Mr. Bortle, a shark! a shark! I soon had the line and the fun was on. Say, 'twas great with a big G. In his heroic jumpings, twistings, tearing and tugging he had gotten the rope in the back part of his mouth, and many times around his body, and with the help of Mr. and Mrs. Johnston, aided, assisted and abetted by all the 'neighboring' men all landed here in this house, and his hide is now in the kitchen instead of the drum fish which he ate. J. H. B.

Watch Your Kidneys.
Their action controls your health. Read what Foley Kidney Pills have done for your neighbor, John H. Leuder, 248 Lake Avenue, Battle Creek, Michigan, says: "For three years I was afflicted with a disease of the kidneys which doctors called sugar diabetes. I doctored continually, but to no effect. Finally I stopped doctoring and started taking Foley Kidney Pills which I saw recommended so highly. A few weeks treatment of these pills relieved me of all my trouble and cured me of sugar diabetes, and I feel better than I have been for three years, and can once more personally recommend Foley Kidney Pills to all my friends, for I believe they are the best kidney and bladder medicine ever made. Sold by all druggists."

JNO. D. RIKER, M. D.
Practice limited to EYE, EAR, NOSE, THROAT & PONTIAC, MICH.

MADAM STRYKER—Electrolysis, manicuring, shampooing, hairdressing, electric and vibratory face massage, electric scalp treatment, hair drying and combing; permanent waves, hair manufacturing, artificial curls, pompadour and wig, made from combing; chemical corns removed without pain, blemishes and ingrowing nails cured. 205 Block, Room 2, Bell Phone 637. Corner Saginaw and North Second Streets.

FOLEY'S KIDNEY CURE
Makes Kidneys and Bladder Right

HARTFORD FIRE INSURANCE

Come to J. Allen Bigelow The Oldest Ins. Agency in Birmingham

All kinds of Insurance. Pension Blanks for all old soldiers. Houses, Lands, Lots and Farms for sale. Office—First floor, front room, Telephone Building. Office Phone, 11-3R. Residence phone, 75.

W. H. POOLE, M. D.
PRACTICE LIMITED TO EYE, EAR, NOSE AND THROAT
Office 205 Woodward Ave., just north of Century Bldg., Birmingham.

Frank Potter
Practical Piano Tuner
Detroit
Leave orders now at THE ECCENTRIC OFFICE.
City address, 217 Atkinson Ave.
Phone 1 Bell, North 3766.
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Handsome Presents
See Our Beautiful Display of
Diamonds
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THE ADOLPH ENGGASS JEWELRY CO.
Established 1869
Opposite 22 GREAT Huds. St. AVENUE.
Only a few doors from Woodward Avenue
DETROIT

If you want a Juicy Steak, an Edible Chop of any kind, from a sanitary shop don't fail to call at

Parks' Market
The best of everything is none too good for my patrons.
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MADAM STRYKER—Electrolysis, manicuring, shampooing, hairdressing, electric and vibratory face massage, electric scalp treatment, hair drying and combing; permanent waves, hair manufacturing, artificial curls, pompadour and wig, made from combing; chemical corns removed without pain, blemishes and ingrowing nails cured. 205 Block, Room 2, Bell Phone 637. Corner Saginaw and North Second Streets.

FOLEY'S KIDNEY CURE
Makes Kidneys and Bladder Right

1911 SPRING 1911

We are now receiving our new Spring line of Wall Paper, and can show you all the novelties in wall decorations. Our prices are right, running from 5c per roll up to the finest goods made.

We solicit inspection.

F. Blakeslee
Birmingham

"In the Spring, the young man's fancy Lightly turns to thoughts of"—a tender nature.

We have the finest
Onion Sets
You ever saw
RED WHITE YELLOW
THE QUART
Four Quarts for 25c

FRESH VEGETABLES
Lettuce Young Onions Radishes Silver-Skin Bermudas
FRUITS
Oranges Lemons Bananas Dried Peaches Dried Apricots Prunes

SPENCER & FERGUSON
FOOTWEAR GROCERIES FURNISHINGS



WE WANT YOU
to examine the **Corn King** manure spreader. We want to show you the many superior features found in its construction. We want to explain to you how easy and how convenient the working parts are arranged. We want to show you the substantial construction. We want to show you how by using the **Corn King** Manure Spreader, your boy can do as much work as a man. You will be surprised at the substantial construction. You will find the **Corn King** Manure Spreader like other Spreaders—it is in a class by itself. Call today. We are reserving a catalogue for you. It is filled with valuable information on soil maintenance and fertilizers. It is yours for the asking. If you are not ready to buy now, call anyway. We want to number you as a friend.

H. B. PARKS & CO.
BIRMINGHAM, MICH.

You Can Have Better Coffee
Yes, BETTER Coffee—and it need cost you no more than the watery, tasteless kind. Look here! Wouldn't you rather pay, say, 25c for a good, strong Coffee than 20c for a poor, weak one? Wouldn't it be better economy?

Royal Valley Coffee are usually strong, because they are so much more "body" than most Coffees; and they make richer flavored Coffee because they have so much more of that natural rich Coffee oil.

Coffee without that bitter taste—without that burned flavor—without that muddily color; richer, stronger, purer Coffee will be yours when you use **Royal Valley Mocha, Marigold, or Tazoo**. And you will be money ahead besides!

Ask anybody who has tried one of these delicious blends. Try one of them yourself—TODAY. **Mocha is 25c, Marigold 30c, and Tazoo 35c per pound.**

Spencer & Ferguson's