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Birmingham Eccentric

"For a Bigger and Better Birmingham"

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It is a good plan to list your wants in this column—the price is as low as 25 cents. If you need help, or want to buy or sell anything, just call us on the phone—No. 11.

FORTY-FIFTH YEAR—NO. 44. BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1923. $1.50 PER YEAR—SINGLE COPIES 5c.

ENDS 14 YEARS AS POSTMASTER HERE

George H. Mitchell, Ardent Democrat, Relates Incidents Of 70 Years OUT ON WEDNESDAY

Seventy years old and never been away from Birmingham more than two weeks at one time; fifty-four years spent in the pursuit of a livelihood and retirement from active labors in a spot within 30 feet from where he first saw the light of day. Such is the unique experience of George Henry Mitchell of 110 Brown street, whose duties as local postmaster ceased Wednesday of this week.

It is rather odd that anyone should be filled with joy at being supplanted in a job by another, but Mr. Mitchell—judging from the smiles that lighted his countenance Wednesday—was the happiest man in Oakland county as he formally handed over to James W. Cobb, his successor as Birmingham's postmaster, the reins of the agent of Uncle Sam. And, from now on, according to Mr. Mitchell, the routine of work will not bother him and he can nonchalantly forget to wind up his alarm clock each evening and sleep until noon. Indeed, he can also enjoy the sensation of having his mail delivered to his home by someone other than himself.

"I first began to work in 1870 for J. Allen Bigelow, who now lives on West Maple avenue, and who was then the Birmingham postmaster," related Mr. Mitchell this week in an interview. "I was then a little just sixteen. The post office was located in the old Academy Building on West Maple avenue. I received the magnificent sum of $100 per year. As postmaster then, Mr. Bigelow, who had just returned from the Civil war, received a grand total of $550 per year. His salary was based on the number of stamps cancelled per annum.

"For two years I labored for Uncle Sam under Captain Bigelow, and then resigned to work for Frank Hagerman, now president of the First State Savings Bank of Birmingham, in the drug and grocery business, in partnership with Mr. Hagerman for eight years and then Amheron Whitehead, now president of the First National Bank of Birmingham, and I joined our forces and meager capital in the same business.

"During Mr. Whitehead's and my business life in Birmingham we have been everything from postmaster, telephone manager, notary public, town treasurer, village clerk and president, with a multitude of other titles thrown in. We have sold everything from pins to pianos. At one time, on our store steps, there were piled 27 sewing machines, two parlor organs and a piano."

In 1878 Mr. Whitehead and Mr. Mitchell founded the Birmingham Eccentric. It was about the size of a handbill, but in a few months was enlarged, and, although it had its perilous days of financial life, was faithfully printed each week.

Although the Birmingham telephone exchange now renders service to over 1100 subscribers, Mr. Mitchell can remember, back in 1894, when it had but seven subscribers. He also recalls that subscribers were just as irate at times then as they are now, for he was local manager for the telephone company at one time. The seven subscribers in 1894 were: R. Smith & Co., Watkins Farm, Water Works statioh, C. H. Schlaack & Co., D. U. R. powerhouse, Harris Farm, and Dr. C. M. Raymond.

Mr. Mitchell has served a total of 14 years as Birmingham's postmaster. Four years and ten months were served under President Cleveland, while the balance of the time was served under appointment of President Wilson, all of which goes to show that Mr. Mitchell is an ardent Democrat. Post office money orders numbers 1 and 100,000 were issued by Mr. Mitchell, who has them in His possession at the present time. When he first took over the postal direction here the salary was $1,000, and it is now $2,500. Even but a few years back he can remember when the trains brought into Birmingham twelve bags of mail each day. Monday morning of this week there were delivered in Birmingham 87 sacks of mail, besides many miscellaneous packages. It now costs about $14,000 to run the local postoffice each year, as against less than $2,000 when he first took office. Mr. Mitchell modestly boasts that during his 14 years of postal service, he was never once "bawled out" by the department heads at Washington.

Recently a surprise was tendered Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell by the 35 local postoffice employees and their families when a dinner was given for them in the local Knights of Pythias Hall. Before the affair closed, T. C. Hoteling, assisting postmaster, in behalf of his fellow-workers, tendered to Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell a beautiful parlor lamp.

"What did you say you were going to do now, George?" we asked Mr. Mitchell, Wednesday afternoon.

"I am going to break my record of absolute loyalty to the finest little town on earth by going to Florida and absenting myself for more than two weeks at a time," he smilingly replied. "But, don't worry, I'll be back again to vote the Democratic ticket."

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Drane of Louisville, Ky., are spending the next month at Hot Springs, Arkansas. Mr. and Mrs. Drane are parents of Mrs. C. C. Hoffman of Frank street, and have a large circle of friends in this vicinity.

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Phone 143-F2 adv40tf

OSTEOPATHIC PHYSICIAN
Dr. Mabel Campbell, Levinson Bldg. Phone 105. Office hours: 9-12; 1-5. Other hours by appointment. 32tf

TO START BUS LINE ON WOODWARD

Service Will Be Resumed On Or Before March, It Is Claimed FINANCIALLY SOUND

Information of the formation of a new motor coach transportation company, to operate between the Oakland Motor Car plant in Pontiac and the Ford Motor Co. in Highland Park, over Woodward avenue, was obtained in an exclusive interview by the Eccentric Wednesday morning of this week. It is planned to start this operation on or before March 1.

According to a statement made by one of the parties interested in the project, and whose name will be announced later, two coaches formerly operated by the Inter City Safety Bus Line, the "Morning Star" and "Evening Star," will be placed back on the route. Absolutely no connection with the former owners of these two busses is the status of the new concern, it was said.

"The Morning and Evening Star Coaches were the first two vehicles to appear on Woodward avenue last summer," said our informant. "And they will be the first to be started by the new transportation company. This new corporation is being formed by people who have lived thousands of commuters a more rapid transportation service between Pontiac and Detroit. Those interested in the new enterprise will be men who have made a success in the operation of enterprises of a similar nature. The shaping of plans and policies so far provide for the initial operation of two coaches. The placing of additional equipment will depend upon the amount of patronage received by the first two coaches.

"Negotiations with other transportation experts have been called in to consult with us to determine the cause of repeated failures of various motor coach transportation companies in the vicinity, and an entirely new plan of management, together with a slight increase in fare, has been recommended."

TO HOLD MEETING ON TAXATION TOMORROW

Mass Meeting Called To Discuss Equalization Of Township Taxes

Tomorrow evening, at 7:30 o'clock, in the Baldwin high school, a mass meeting of the citizens of Birmingham will be held to discuss equalization of taxes in Bloomfield township. According to the committee in charge a mass meeting will also be given, claiming that a wide discrimination has been made in assessing state, county and school taxes between the residents of Birmingham and those in the live outside the township. With Birmingham paying more than its just share of taxes, members of the Birmingham Real Estate Board Committee and Township Assessments are making strides to correct this status, they say.

MITCHELL STEPS OUT WHILE COBB STEPS IN

George H. Mitchell, for the past nearly nine years Democratic postmaster of Birmingham, surrendered his office Wednesday afternoon to James W. Cobb, Republican, who was recently appointed to the vacancy.

No other changes in the personnel of the postoffice were made. T. C. Hoteling remains as assistant to Mr. Cobb. The new postmaster's term of office will continue for at least four years, and Birmingham longest of the Republican party succeeds in electing one of their faith to the Presidency of the United States in the fall of 1924.

PARENT - TEACHER MEETINGS

The first regular monthly meeting of the Baldwin High School Parent Teachers' Association will be held in the Baldwin auditorium on Monday evening, Feb. 26, at 8 p.m.

There will be speakers and a splendid program of high school and local talent. Refreshments will be served. It is hoped that all parents of high school students and others interested in this work will respond to this invitation and further the acquaintance of parents and teachers for the good of the pupil.

The Barnum School Parent-Teachers' Association will hold its regular monthly meeting at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 1, in the school building.

PLACE OF MEETING CHANGED

The Birmingham Branch of the American Association of University Women will meet Saturday, Feb. 24, at the home of Mrs. Charles Shain, Greenwood avenue, instead of at the home of Mrs. Halgren of North Woodward avenue, as formerly announced.

Last week-end Mr. and Mrs. M. S. Glover of North Woodward avenue, were callers in Detroit.

Twelve members of the local Hive of the Modern Maccabees attended the public installation at the General Motors Building, Detroit, Tuesday evening. About three hundred new members were initiated at the installation and the ceremonies were carried out on Colonial lines. There were no Birmingham people initiated.

Wanted to Rent—Houses in good locations. Applicants waiting.
JUDSON BRADWAY CO.
315 S. Woodward Ave. - Phone 484-J adv44

C. H. Yaxley would like to rent a large residence on Woodward Ave. to be used as an Antique Shop. Long lease desired. Tel. 138-J. 146 East Maple Ave. adv44

LOWER TAXES

in Birmingham are possible if the valuations on outside property are made correctly. Attend big mass meeting, Baldwin High School, Saturday night; Feb. 24, 7:30 P. M. adv44

Hallman Puttons have a Hemstitching machine at Field's Store. 24-hour service. adv19tf

Local Man Growing Flowers In Far West

W. N. Whittemore Joins Forces With Santa Barbara Wizard In Floral Creations TO MARKET BULBS

In a newspaper clipping received from the Santa Barbara Daily News, under the signature of W. Nelson Whittemore of Bloomfield Hills, who, with his good wife, is sojourning in Santa Barbara this winter, has extended his rare ability to raise delicate flowers there. In the "Wizard's Gardens," an unique name given to an industry of flower raising carried on by one, Father Schoener, Mr. Whittemore has found a good deal of time to use his knowledge of natural flora and is assisting the "padre" to bring to blossom a number of beautiful new creations.

We quote the article in part:

"An arrangement whereby Mr. Whittemore was to take an interest in the gardens was made and already the blooms are being advertised as a local product in national magazines and newspapers. It was a case of the business and far-sighted attitude and the love of flowers coupled with artistry, long experience and deep knowledge.

"The garden has been improved and now it is attracting attention from flower growers throughout the country. It is expected, according to Mr. Whittemore that very soon, calls for bulbs and plants will be coming in from the east and west, from gardeners and garden owners who have no knowledge of the existence of such paradises in flowers. A large local site to Santa Barbara gardens is also being prepared for, Mr. Whittemore states.

"Visitors, and buyers at the gardens on lower Mipias street have been amazed recently at the new and unduplicated quince trees which have been developed by the Padre. It is not a bush, as is the usual case, but a distinct tree and it bears almost unbelievably fruit five to eight inches in diameter, possessing an aroma so powerful that a single quince will impregnate a whole house with its odor. The skin is smooth with a wax-like feeling and the meat has none of the bitterness of the ordinary quince. The tree was produced by crossing a Japanese and a native quince.

"There is a new pear and many other valuable and astounding developments, but most interesting from a botanical point of view are perhaps the gladioli and wonderful dahlias.

"Gladioli bulbs producing plants eight feet high with a flower six inches across have been successfully produced. The dahlias and begonias have been perfected and according to Mr. Whittemore, who is well acquainted with the flower markets, no such plants can be found in any other floral laboratory."

PERSONALS

Edith Spaulding of Ypsilanti, spent the past week-end with Eleanor Haack of Knox street.

After a short illness, Mrs. William Hillard of Brown street, is recovering.

Mrs. A. C. Utter of Southfield avenue, entertained at her home at a miscellaneous shower and afternoon tea, in honor of Miss Janet Ives of Detroit, Wednesday afternoon. Miss Ives, who is to marry Donald Duncan of Detroit, is a cousin of Mrs. Utter.

The Modern Maccabees of Oakland County will hold their county convention at the Hive Hall on Orchard Lake avenue, Pontiac, Friday of this week. It has been arranged to have a dinner served at the First Methodist Episcopal church on Saginaw street.

A. C. Utter of Southfield avenue, who was in Boston and New York for ten days, returned to his home Wednesday.

Sunday, C. S. Kinnison of North Woodward avenue, left for New York City, on a business trip and will probably return today.

Muriel Johnstone of Southfield avenue, was the week-end guest of Adelaide Smith of Detroit.

Miss Lucille Kinnison of Jackson, Ohio, is the guest of her brother, Charles Kinnison, of North Woodward avenue.

Mrs. O. E. Warl of Detroit, spent Thursday and Friday of last week with her sister, Mrs. Henry Kline of Forest avenue.

Yesterday last, Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Regan and son, Jack, of Detroit, were guests of R. A. Howell of Southfield avenue.

C. G. Hitchcock of Floyd street, left Sunday for New York City, to be gone for a week.

PROFIT BY MISTAKES

Use them and your mistakes will make you a fortune.

The bungalow we advertised in The Eccentric last week is sold. Somebody read the ad, told a friend, the friend bought it. He made MONEY; you made a MISTAKE. Give us a call on this one:

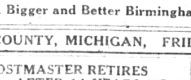
House 28 x 40. First floor has two bedrooms, full bath, music room, two sets of French doors, fireplace, built-in bookcases, cloak room, etc. Two bedrooms and toilet on second floor. Full basement, laundry, soft water, coal room, fruit room, etc. Corner lot, near school and car line, double garage, fruit, garden and shrubbery. Price $19,000, with $1,500 down and $60 per month including interest at 6%.

HASCALL, Over McBride Hardware
Phone 278-W Birmingham adv44

LAND CONTRACTS

We specialize in collecting payments on Land Contracts. Leave them with us. We send out notices and place the amount collected to the credit of your account.
FIRST NATIONAL BANK
Birmingham, Mich. adv43

POSTMASTER RETIRES AFTER 14 YEARS HERE



GEORGE H. MITCHELL

It pretty has taken about 30 occasions for Mr. Mitchell to remove the mortarboard but it is wonderfully difficult to grow hair on the top of his head.

VILLAGE COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS

Birmingham, Oakland County, Michigan, February 12, 1923.

Regular meeting of the Village Commission pursuant to call of President Bowers.

Meeting called to order by President Bowers at 8 o'clock P. M.

Present: President Bowers and Commissioners Bell, Clark, Coulter, Lamb and Moore.

Absent: None.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

Moved by Commissioner Brown that the following bills be allowed and resolution be adopted:

Whereas, the Commission, on the 22nd day of January, A.D. 1923, adopted resolutions proposing amendments to Section 5, Chapter 21 of the Revised Charter of the Village of Birmingham, and to be submitted to the qualified electors of said Village at the annual election to be held on Monday, March 12th, A.D. 1923, which said proposed amendments were ordered to be published in the Birmingham Eccentric, a newspaper published in said Village, and which said amendments were ordered to be on the table for inspection;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that said Section 5, Chapter 21 of the Revised Charter of the Village of Birmingham be amended to read as follows:

CHAPTER V.—Officers.

Section 5. The Commission shall be elected for the term of one year, and Commissioner Bell, Clark and Lamb shall hold their term of office for two years, after the term of office of Commissioner Coulter shall expire at 8 o'clock noon, March 1st, 1923, and thereafter a Commissioner shall be elected for the term of two years, after the term of office of Commissioner Bowers shall expire at 8 o'clock noon, March 1st, 1923, and thereafter a President and One Commissioner shall be elected for the term of two years, and a Clerk and One Commissioner shall be elected for the term of one year.

All officers shall hold office until their successors are elected and have qualified.

YES 5

NO 0

Proposition to amend Section 1, Chapter 9 of the Revised Charter of the Village of Birmingham.

Shall Section 1, Chapter 9 of the Revised Charter of the Village of Birmingham be amended to read as follows:

CHAPTER VI.—Special Assessments.

Section 1. The Commission shall have power to establish special assessment districts for any of the purposes mentioned in this Charter, and upon such assessment district to impose a special assessment upon the property within such district and benefited thereby.

YES 5

NO 0

Proposition to amend Section 5, Chapter 21 of the Revised Charter of the Village of Birmingham be submitted to the qualified electors of said Village at the annual Village Election to be held on Monday, the 12th day of March, A.D. 1923, which said proposed amendment was approved by the Governor of the State of Michigan on the 22nd day of January, A.D. 1923, which said proposed amendment has been published in the Birmingham Eccentric, a newspaper published in said Village and which said amendment was ordered laid on the table for inspection;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that said Section 5, Chapter 21 of the Revised Charter of the Village of Birmingham be submitted to the qualified electors of said Village at the annual Village Election to be held on Monday, March 12th, A.D. 1923, and that the question shall appear upon the ballot at said election as proposed by the Commission in its Resolution of January 15th, A.D. 1923.

Be It Further Resolved, that the question of adopting the proposed amendment to the Village Charter shall be submitted in the following form, to-wit:

Proposition to amend Section 5, Chapter 9 of the Revised Charter of the Village of Birmingham.

Shall Section 5, Chapter 9 of the Revised Charter of the Village of Birmingham be amended to read as follows:

CHAPTER IX.—Commission Meetings.

Section 5. The Commission shall hold its regular meetings at the Commission Chambers every Monday evening and special meetings on such other days as may, by ordinance, resolution or notice be fixed and determined, at such hour as it shall determine, for the transaction of business. Provided, that when any such day shall be a legal holiday the regular meeting of the Commission shall be held at the same place and hour on the next succeeding secular day. The President or any two members of the Commission may appoint special meetings therefor, notice of which in writing shall be given to each Commissioner or be left at his place of residence, at least six hours before the meeting; provided, that if all the members of the Commission shall be present at any special meeting without proper notice, such notice shall be deemed to have been waived.

YES 5

NO 0

Further Resolved, that notice is hereby given that the foregoing proposition will be be submitted to the electors on Monday, March 12th, A. D. 1923, at the Town Hall on the northwest corner of Merrill and Hazel streets in said Village and that the polls be open from 7:00 o'clock A. M. to 8:00 o'clock P. M. Central Standard Time. Yeas, 2; Nays, 0.

65—Moved by Commissioner Bell that the meeting adjourn until Monday evening, Feb. 26, 1923, at 8 o'clock. Yeas, 2; Nays, 0.

HAZEL E. CLARK, Village Clerk.

Seek Donations For Free Milk In Schools

Parent - Teacher Association Asks Aid In Supply To Undernourished Children MANY CONTRIBUTE

In order that the children of Birmingham, whose parents are unable to furnish the necessary funds to purchase milk distributed by the local Parent-Teacher Association, donations are being received by the various presidents of the association branches.

While no canvass has been made to obtain funds, many have voluntarily contributed to make it possible for these children to have milk served to them at least twice in the schools.

According to H. E. Whalen, president of the Birmingham Parent-Teacher Associations, much money is needed to carry on this work of furnishing milk to the pupils of grade schools. At present all the children, from the kindergarten to and including the sixth grade, are being given milk twice a day—in the morning and afternoon.

Mr. Whalen stated that in many homes, where there happened to be more than one child it was not possible for the parents to supply funds for milk and it is through the donations made by various people that the City Treasurer can do this work.

"Tell all those who have contributed any money to the milk fund that, as president of the Parent-Teacher Association, I want to thank them most heartily for helping us to carry on this work," declared Mr. Whalen late this week, when asked about the donations.

"Two weeks ago the Campfire Girls gave a bake sale and the money made on the sale was turned over to the milk fund," continued Mr. Whalen. "We want them to know we appreciate what they have done."

To serve the milk to the children, mothers belonging to the Parent-Teacher Association give their services. One mother serves one day a week, either in the morning or the afternoon, for a period of one month. Twelve different women are on duty during each week, according to Mr. Whalen.

Mrs. Lee White, 410 Brookside avenue, is president of the Adams school association; Mrs. R. H. Ross, 423 Greenwood avenue, president of the Hill school branch; and Mrs. H. L. Salsbury, 607 Pierce street, president of the Barnum school group. All these women are mothers who have children in the schools where they are officially connected with the local Parent-Teacher Associations. Contributions can be sent to any of them.

NARROW ESCAPE WHEN TRAIN STRIKES AUTO

A light delivery truck owned by Dave Anderson and driven by Dean Groves, of Hazel avenue, was damaged Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock when struck by a Grand Trunk passenger train at Hazel avenue. Groves was not injured.

According to Homer Gaskill, captain of police, Groves was waiting to pass the crossing, which was blocked by a freight train. The brakeman of the freight uncoupled two of the cars to let the waiting automobiles through, and as Groves drove on the tracks the front end of his machine was hit a passenger train which he did not see. Gaskill stated the truck was not badly damaged and was able to be driven back to town by Groves.

WOMAN'S LITERARY CLUB

"Impressionism, the Refinement of Naturalism, its Characteristics and Development in French Painting," was the subject of a very interesting talk given by Mrs. Jay Vliet and Mrs. Singers, at the last meeting of the Woman's Literary Club. Beautiful pictures, loaned by the Detroit Library, were shown.

Similar developments in musical composition were illustrated by Mrs. Singers in a musical number entitled "Melisande in the Wood." Mrs. F. J. Miller reported the present status of the Pitkin Capital Punishment Bill.

The Feb. 27 meeting is in charge of the World's Work Department and will be held at the home of Mrs. F. J. Shain, 621 Pierce street. Members please note the change in place of meeting.

BOUGHNER BROS. LOOK FOR BIG SALE OF CHEVROLETS

According to Charles Boughner, of Boughner Bros., local Chevrolet dealers, at the present time everything looks bright for the automobile industry during the spring and summer months to come.

Mr. Boughner expects there will be a big demand for the popular low-priced car he is selling as soon as the snow and ice breaks up. Those who have inspected the new Chevrolet models have been impressed with their improved appearance and, when given a demonstration, have been surprised at the performance of the engine, declared Mr. Boughner.

Mrs. W. D. Thompson of the Thirteen mile road, entertained twenty-six guests at a sleigh ride party at the Bloomfield Hills Country Club, Tuesday evening.

A group of local boys and girls were entertained at a coasting party at Emery Clark's estate, Bloomfield Hills, Tuesday evening, by Mr. and Mrs. Cramner of Bloomfield Center. Skiing and tobogganing were enjoyed. Weiners and sauerkraut were served, after which the rest of the evening was spent in dancing. Among the guests were Bernice Barry, Florence Kitchen, Naoma Cramner, Alta Symons, Eunice Parks, Sadie Moore, Henry Gibheart, Arthur Luscombe, Arthur Tuggey and Philip Plumstead.

Mrs. Fred Fisher of Walnut Glen, North Woodward avenue, who has been ill for some time, is recovering slowly.

BALDWIN HIGH SCHOOL

Mass meeting to hear men who know and who have the facts and figures on State, County and Township valuation. Saturday night, Feb. 24. Music. adv44

TABLE TALKS ON TAXATION AND KINDRED TOPICS

By "One Who Listened In"

(Editor's Note—The subject of taxes is the most absorbing topic before the people today. Everything from the payment of the annual dog tax to the cost of conducting a World war is paid for by public taxation. This question, treated in a purely technical manner, is too often dull and uninteresting. The Eccentric has given the services of one who possesses a deep knowledge of this problem of taxation, and herewith prints his views on the matter. We trust that these articles will prove interesting and educational to our readers.)

It was at the Round Table of a downtown lunch club where business and professional men met daily at the noon hour and savored their food with light talks on timely topics which sometimes verged into argument, with occasional flashes of wit which at intervals was tinged with sarcasm.

It was in early July and the Leading Retailer had just seated himself with a knowing glance around the board which did not escape the keen eye of the Philosopher, who remarked "Just got your bill for taxes from the City Treasurer and don't feel real good about it, I presume."

"You're a mind reader," was the retort. "If there ever was a bunch of robbers—the fellows at the city hall are it. My business has fallen off, my inventory is smaller, but they have raised my assessment and the tax rate both. If my business wasn't so well established here I'd move to some town where we could keep a closer watch on the tax expenditures and where everybody knows just what every dollar is spent for. Here in this big city the grafters hide their tracks and get away with the bulk of the taxpayer's money."

"Well, well, that's queer," said the Big Jobber. "One of my country customers with a store in a nearby suburban town was in this morning and said that he had been comparing the tax he pays with that of a city dealer here who carries a stock of about the same value, and he found that the city man got off for less, counting the summer and winter taxes together."

"I fancy you fellows are all in the same boat wherever you're doing business," spoke up the Philosopher, "someone has to pay for the enhanced costs of public service as well as the expense of conducting the recent war, and it is futile to protest."

"I don't see why the fellows are kicking about," said one of the Utilities Consumers present. "You add the cost of taxes to your selling prices the same as you add the cost of clerk hire, freight, rent and other expenses and WE pay the entire shot, plus a profit which you charge to cover the overhead incurred in meeting these added expenses; isn't that so?"

There didn't seem to be any come-back to this argument so, after a pause the Philosopher remarked, "It was a wise Frenchman who said many years ago that the art of taxation consisted in plucking the goose so as to get the most feathers with the least squawking. The trouble today is that we are having so many direct taxes on top of the indirect ones that the tax-paying geese are feeling the plucking process and the squawking is getting louder. When the Federal government raised the bulk of its income from revenue duties on imports and from excise taxes which are passed on to the consumers in the way of higher prices, we could not put our fingers on the place where the plucking was taking place and while we were losing our feathers we hardly knew where they went. Now, that on top of these burdens we have the direct taxes, as the Income Tax, taxes on Inheritance, Stamp Taxes, etc., we are wondering if the Yankee was not about right when during the high taxation period of the Civil war he remarked, "Blessed be nothing?"

"Why don't you tell us about your remedy for this confusion in the methods of taxation?" was asked of the Book Seller, a student of Economics and known as a Single Taxer.

"I would, gladly," he replied, "but the time is short and I must leave before I could even make a fair start, but if you wish to continue the discussion at future luncheons it will give me pleasure to express my thought and help straighten out some tangles in connection with taxation which seem to confuse so many." And so it was agreed to give him the floor on the following day.

NEW QUALITY GROCERY OPENS ON W. MAPLE AVENUE

Tuesday of this week saw the opening of the Quality Grocery at 124 West Maple avenue. James S. Briggs, who, for the past three years, has been manager of a chain grocery store in Birmingham, is one of the owners and manager of the new establishment.

It is the plan of the new store to carry a complete assortment of all lines of groceries, as well as fresh fruits and vegetables. Mr. Briggs stated this week that no effort would be spared to make the Quality Grocery live up to its name. "Quality is the name of the store and quality will be our motto, giving the people here in Birmingham the best their money will buy," stated Mr. Briggs with enthusiasm.

Philip Kline of Detroit, was the week-end guest of his brother, Henry Kline and family of Forest avenue.

George Newman of Harmon street, is confined to bed with rheumatism.

List your Property with
JUDSON BRADWAY CO.
315 S. Woodward Ave. - Phone 484-J adv44

Attend the concert at the Methodist Church, auspices of Epworth League, March 1. adv44

The best Ice Cream sold in Birmingham is called "Feerless." Ask for it when you want good ice cream. adv6tf

TOTAL OF $77,200 IN BONDS ASKED

Everything In Readiness For Popular Vote At Annual Election, March 12 PETITIONS ALL IN

Everything is now in readiness for the annual election to be held on Monday, March 12. The Village Commission has passed the various resolutions and notices, and nominations have been filed for the several Village offices to be filled by popular vote.

Village Offices

Last week petitions were filed for the office of Village President, nominating J. H. McBride and W. B. Brown for the candidacy. This proved to be the only office where more than one candidate would contend for the popular support of the voters.

J. H. McBride is the president incumbent of that office, while Mr. Brown, retiring Commissioner, is making his first trial for the place.

Charles Bingham, a local business man, now Worshipful Master of the Birmingham Masonic Lodge, will be the only candidate to seek the office made vacant by the expiration of the term of Commissioner Brown. David A. Bell, the other Commissioner, will hold over for another year.

Hazel Clark, present clerk, will succeed herself in the office, since her petition was the only one filed.

Three Bond Issues

Local electors will have a chance to approve three bond issues on March 12, totalling a sum of $77,200. The largest issue asked for will be $40,325.00, and is the estimated cost of the installation of a main sanitary trunk sewer, about a mile in length, extending from a point in Residence Park, east of the D. U. R. car barns on North Woodward avenue, along the course of the River Rouge to a point on the eastern line of Linden Road in the Birmingham Park Allotment Subdivision, southeast of Birmingham, at which place the Village will large construct a sewage disposal plant. The great need for such a sewer has been felt in Birmingham for a long time, it is said, and very strong opposition to the issuance of bonds to cover this project is expected. The proposed sewer will care for all drainage now going into the River Rouge, and will allow outlets now going into various storm sewers to obtain this more sanitary connection.

In order to assure the people of Birmingham of a more adequate supply of water, the Commission has placed upon the ballot the proposition of issuing bonds to the amount of $15,575.00 to cover the cost of a proposed new well and pumping unit. According to the plan worked out by the Commission, this new well would be sunk on the Woodward avenue, on a piece of land preferably just across from the D. U. R. car barns, and the water obtained from the well would be pumped directly into the water mains. As with the sanitary sewer, it is thought that very little opposition will be made to the new well and pumping unit.

The only issue that is expected to bring out concerted opposition is the proposed 200,000 gallon steel elevated storage tank, estimated at $41,300. This is the same proposition that was recently rejected by the people at the special election last fall, as it was placed on the same ballot with the proposed new well and pumping unit. President McBride and Commissioner Bell are still of the opinion that the erection of this tank in conjunction with the new well would be the proper thing to do, both from an engineering and financial view of the matter. Commissioner Brown opposes the elevated tank, it is believed that his reasons for so doing are not because of any lack of faith in the value of the tank, but because the 200,000 gallon ground storage tank erected by a former Commission of which he was a member, has not been paid for, and is still in litigation.

Three Amendments

Unanimous approval by the voters of the three amendments to the Village Charter are expected on March 12. One of them pertains to electing the Village President for a term of two years instead of one year as at present. If this is carried, it would not apply to the election this year, but would take effect in 1924.

Another amendment asked is that the Commission be empowered to establish special assessment districts within the limits mentioned in Section 1, Chapter 21, of the Village Charter. This, it is claimed, would make it unnecessary for the Village-at-large to pay for more than a minimum of expenses incurred in installing various public improvements, such as paving, and would make a greater charge on the abutting property that was benefited.

Fixing the meeting of the Village Commission to every Monday night, except legal holidays, with compensation, is another Charter amendment asked for by the Village officials. The present Charter clause fixes their time of meetings to two each month, with any special meetings between that are called. The present law allows compensation for only the two regular meetings. Due to the rapid growth and attendant increase in Birmingham's official affairs, it is generally agreed by those who know that this amendment should carry.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to extend our heartfelt thanks to our friends and neighbors also Rev. W. C. McKnight, for the many kindnesses shown us during our recent bereavement.

Joseph Range and Family. adv44

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