THE

BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC.

Devoted to Our Own Locality—We Labor for Its Interests

THIRTY-SEVENTH YEAR. NO 47. BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, FRIDAY, MARCH 19, 1915. WHOLE NUMBER, 1916.

SAN DIEGO, CAL.

Its History and Interesting Description of Exposition Grounds Given by W. Scott Jones.

Through the ingenuity and enthusiasm of the publicity department, California has been endeavoring for some time to attract the attention of this entire country to the extensive preparations it has been making to appropriately celebrate the completion of one of the great world events—the construction of the Panama canal. An achievement which is set forth in the following prophetic sentence on one of great arches in the Exposition grounds: "It is absolutely indispensable for the United States to effect a passage from the Mexican gulf to the Pacific ocean, and I am certain they will do it. Would that I might live to see it, but I shall not."

One of the cities in which an Exposition of twelve months duration will be held is San Diego, California, and there is so much of interest in the setting, that I will ask you to pardon the verbosity of two letters to portray very briefly the place as well as the Exposition.

"What shall be said of the sun born Pueblo,
This town sudden born in the path of the sun?
The town of St. James, of the calm San Diego,
As suddenly born as if shot from a gun!"

San Diego is not second to other California cities in the rapidity of its development. Where but a few years ago a struggling aggregation of unpretentious houses and stores marked a lively spot, today exists a city of 90,000 people, as up to date a city as this country can boast of, with the added charm of the constant caresses of the biggest creations on earth, the Pacific ocean on the one hand, and on the other hand the protecting arm of the great mountain range.

The secret of real advertising is to have at least one strong talking point, but San Diego has at least two talking points.

First, it claims a concession by the United States, that it has the finest climate under the Stars and Stripes. Here the sun shines on an average of 356 days in the year, according to the book, so that bright days are the winter program, giving this white season an average of 60 degrees, and the summer so modified by ocean and mountains it only averages eight degrees warmer. Only twice has the mercury ever digressed from its good behavior to fall as low as 32 in winter, and seldom wanders to the torridity of 90 degrees in summer.

The second talking point is, that it is the first port of call on the western coast to vessels passing through the Panama canal. It only requires a brief pause to consider the advantages in transportation, by reason of this short cut, to lessen our surprise at why the coast urges this achievement as its greatest salvation. One single illustration. The coal supply of Virginia is brought 7,000 miles nearer by water route, and if your coal bin was low this might make a little difference in the promptness of the next delivery.

San Diego is a city of no mean territory, when we know that its limits extend for a distance of 21 miles along bay and ocean with an average breadth of four miles. The city proper is built in amphitheatrical form overlooking two bays.

This city is the site of the first settlement by white men in California. In 1797 the Franciscan Father Junipero Serra founded and built the first of a string of 20 missions on the California coast. The San Diego Mission is located seven miles from the city, up what is known as Mission Valley. The adobe walls of the Mission, several feet thick, are now crumbling in ruins. The old bells now hanging in the belfry and the original palm and olive trees about the place, are the evidences of centuries ago.

Sixteen miles to the south is the Mexican border, over which we did not venture, having left our accident policy at home. And then again, one of the alluring baits dangled before the gullible tourist is "a free Spanish dinner with your ticket of transportation," and those who have had experience tell it right out in meetin' that both the dinner and stray Mexican bullets traveling towards the United States on the same road you are traveling, like the poetical goblins, have a fashion of "gittin' you if you don't watch out."

This city is rapidly growing in popularity as a spot for having a delightful vacation. The charm of its climate as well as its geographical location are winners. It is located on a landlocked bay, affectionately called the "harbor of the sun," affording an inspiring view as well as an opportunity for the recreations of fishing, sailing and swimming. It is also the objective point for the entertainment of United States vessels, and at present there floats in perfect peace in its great harbor, the Valparaiso, of "Fighting Bob" Evans' fame and one of the vessels a portion of Admiral Dewey's fleet at Manila and the grey fighter, San Diego.

The city is in the center of a network of fine boulevards, connecting with points of more than local interest in every direction, the roads being constructed at a cost of a million and a quarter dollars. The driveways are made luxurious by a continuous ornamentation with flowers, shrubs and trees, so that at the proper season, you bowl along a path bordered with beautiful-colored flowers, among which nestle the bungalows so quaint and graceful, that while you are compelled in good old orthodox belief, to acknowledge that the Sabbath was made for man and not man for the Sabbath, you are almost forced to conclude that bungalows were made for California and California for the bungalows and one for the other and both for each.

San Diego has many beautiful homes on beautiful sites, and there are located here many people of wealth, and the city has left far behind the idea of a wild western town and has long existed in an atmosphere of culture. Its business enterprise and its modern skyscrapers have kept well a pace with its social stride. The principal hotel in the city is the U. S. Grant, bearing the name of the distinguished son of the famous general. It is a fine piece of architecture, occupying a very central site in the city, beautifully decorated and furnished at a cost of $2,000,000.

(Continued next week)

OBITUARY.

MRS. MARY BURT BRAY

Mrs. Mary Bray was born in Troy township, Oakland county, Mich., May 19, 1844, the daughter of Ambrose and Hannah Burt. Her earlier years were spent mostly on farms in Novi, Troy and Southfield townships. On January 27, 1865, she was united in marriage to Daniel Bray, and she became the mother of four sons and four daughters, all of whom are living except our late townsman, Webster, who was laid to rest less than five months ago.

For many years her husband was in broken health, dying September 14, 1896. Since that time Mrs. Bray has continued in her cottage home in Birmingham. Mrs. Bray was of a determined and independent spirit, and of great physical endurance. These traits were so marked that some ten years ago they attracted the attention of a newspaper writer who furnished the following sketch to the Detroit Journal:

"Ten thousand dollars earned at the wash tub, raised a large family and still hale and hearty at 60 years of age, is the remarkable career of a well known woman of Birmingham.

"Thirty-six years ago, when her husband's health failed and he was no longer able to make a rented farm pay, Mrs. Mary Bray began to look about for something to do to help keep the wolf from the door, and was soon doing the family washings for her farmer neighbors for miles around.

"It was one continual round of wash, wash, wash, in Mrs. Bray's kitchen until they had to leave the farm. Fourteen years ago they came to Birmingham. Mrs. Bray was afraid she would not be able to get any work to do here, but as soon as she made her wants known, she had her hands full, and many a washing was hung on the line at midnight, while the flatirons were kept busy from that time until 3 or 4 o'clock in the morning.

"During the strenuous life of Mrs. Bray she has done as many as nine washings and six ironings in one week without help. She had but one accident, and that was one that would have put a less determined woman out of business for several weeks at least. She stepped out of the back door one frosty morning and fell and broke her left leg just above the ankle. She crawled into the house and told her husband to go for the doctor. Mr. Bray hastened to Franklin, three miles distant, and while he was gone Mrs. Bray finished washing her dishes, put her house in order and got to bed before Dr. Buell arrived. The leg was set and the doctor departed, and Mrs. Bray was out of bed with her knee in a chair beside the tub and the rub, rub, rub of the washboard was heard as usual. For the first week the doctor came every day, but Mrs. Bray had her tub placed where she commanded a view of the road and when he got there he found her in bed and Mr. Bray would be found washing out a few things for the children.

"During these thirty-six years at the washtub Mrs. Bray's earnings have averaged a little over $5 a week, and the grand total figures $10,000 in round numbers.

"Mrs. Bray is 60 years old and has raised a family of eight children. Web Bray is one of the well known stock buyers of Oakland county. Wilson Bray is city marshal of Birmingham and a deputy sheriff of Oakland county. Harrison Bray is a machinist and works in Pontiac. Doc Bray, the youngest boy, goes to school. There are four girls—Mrs. Robinson, of Birmingham; Mrs. Lovell, Troy; Mrs. Burnham, Rochester; and Miss Gertie Bray, a recent graduate of the high school.

"Mrs. Bray was born on a farm three miles from Birmingham and has lived in this vicinity all her life. Mr. Bray died in 1896.

"Mrs. Bray owns a neat little cottage in town and she informed the Journal that she would do but very little washing in the future. Mrs. Bray has never seen a sick day in her life."

This story of her indomitable will gets a touch of pathos with which the years were accompanied. That they were such in spite of her rugged strength is revealed in some lines which she wrote only a few weeks since, part of which we quote:

"In the heyday of youth the skies are bright;
We toil and labor till set of sun.
As life's light lowers toward the west,
We know our work is nearly done.
So let me rest, O let me rest!
I am so tired of strife and toil.
Please go away and let me sleep.
I am so weary of it all."

These years of over work weakened the strong heart and after months of repeated attacks of partial failure it suddenly ceased to beat early Thursday morning, March 11, 1915.

CARD OF THANKS.

The family of the late Mrs. Mary Bray desire to thank all who were so thoughtfully kind and ready to assist us in our recent bereavement; particularly those who sang at the funeral and those who bore our beloved mother to the grave.

MRS. LOTTIE ROBISON,
MRS. ALTA LOVELL,
MRS. VIOLA BURNHAM,
MRS GERTRUDE MILTZ,
HARRISON BRAY,
WILSON BRAY,
DOC BRAY.

GUARANTEED MILK FOR INFANTS

I take this method of announcing my intention of retailing milk and cream in Birmingham, commencing April 1. I intend giving customers the benefit of my long experience in production of sanitary and special infant milk from cows whose health is guaranteed by the United States Government through the Bureau of Animal Industry.

Practically the same careful features prevail as does in production of Walker-Gordon and Certified Milk, which is so eagerly sought at high prices in Detroit and other cities. This milk will come direct to you from my farm, without chance of contamination through extra handling.

When the hazard of using milk that is carelessly produced, which is probably the most susceptible medium for transmitting disease, is seriously considered you must agree that it is folly to submit to the danger, especially when you can get the best and most nourishing food known, produced by those who know how, under the most favorable conditions and strictest supervision, from healthy, contented cows. Why take chances of epidemic as was experienced by our neighbor village the past few months?

If interested in above, please communicate by mail or phone and place your order at 8c per quart for milk. Inspection solicited. Visitors welcome.

Yours truly,
C. P. S. PRICE,
Phone 254. Cranbrook Farm.

SOUTHFIELD REPUBLICAN CAUCUS

Notice is hereby given that the Republicans of Southfield will hold their caucus in Town Hall on Saturday, March 27, 1915, 1:30 p. m., to place in nomination candidates for the various Township offices and to transact such other business as may legally come before said meeting.

By order Southfield Township Committee.

JOSEPH BROOKS, Chairman.
Dated March 15, 1915.

John Hanna has sold four acres on Woodward avenue at the intersection of Oak avenue, to Charles Edwin Jones. The deal was made by Whitehead & Stanhart.

PROHIBITION DOES NOT PROHIBIT

A very significant feature in the present Local Option campaign which gives a line on the sentiment on this question throughout Oakland County, can be found in the results of the different village elections held last week. In every case where the lines were drawn on the so-called Wet and Dry issue, the WETS WON.

From the experience in Genesee County, where the records of the Transportation Companies for the month of December last show a shipment of 18,758 gallons of Beer and 2,018 gallons of whiskey, brandies, etc., it would seem that the Pray bill which makes necessary the registration of intoxicating liquors shipped into Dry territory does not have any appreciable effect on diminishing the number of such shipments. "Facts are stubborn things," and in spite of all arguments to the contrary, the figures of the Transportation Companies conclusively prove that the Pray bill does not prohibit the use of intoxicating liquors in Dry Counties. Since the Pray bill seems to have failed to accomplish in Genesee County what its friends ardently claimed for it, what reason have we to believe that the Leigh bill will be any more effective in this County.

The Leigh bill does not change the law. The principles of the Leigh bill in the main was the law during the time that Oakland County was Dry and as a matter of fact have always been the law. The conductor of an interurban had the undoubted right to regulate disorderly conduct, such as drinking whiskey in the car. He always had the right to stop the car and eject disorderly persons whether the disorderliness came from intoxication or, any cause. So far as the practical operation of the cars between here and Detroit is concerned, the Leigh Bill does not add on iota to the effectiveness. Conductors are hired for the purpose of operating cars and collecting fares and not for the purpose of being bouncers, pugilists or general rough-necks. People who get upon the D. U. R. cars have no right to expect that disorderliness of any kind will occur on the car and they have no right to expect that the cars will stop when they reach a village or other place in order that the conductor may hunt up an officer and hand over drunken individuals to his care. This article of the Local Option Committee shows that they expect disorderly conduct on the cars in case it goes Dry.

PROHIBITION DOES NOT PROHIBIT.

Shall the Manufacture of Liquor and the Liquor Traffic be Prohibited Within the County?

YES [ ] Means Dry. NO [X] Means Wet.

The above question will be submitted to the voters of the County of Oakland for their decision on Monday, April 5, 1915, on a separate ballot.

A ticket marked as above, with the cross in the brackets following the word "No" votes wet.

TO HAVE YOUR VOTE COUNT, BE SURE TO MAKE THE CROSS WITHIN THE BRACKET OR CIRCLE. If you do not your vote may be thrown out by the election board.

Adv. ANTI-LOCAL OPTION COMMITTEE.

THEORY VS. PRACTICE

In justice court at Flint Monday morning, 21 persons, two of them women, were arraigned for drunkenness. This is further proof of the fact, if more is needed, that county option does not mean prohibition. What it does mean, and why a good many persons oppose it, is that it turns the liquor traffic over to irresponsible persons whom it is difficult or impossible for the law to reach, or else into the hands of those who can not be made to contribute a cent toward the expenses of government which their business undoubtedly creates.

County option does mean the abolition of the open saloon. There is no question about that. If that were all that is necessary to destroy the liquor traffic, all well and good, but any one who recollects the conditions in Holly when the county was "dry" knows it is not. There is not much in the argument that trade will be driven away if the town goes "dry." The reason for this, however, is not that persons will willingly go without a drink if they want it and can't get it over a bar, but because they can get a supply easily enough in some other way—and not necessarily have to send out of town for it, either.

A county has no authority to regulate the shipment of liquor into its precincts. A state has, and that is just the reason why a good many persons who will vote against local option would favor state prohibition. To the extent that you can curtail the shipment of liquor into dry territory, to that extent you make prohibition effective. And it is the only way it can be done.

It is claimed that because over thirty counties in Michigan are dry, that that is proof that local option is a success. But how many of those counties are in the dry column for good? Comparatively few, and those only having a small or a largely rural population. Populous counties, with large cities and villages, like Oakland, Genesee, Calhoun and Ingham, vacillate between "wet" and "dry" about every two years, depending generally upon the proportion of the total vote that is cast. The question is never settled, and never will be in that way, but is continually a disturbing factor in every such community. How such a policy can in any way advance the cause of prohibition it is difficult to see.

Those who oppose county option are frequently accused of doing so from mercenary and unworthy motives. The charge has been made here in Holly during the present campaign from the platform by paid Anti-Saloon league workers, that they are being bribed to vote "no," April 5. Everybody knows what was implied in this accusation, which was nothing less than an insult. No person can debauch the electorate of Holly against their honest convictions on any moral question, but when experience has taught them that local option does not mean any improvement in either moral or social conditions they feel justified in opposing it for financial reasons. This is another phase of the question, one that is difficult to handle for the reason above stated, that you are at once accused of accepting a bribe, but it is nevertheless a factor worth considering. As against real prohibition, it wouldn't be, not in the least, but as against county option it is.—Holly Advertiser.

This—and Five Cents.

Don't miss this. Cut out this slip, inclose 5c to Foley & Co., Chicago, Illinois, writing your name and address clearly. You will receive in return a trial package containing Foley's Honey and Tar Compound, for coughs, colds and croup; Foley Kidney Pills, and Foley Cathartic Tablets. Sold everywhere.—Adv.

Phone 65 Phone 38

Macaroni Spaghetti and Our Prime Old N. Y. Cheese

Are a combination to make a gourmand smack his lips. Welch Rarebit is delicious with Our Cheese.

Did You See Grape Fruit in Our Window

Mediums, per dozen, 35c
Large size, 5c each; per dozen, 50c
Mammoth, 10c each; 3 for 25c
OH, SO RICH AND JUICY!

Oranges Most delicious Navels at the height of their goodness for the season.
Canned Fish All kinds for the Lenten Season. Also Salt Fish of all sorts.
Tzar Coffee Is generously good---at the price unapproachable ---rich, mellow drink.

MINER GROCERY CO.
"THE HOME OF GOOD THINGS TO EAT"

WE HAVE

Some extra good vacant lots, dwellings and farms for sale cheap. List your property with us for quick sale.

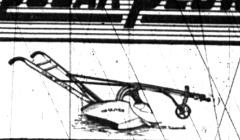
Continental Insurance Co. has largest surplus.

Oakland Realty Co.
"Nothing But Bargains"

DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE FIRE?

Yes. Any insurance? Yes; loss fully covered in one of R. E. Griggs' old reliable companies, and soon new buildings will rise on the blackened ruins better than the old. The period of cyclones is here. Better get ready for them, too. Same about that new automobile. The companies can stand for the collision or loss of a life better than you can. See Griggs at 321 Willits Street. Phone 333J.

POPULAR PLOWS



The Oliver O-98 and O-99 are especially popular where new ground is being opened up—and in sections where stones prevail, the steel beam plow takes the lead; its great strength being a very desirable feature where it is subjected to severe strains and severe usage.

Fitted with reversible wings and slips, with solid shares as extras, if desired.

Jointers or hanging coulters, as well as rolling coulters can be supplied on these two plows.

The usual Oliver quality—the best.

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You Can Depend Upon This Store --Always.

What We Advertise We Do

We also advertise to furnish you the best of Qualities at the lowest prices such Qualities can be sold for, and good service. A host of pleased customers will tell you that we live up to our promises. Prove it for yourself—today and tomorrow—all the time—and enjoy advantages afforded you only at this up-to-the-minute Grocery House. You get the same service whether you come in person or phone your order.

That Coffee

People who appreciate good Coffee buy "PATHFINDER." That's the name. It's pure Coffee in the first place, and is fresh-roasted daily by the most modern process known. "PATHFINDER" stands alone at the price. Don't pay 35c and 40c when this great Coffee is better at 30c per pound.

This store is headquarters for all kinds of Fruit—Oranges, Grape Fruit; Bananas—and don't forget those nice Steele's Red Apples. Baldwins, too, at 30c per peck.

Look over our big line of Men's Fine Work Shirts, Overalls; Canvas Gloves, and Rubber Boots. Everything mentioned is of high quality.

Call Phone 222 and get the best.

On and after March 15 this store will be open evenings till 6 o'clock.

H. G. SPENCER & COMPANY
"The Big Staple House"

San-Tox

Dr. E. Mather

Has removed from 46 Warren Avenue East, Detroit, to 228 South Gratiot Avenue Mt. Clemens, Michigan Where he will receive patients.

E. Mather, M. D., will make Chronic Diseases and Baths a specialty. Cars pass the door. 20jun"

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

There Is No Question but that indigestion and the distressed feeling which always goes with it can be promptly relieved by taking a Rexall Dyspepsia Tablet before and after each meal. 25c a box. Charles J. Shain.

FOLEY'S HONEY AND TAR stops the cough and heals lungs

FOLEY'S KIDNEY CURE Makes Kidneys and Bladder Right