

THE ECCENTRIC

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GET OUT-OF-DOORS

What is more beautiful than a
splendid picture? What is more
softening than the perfect blending
of colors? What is better than even
the highest arts of man? Nothing,
we believe, but the actual expressions
of a seemingly invisible Nature that
works eternally in the great out-of-
doors of the world.

This is probably the prettiest time
of the year and Nature again—as in
ages gone by and for ages to come—
has been busy in her great workshop.
The great out-of-doors is calling to
man and his mate to wander over the
highways and byways in the chill,
frosty air of these fall days to view
the green, the yellow, the red and
the gold—these vivid colors that
Nature, the supreme artist of all,
has painted upon the ever-changing
canvas of the world.

Is there a luckier people than those
who dwell within the confines of our
Oakland county to have as their
heritage such a real, out-of-doors?
Hundreds of lakes, nearly, miles of
winding roads, thousands of woodlots
and glowing sunsets tell to the in-
habitants of Oakland county that they
daily feast their eyes upon a land
that, ere long, will soon be covered
with a blanket of whiteness, beneath
which slumbers life in all its out-of-
door forms.

A long, cold winter, perhaps, lies
ahead of us here. A good deal of our
time will be spent indoors, within
walls of man's making. Now is the
time when we can pay homage to
Nature by witnessing her changing
ways—we can veritably drink into
our lives more of the goodness, whole-
someness and religion if we partake
of her offering ere old King Boreas
begins to blow his chilling breath
from his northern abode.

REFORM

So much has been said about re-
formers, especially since the passing
of the Volstead Act, that the word,
overworked and abused, has become
a synonym for Devil in the minds of
thousands who believe that profes-
sional mischief-makers are at the
bottom of all our troubles.

It is doubtless true that there are
fanatics who would like to see chains
of repression upon us, and at least
an aspect of holiness about us, who
would like to make us walk with our
eyes on the clouds and our feet on
grass, and sit at home in spare moments
studying the catechism. Yes, there
are creatures—we can't call them
men and women—who would put
the human race under the rule of
thumb, would forbid us to think, and
we should become prim, precise and
priggish prudes.

But there are other reformers—
great men and women. It is from
these that lasting reforms come and
by them we progress. Without re-
form this world be a dead weight, and
of nature moves and we must do like-
wise. The law of life is to construct
and reconstruct. Reform is as cer-
tain as day and night.

The purpose of reform is to im-
prove the whole of society. If it is
conceded simply that the majority
of a few narrow thinkers then it de-
serves to fail. We do not favor "blue
laws" nor in fact any governmental
restriction that does not at first
meet with public approval. But we
know reform to be as necessary as it
is inevitable.

"Now-Rubbing My Rous Kiss"—
headline. Yes, colds are rather dis-
agreeable.

He who has never done anything
wrong, never did very much.

A wise man is one who can panage
his wife without letting her suspect
it.

Pull may help, but lots of push will
get you farther.

All fish are not caught with hooks.
Fictitious but air only heats you under
the collar.

Have you mailed your Christmas
packages yet?

FROM THE ECCENTRIC COLUMNS
Forty-Four Years Ago
Last week, S. R. Newman's applica-
tion for a pension was granted, and
Uncle Sam will hand over to Mr.
Newman about \$1,000 which he has
received during the late unpleasant-
ness.

A comedioner corn crib has been
erected on the Lawson farm. Good
for Jake! Go ahead!

Detroit has a tobacco house which
spends an average of \$1,000 a year
for stamps.

Married—At Commerce, Oct. 29,
Mr. Matthew Erwin of Southfield, to
Miss Mary McKibben of Commerce.
May be waiting years bring peace
and prosperity.

Ed Miller and his brother, Charlie,
have a strong family resemblance,
and are quite frequently mixed up by
their acquaintances, but when they
young lady who was dancing with Ed
at the Archery Party the other night,
informed him that she thought that
his brother Ed was a confirmed old
man, he would dry up and blow away
some day," he thought it was time
distinction was made in some manner.

On a serious accident happened to
C. M. Raynal on his return from
Mr. Clemens last Friday evening
was driving hitched to his carriage,
took flight and in two jerks had
upset the buggy, throwing all the
occupants, John Allen and C. M. R.
The horse was followed nearly six
miles but was not found until the fol-
lowing Sunday about three miles
from Utica. The horse was all right
but that is more than we can say for
the buggy, which was a total wreck.

Twenty-Five Years Ago

There is again strong talk of an
electric railway from Detroit to Ann
Arbor.

Special to farmers—Tomlinson,
photographer, will exchange photos
for farm produce, for a few days.

A little Lamb is safely sheltered
within the fold of Rosa Lee's arms.
He joined the flock last week and is
no black sheep, either.

George F. Daines is slowly con-
valescing from an acute attack of
appendicitis. Dr. C. M. Daines is in
attendance but Sunday night Dr. F.
R. Galbraith had to be called to help
the victim's suffering, which were
intense. An operation for the relief
of the patient was closely missed and
now G. F. D. is slowly recovering.

Claire Aldrich Sunday in Pon-
tiac.

Auctioneer Blunt comes to the
front again. He is acquiring a most
noted character for veracity. He
solemnly affirms that on his late visit
to Pool Huron, he killed at one shot,
eight rabbits—Next!

Mrs. E. F. Peabody is thoroughly
overhauling her Woodward avenue
home. The Hookman will change it
around to the first of November, when
he has a reception hall and bath room,
and all modern up-to-date conveni-
ences. With new painting and pan-
ing, she will have one of the finest
houses in Birmingham.

The fifth wedding anniversary of
Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Houghton was very
celebrated at their home last Satur-
day. A large company was in at-
tendance and host and hostess were
the recipients of many gifts, tokens
and ornamental tokens of friendship.

PRESS PICKINGS

About a year ago A. J. Anderson
and F. W. Craft purchased 40 acres
of wooded land in the town of Roch-
ester and just north of the inter-
section of the Pontiac and the Dodge
roads, and have since that time been
inventing in adapting it to Silver Fox
breeding. The location is considered
ideal for the purpose, being well tim-
bered with second growth oak and
other trees which afford sufficient
shade to prevent the sun from fall-
ing and disfiguring the pelts. Recently
83 pairs of the best breeding silver
foxes from Prince valued at \$2,000 per
pair were deposited at the farm. Most of these
are said to be prize winners.

During the year ending Sept. 30,
1912, the county superintendent of
the poor cared for 134 persons at the
county home, of whom 99 were men
and 35 women. The average in 1912
and the oldest 90 years of age.

Austin Skidmore, a life-long resi-
dent and farmer of Oxford township,
passed away recently at the home of
his daughter, Mrs. J. H. Harty, at
Pontiac, after a brief illness of heart
trouble.

First prize in the class of soft win-
ter wheat was won by a Michigan
grower at the International Wheat
Show at Wichita, Kan. He is C. D.
Finkbeiner of Clinton, a member of
the Michigan Crop Association. His
entry consisted of one bushel of cer-
tified Red Rock wheat.

Agents of the United States de-
partment of agriculture who are
combating black stem rust by erad-
icating the common barberry, remov-
ed 19,500 bushes in Oakland county
last month, according to reports just
sent to Washington by Walter F.
Reddy, state leader of the federal
forces.

Expenditure from Oakland county's
general fund for the series of engin-
eering January 1, and ending October
1 of this year totaled \$1,036,725.85.
According to the report of the board
of the county board of auditors ad-
mitted to the board of supervisors.

DOES THIS MEAN YOU?

An Oxford farmer remarked the
other day the merchants make an
awful ad because we send to some
catalogue house for few articles.
I can't see why. Just the other day
I got a letter from an Oxford mer-
chant and his letter contained an
advertisement of some soap con-
cern. The letterheads may have been
given him, but that's his no excuse.
How much better it would have lood-
ed if this space had been left blank
and contained an ad of his firm, or
even better still, if he had patronized
his local print shop.—The Oxford
Leader.

Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Gladden were
the host and hostess to a number of
relatives at a dinner party at their
home on Brown street, last week.
Among those present were Mr. and
Mrs. Theron Gladden and Mrs. Gus
Donald of Okonago, and Mr. and
Mrs. A. Gladden and son, Billie, of
Royal Oak. After dinner, a social
time was enjoyed, after which the
guests departed to their respective
homes.

After several weeks' visit with her
daughter, Mrs. H. D. Goza of St.
Louis, Mrs. S. G. Pierce has returned
to her home on Frank and Purdy
streets.

Mrs. Hulda Schultz of Watkins
street, entertained a number of
friends and relatives at a luncheon
and dinner Tuesday last week.
About twenty guests were present.
Detroit, were present. Chrysanthemums
were the only decorations used.
Miss Mary Garton is attending the
program for the day. This is one of
the numerous parties given by the
family, as some one member of the
family is hostess once a month.

Mr. and Mrs. Sol Capling of Bad
Axe, who have been the guests of Mr.
and Mrs. John Gould of Franklin, left
Saturday for their home in Bad Axe.
While they were here they visited
Linden, Mich., with Mr. and Mrs.
Gould, being the guests of Mrs. Guy
Weber of that city.



One Adviser Suggests Danger Signals
and Tail Lights Should Not
Be of Same Color.

AUTO ACCIDENTS
ARE INCREASING

COL. R. C. VANDERCOOK, HEAD
OF STATE SAFETY DEPART-
MENT, SEEKS DATA
ON CAUSES.

MAY ASK FOR LEGISLATION

In an effort to determine, if possible,
the most frequent causes of the
serious automobile accidents which are
increasing at such an alarming rate
on all the country roads, Col. Roy C.
Vandercok, head of the Michigan de-
partment of Public Safety is preparing to
send out a questionnaire to local and
county automobile club officials,
clubs and such others as may be pos-
sessed of information, for the purpose
of securing data of how most of the
accidents happen.

"There has been a good deal of talk
to the effect that the state speed limit
it, which was increased from 25 miles
to 35 by the last legislature, was re-
sponsible for the greatly increasing num-
ber of accidents," says Colonel
Vandercok. "It is my impression
that the speed of cars, at least on the
open, has little to do with most of
the accidents which happen. It may
be that speed over crossings,
through intersections, where auto-
mobiles are meeting may cause acci-
dents, and it may be that some re-
strictive legislation to cover such
cases may be necessary, but I hardly
believe that a general restriction of
speed would make much difference."

Accidents increase.
"It is absolutely true, however, that
automobile accidents have increased
the summer of this year, which is nat-
urally appalling. I have felt that a
tabulation of state-wide statistics on
the cause of accidents may develop
something which will throw some
light on the situation. If the infor-
mation which I am going to ask about
develop anything which might be
helpful, it will be put it up to the
next legislature. If there is
nothing which can be reached by law
we will continue our campaign to edu-
cate motorists to use more care. We
certainly must do everything possible
to curb the accidents which are tak-
ing such a toll in life and property."

Michigan trunk highways were the
scene of a number of serious acci-
dents over the Labor Day period, when
traffic was much heavier than normal.
Motorists going into Detroit from the
center of the state by one main high-
way saw three wrecks in the ditches
one car, a big closed machine, had
been tossed into the ditch by a rail
way train at a crossing and had
burned. Two others had suffered col-
lisions with other cars and they had
burned. On another road one car had
been struck by an interurban killing
several people, the wreck tearing up
the road and the striking telephone
posts until the scene looked like the
scene of a cyclone, while another had
been in collision and had burned in
the ditch. These two wrecks were
the result of accidents occurring in
two or three days and on but two of
the many main highways.

One Suggestion.
The suggestion which has been
made by the commissioner has been
for thought in it, although it would
probably be impossible of adoption
without long preparation, and that
is that the color of the tail light be
changed from red to some other color
which is not in such general use for
other purposes.

Several cases have been reported to
Colonel Vandercok where drivers
seeing a red light ahead, have taken
the light for the receding tail light of
another machine, only to find when
too late to stop that the red gleam
was from a danger signal on an ob-
structed road.

They would undoubtedly be serious
complications attending any effort to
change the color of the tail light,
light without general cooperation
with other states and with the manu-
facturers of automobiles. Michigan
could not prescribe one color of tail
light while neighboring states speci-
fied another, because too many auto-
mobiles are used in interstate travel
and endless confusion would result
if the same time there is considerable
weight in the suggestion for a change
and the matter may be taken up with
other State Police forces and with
manufacturers.

In the meantime Colonel Vander-
cok is giving much attention to the
matter of automobile accidents. In the
hope of finding some method of cutting
their number.

Popular Entertainer Coming

J. Coates Lockhart Has Toured
World as Singer—Heads Fine
Lycium Company Here.



J. COATES LOCKHART.

Mr. J. Coates Lockhart is to appear
at the Lyceum here on Saturday.

Besides being a native of Scotland,
and one of the very best of Scotch en-
tertainers, a friend of Sir Harry Lan-
der, and co-interpretor with him of
the Inimitable Scotch songs and sto-
ries, Mr. Lockhart is a concert tenor
of very great ability, reputation and
experience. He has sung with the
Henry W. Savage Grand Opera Co.,
the Grand Opera Co., at the Metropolitan,
New York, the Hibernia Opera Co.,
of London, England, and many others,
as well as with various celebrated con-
cert organizations here and abroad.

MICKIE SAYS

"TH' REASON I SHULD ALL TH'
TIME IS BECAUZ I DONT NEVER
DO NO WORRING! BIZNESS
MIGHT BE BETTER N IT
MIGHT BE A HULL LOY WORSE
AN' WERE ON TH' UPGRADE
AGAIN, WATERS IS WANN
ALWAYS WEAR A SMILE!
YOU TRY ONE!"



SADIE

PERSONALS

A private auction sale was held
at the Alexander Copland farm on
Strawberry Hill Wednesday of last
week. There was a large crowd
present and everything that was put
up for sale was sold.

Mrs. Jennie Ferguson of the Dodge
road, was the guest of Mrs. Ellen
Peabody of Willets street, last
week.

Last week Mr. and Mrs. H. S.
Gaskill of Hastings, were the guests
of Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Gaskill of
East Maple avenue.

Hyslop & Harris have opened a
high grade dress-making shop at 520
South Woodward avenue. They are
fitted to make dresses for street or
party wear, specializing on party
gowns. Suits are man-tailored.

Mrs. George Groves of Hazel
street, was the guest of friends and
relatives in Metamora and Lapeer
last week.

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Capital, One Million Dollars
THE LARGEST BANK IN OAKLAND COUNTY

ILENE DAVIDSON.

Miss Ilene Davidson is the brilliant
saxophonist and contralto with Lock-
hart Scotch Lassies Company coming
here soon on the Lyceum course.

Mr. J. Coates Lockhart, Scottish
tenor and entertainer, heads this ex-
ceptional concert organization. As-
sisted with him are Miss Davidson,
Miss Irene Masters, coloratura so-
prano and pianist, and Miss Mabel
Forester, mezzo-soprano and violinist.

PEOPLE OF OUR TOWN



Here's to the Ordinary Fellow, who
never gets Papers,
but Just Plugs Along day after day
doing his job, raising a Family and
acting the Part of a Good Citizen.
We can't All be Heroes in this Game
of Life and, after all, it's the Private
who really counts.

PERSONALS

Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Hassberger of
Highland Park, were week-end guests
of Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Hassberger of
Yorkshire road.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Heacock and
son, James Arthur, of Ypsilanti, for-
merly of Birmingham, were Bir-
mingham visitors Tuesday last week.
They were the guests of Mrs. Alta
Green of Browell street.

Over Saturday and Sunday of last
week Mr. and Mrs. Frank Fox of
Rochester, were the guests of Mr.
Fox's nephew, O. B. Harper of South
Woodward avenue.

Sunday, Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin
Harris and Mr. and Mrs. Harry
Berry of Toledo, motored to Bir-
mingham to visit Mr. and Mrs. L. Har-
rison of Birmingham.

Mrs. A. E. Padden of Windsor,
spent Wednesday last week with
Mrs. J. S. Hassberger of Yorkshire
Road.

Miss Anna Schultz of West Maple
road left last week for the western
part of the state, where she expects
to visit. Miss Schultz has been one of
Birmingham's popular young ladies
and her presence will be missed among
her associates and friends.

The O. G. Club, formerly the
M. D. C., had a business meeting at
the home of Miss Genevieve Wahl on
Brown street on Tuesday last week.
Various phases of business were
discussed after which a light
lunch was served.

Mrs. E. L. Pomeroy of Woodward
avenue was a guest of Mrs. W. H.
Wednesday to Saturday last week.

St. James Parish had a dinner and
rally Thursday evening, Oct. 26, at
seven o'clock. This was the first
social gathering of the season. The
Rev. Harry Robinson of Detroit, was
the guest of honor and speaker of
the evening, the subject being of the
Church's advance.

Miss Marjorie Riley of Buffalo, is
visiting Mrs. Lee Smithman of
South Woodward avenue. She will
remain here for two weeks.

Roy Hansen and Hans Olsen were
in Grand Rapids to attend the
L. O. O. F. Grand Lodge Conven-
tion as representatives of Birmingham
Lodge No. 547.

Mrs. Mack Shain and Mrs. Charles
Hallow motored to Grand Rapids to
attend the Rebekah assembly, which
was held last week, as representatives
of the Grand Lodge of Oakland Lodge.

ARSON ARRESTS
BENEFIT TO FARMERS

In one district of New Jersey it has
been the custom for many years for
the insurance companies to refuse in-
surance to farmers because of the
known fact that there were many
grudge fires, in which barns and even
houses were consumed, which could
be due to revenge. The New Jersey
state police investigated and made many
arrests resulting in convictions. As a
result rural fire insurance companies
diminished and insurance companies
are now sending their agents in to
write insurance again.

Last week, Mr. and Mrs. Wiley
Bassett of Highland Park, were visi-
tors at the home of W. F. Bassett of
Pierce street.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Miller of San
Francisco, who have been visiting at
the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. G.
Gardner of Winwood avenue, left Friday
for Kalamazoo. They were accom-
panied by Mr. and Mrs. Coates, who
spent the week-end there. Mr. and
Mrs. Miller left for their home Mon-
day.

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