

THE ECCENTRIC

Birmingham, Michigan
GEORGE R. AVERILL, Publisher
\$1.50 Per Year in Advance.

Entered as second-class matter in the Postoffice at Birmingham, Michigan.

FRIDAY, JULY 1, 1921

HOW MANY LIVE HERE?

If an outsider read the last issue of the Eccentric and, scanning over the results of Tuesday's election, he should see that 354 local residents turned out at election time, he would probably mumble to himself: "What a little lull; but they go to bed with the chickens; carry water from the town pump and spend every holiday chasing the cows off the main road so the weekly stage may totter up to the general store." And we can't blame him or anybody else for so thinking.

At the annual Village election this spring a total of 1106 voters attended the polls. This was the greatest turn-out in the entire history of the Village. It merely proved that more than a thousand local residents were enough interested in the affairs of the town to express themselves at the polls. It was a healthy sign of civic pride—of civic spirit.

What happened last week?—ah, let's whisper it—a total of 354 voters attended the polls. The issue at stake was the most urgent that could attract the attention of any community. We need water—a remedy was offered at this election to solve in a great measure our trouble. Everybody—whether he or she attended the polls or not—is vitally interested in the water supply. Did everybody vote? They did if you can make 354 equal 1006.

Personally, we regret that the issue didn't carry—it lost by only 16 votes. Where the balance of the 1106 voters—752 in number. The election results show that they did not have enough interest in their community to walk over to the Town Hall and cast their votes.

The issue involved—the greatest question for Birmingham—is not that the bond issue for the erection of the 300,000 gallon tank did not carry, but rather that so few local residents turned out in response to the call of civic duty. Is Birmingham to be a "bedroom town?" Do not the people here pay taxes as well as the people of other communities? Do we expect to "get anywhere" by not using our right to the franchise? It is a lamentable fact that of the 354 voters who did attend Tuesday's election, more than two-thirds of them were women (God bless 'em).

Aside from the fact that we are an integral part of the United States, we are first, last and always, BIRMINGHAM! We must, of course, obey the laws of State and Nation but, on the other hand, we make and pass our own ordinances; we hold, in a large measure, the immediate happiness and well-being of ourselves in our own hands. We can make of Birmingham a veritable paradise—it lies within our co-operative achievement to do this. But we'll never accomplish anything as a community unless we "stick together."

There is absolutely no excuse why any eligible person should not vote at an election. If we are well and able to go to the polls, all right; if we are sick we can swear in our vote at our own home; if we are away we can make a sworn statement of our intentions and send in our vote through the medium of an "absent voter's ballot."

"PRESS PICKINGS"
The village tax rate for Redford this year will be \$12 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation. This is the same as last year.

Officials of the village of Northville have issued an order to the people there, limiting the water supply for sprinkling to one hour each day.

The apple crop in Michigan this year will not exceed forty per cent of that of normal times, according to a report by L. E. Taff, state inspector of orchards and nurseries.

DE CROUPEY IRON WORKS
MANUFACTURERS OF
STRUCTURAL, ORNAMENTAL IRON AND STEEL WORK
1369 MONROE AVE.
MAIN 4170 DETROIT

Royal Oak has purchased a new turbine pump to aid in supplying water to its residents. The new pump is to have a capacity of 600 gallons per minute.

Two new temporary schools will be built in Royal Oak this summer if the people there vote in favor of it at a special election to be held July 13.

Forty-Four Years Ago
Miss Emma Wilson died in the residence of her parents in Birmingham on Sunday morning June 30, 1876 in the twenty-ninth year of her age.

Twenty-Five Years Ago
A nickel to Royal Oak in seven minutes is what makes our village citizens so friendly with the Oakers.

THE GREAT CONTROVERSY
There is much debate in the country of late. Concerning greed and oppression; Some say we are sold to the demon of gold.

Oh, it's freely confessed that the poor are oppressed;
And treated with execration;
Poets sing their wrongs in pathetic songs;
With a doleful articulation.

"PRESS PICKINGS"
The village tax rate for Redford this year will be \$12 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation. This is the same as last year.

ECCENTRICITIES
How did the election suit you?
Speaking of suits and being suited we'll have 'to' mail for water all summer?
How's your garden getting along?
A little exercise with the hoe will do things that water won't.

SAFETY FIRST!
COAL
Order yours now while the price is at its lowest and save money.
If you figure building consult us.
Our prices are right.
A complete stock of Finished Lumber under cover.
—Prompt Delivery, All Parts—

BIRMINGHAM LUMBER CO
All Kinds of Building Material. Interior Finish Specialized.
PHONE 541

CHAMPION AUTOMATIC SPRAYER
Manufactured by JOHN H. MARLOTTE
PHONE 484 207-209 S. WOODWARD AVE. Birmingham, Mich.

BEEN BUSY ALL SPRING
Somebody's getting a lot of good work cheap
FRUE THE FURNACER
EAST MAPLE AVENUE

Firestone
30x3 1/2 Standard Non-Skid Tire
\$13.95
This new low price is made possible by strictest economies and specialized production.

Firestone Cord Tires
Tire repair men, who judge values best, class these tires as having the sturdiest carcass made.
Dealer—BIG BEAVER GARAGE, Big Beaver, Mich.

GRAND TRUNK STOPS CHICAGO NIGHT EXPRESS
The Grand Trunk Railway has arranged to stop on signal train No. 115, Chicago Night Express, at Birmingham, to pick up passengers for South Bend and points west thereof, which, of course, includes Chicago.

BLOOMFIELD CONSTRUCTION CO.
General Building Contractors
All kinds of Construction Work Building Altering and Repairing, large or small, solicited. Estimates and bids cheerfully submitted.

NOTICE
The Annual Meeting of School District No. 1 Fr. of the Townships of Bloomfield, Troy, Royal Oak, and Southfield, Oakland County, Michigan, for the election of School District Officers and for the transaction of such other business as may lawfully come before it, will be held in the Baldwin Auditorium in said District on Monday, the 11th Day of July, 1921, at 7 o'clock P. M., Central Standard Time.

BIRMINGHAM PAVING CO.
Concrete Construction
SIDEWALKS, CURB AND GUTTER
MOSAIC AND TERRAZZO FLOORS
TILE FLOORS
Room 4, Ford Building
PHONE 312-J
Birmingham Michigan

PONTIAC COMMERCIAL AND SAVINGS BANK
Pontiac, Michigan
PROMPTNESS in transaction of business
ABSOLUTE SAFETY
UNFAILING COURTESY
HELPFUL MANAGEMENT

AUTOMOBILE PAINTING AND TRIMMING
Sign Painting Metal Bumping
BERT MOORE
Located At Marlotte's Garage
207 S. WOODWARD AVE. PHONE 434

KEEPING COOL IN HOT WEATHER
In the hot summer days an Electric Fan will bring cool invigorating breezes into the home—the office—the shop.
The Detroit Edison Co.

EAGLE 'MIKADO' PENCIL, No. 174
Regular Length, 7 inches
For Sale at your Dealer. Made in five grades
EAGLE PENCIL COMPANY, NEW YORK