

THE ECCENTRIC

Birmingham, Michigan
GEORGE R. AVERILL, Publisher
\$1.50 Per Year in Advance.
126 N. Woodward Ave. - Phone 11
Entered as second-class matter in the
Postoffice at Birmingham, Mich.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 1923.

NATURE AND THE ART OF MAN

Art is no greater than nature but, for us, it is the greater side of nature. The workings of the human brain are as surely a part of natural phenomena as the growth of plants...

It is probable that the cosmic law will guide and control the thought of man as it controls the flux and reflux of the tides, so that its weight in the scheme of things will not prove excessive and perhaps harmful.

Hence we must assume the responsibility of ourselves and, if we would become proficient in the task of self-cultivation, we must adhere in some degree to the elementary rulings of pre-human nature.

The further we advance in art the greater becomes our appreciation of nature and its underlying forces. We are thankful for the stak that supports us. Our ideas may soar to the clouds but when we weary of the heights we may return and gaze upon unadorned nature. The scene is restful.

Man's "invention" is in merely turning nature's bountiful gifts to his own account. He can neither create nor obliterate, but he converts—and often perverts. In his agonies he be decks nature with monstrous ornaments and looks with conceit upon his handiwork, his untaught conception of beauty is often singularly grotesque, whereas nature untouched by man is supremely lovely. The moral of this is that all art should commence with the study of primitive forms. The beginning of man's wisdom is in learning his a-b-c's from the great Mother who gave him birth.

OUR PUBLIC LIBRARY

The fact that nearly twenty thousand books were drawn from the local library during the past year augurs well for the mentality of the town. It proves conclusively that the local library is appreciated by the citizens who maintain it. And it should receive the entire support of every thinking person in Birmingham.

It costs money to buy books. It also costs some money to operate a public library. We wonder if there are not a good many books in the homes of local people that would make worthy gifts to the Baldwin Public Library. We are sure that there are, and we also know that the Library Board would assuredly accept them.

During the past year several people have made gifts of books to our library, and it must be with a good deal of satisfaction that they learn of the good their books have done to develop the mentality of the citizens, as well as the juvenile populace of Birmingham.

Look over your own library, Mr. and Mrs. Birmingham—we know you'll find several good books that would enrich the shelves of the public library. It is a worthy act.

OUR GOOD HEALTH

The annual report of the health of Birmingham's citizens, showing that local people passed through a year practically devoid of contagious diseases, should be gratifying. Special commendation should be given the parents for the manner in which they acted upon the suggestions of the school nurse and the health department. This is but one proof of the lasting benefits to be derived through co-operation. Let us have such co-operation in other matters of our municipal life.

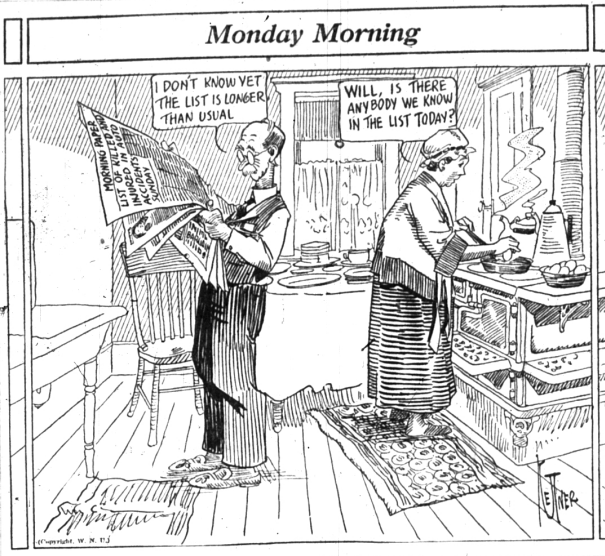
ECCENTRICITIES

How's the New Year's resolution? Have you dropped and broken it yet? One fellow we know made a resolution to cut out sweating at the gym, he hit his thumb with a hammer. That hammer just broke his resolution all to pieces and it wasn't a sledge hammer, either.

When his car skidded and lost a wheel, a Pontiac man was generously splashed with gravy from a pan which contained a turkey for his New Year's dinner that he was transporting in his machine. Some are of the opinion the man must have been a millionaire to have had money enough to buy a turkey after purchasing Christmas gifts.

"Governor claims dry law menaces Nation," says an Oakland County paper. A few think it also menaces the bootlegger. No rice or slippers are thrown at a wedding in Portugal. Not even bricks are permitted, it is said.

"Law's Machinery Begins To Grind"—headline. Buses sometimes stop a long time before it produces any grist.



(Copyright, W. H. N. S.)

When a man is 50, all women look the same to him and as a rule he looks the same to all women. You can't measure a man's ability by the length of his tongue.

He who will take a chance and sample your moonshine is a faithful friend indeed.

"Artist Paints Paris Blue"—headline in newspaper. In days gone by they used to paint it red.

"Husband Tries Death As Wife Plans Divorce"—headline. He must have thought she wouldn't go through with her plans.

Many times when couples are made one, one or the other of the contracting parties is of the opinion that they are the one and the other is just zero.

FROM THE ECCENTRIC COLUMNS

Forty-two Years Ago Johnnie Allen and Peter MacKay returned from the pine woods in Montclair county, Tuesday evening. No lumbering without the beautiful snow and when it comes again, if it ever does, the boys will try again.

At the last annual meeting of the Ladies' Library held Jan. 9, the following officers were elected: President, Mrs. R. E. Trowbridge; vice-president, Alice Cromwell; secretary, Mrs. J. P. Trowbridge; Julia Post; board of directors, Mrs. M. Smith, Mrs. Sherman, Miss F. Curtis, Miss Baldwin. The treasurer reported the receipts for the past year as follows: Money received, \$18,185; expenses, \$7,745; balance, \$7,440. The board of directors reported to the membership of the society reduced to \$69.35.

Will Smith of Southfield, is the editor of the Golden Globe (Colo.) Last week he issued a large eight page illustrated paper descriptive of Golden and Colorado interests. Will is a success as a journalist.

James O. Beattie, in seeking for a good hotel location last week, with his wife, went to Gaines, and were the guests of Mr. O. M. Egan, a prominent citizen of that place, who offered Jim very good inducements to locate there. We should hate to lose Jim.

The Brownell Mission Band will give social Friday evening at the home of Hon. R. E. Trowbridge. All are cordially invited to attend.

Miss Hattie Drake fills the position of general assistant at the Rochester Avenue school under Prof. Hagler. Miss Drake will undoubtedly fill her position admirably, as she has all the necessary ability.

Miss Linda Decker of Newburg, N. Y. is visiting at Benjamin Thorne's.

Twenty-five Years Ago We announce with sorrow the death of Eugene Smith's infant daughter, who died last week, Thursday. The family have the sympathy of a great number of friends.

Last Friday evening about 25 of the friends of Messrs. George Ball and Bert Shug, were at the home of Mrs. Ball on Fremont street. There was singing and dancing were the amusements of the evening. Supper was served at the home of Nathan Ball, after which the LeRoy Klondike Quartette rendered several vocal selections.

Miss Lillie Thayer and Rue Van Every were married Thursday, Jan. 13.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Harris have returned from their wedding trip, which they spent among friends and relatives. They were serenaded by the Southfield Cornet Band, Saturday evening.

Friday, Vet Lord's house was burned to the ground. A few things were saved, but all the provisions in the kitchen, guns and dancing were the amusements of the evening. Supper was served at the home of Nathan Ball, after which the LeRoy Klondike Quartette rendered several vocal selections.

William Young of Southfield, is very low at this writing. He is attended by Dr. McCartrol of Pontiac.

The Ancient Order of the Left Hind Foot of the Graveyard Rabbit Pedro Club reorganized at the home of Mrs. Theron Smith, Monday afternoon.

The Freshman Class will give a box party at the home of George Purdy Friday evening, Jan. 21.

PRESS PICKINGS

A total of approximately 40 miles of improved highways was added to the Oakland county system during the year 1922, at an approximate cost of \$550,000, according to a review of the year's work by road commission engineers.

First formal steps toward securing state legislation providing for the establishment of metropolitan districts in Michigan were taken last Wednesday evening when representatives of the township and the city of Royal Oak and of the villages of Pleasant Ridge and Ferndale met at the township hall and organized a permanent committee.

The M. E. Sunday school of Oxford is putting on another contest similar to that of last year. Beginning Sunday, January 7th, all who attend Sunday school regularly, without missing one Sunday until July 1st, will be given a free trip to Boke-Is.

Two petitions are being circulated to have certain township territory added to the city of Royal Oak. The first petition is for that territory starting at Lincoln, avenue and going

eastward to the Ten Mile road, and east from Royal Oak city limits to Campbell road. The other petition starts from the Twelve Mile road city limits and to Campbell.

School District No. 5 of Redford township is a real storm center this winter. They need more school room, as every district in the Grand River section does, and all hands seem to agree on that point but on the point of where the new school shall be located they disagree very decidedly.

National leaders in the agricultural, business and political worlds will attend meetings of the annual "Farmers Week" at the Michigan Agricultural college, from January 29 to February 2 this winter.



EVERY HOME Should Have An Electric Toaster. It makes toasting easy and gives better results than any other method. It is an ornament to any table and ready for use at the snap of a switch. The cost of operating is very low. The Detroit Edison Co.

DETROIT UNITED LINES BIRMINGHAM TIME TABLE

Table with columns for Southbound Local, Northbound Local, and Pontiac to Birmingham only. Includes times for various routes and days.

Notice! Taxpayers of Bloomfield Township TAXES ARE NOW DUE

From December 19, 1922, until January 20, 1923, I will be at the following places to collect taxes for the Township of Bloomfield: At First State Bank, Birmingham, all day Tuesday and Wednesday, and Saturday evening. At First National Bank, Birmingham, all day Thursday and Friday. At First National Bank, Pontiac, on Saturday. Or mail remittance to P. O. Box No. 5, Birmingham.

MABEL A. SMITH Township Treasurer.

NOTICE! TAXPAYERS OF TROY TOWNSHIP

Beginning December 26, 1922, until January 20, 1923, I will be at the following places to collect taxes for the Township of Troy: At the First State Savings Bank, Birmingham, Thursdays, December 28th and January 4th, 11th, 18th. Big Beaver, Tuesdays, December 26th, January 2nd, 9th and 16th. Troy Corners, Wednesdays, December 27th and January 3rd, 10th and 17th. Clawson, Fridays, December 29th and January 5th, 12th and 19th. Town Hall, on January 20th only. All taxes paid to January 20th will be charged the regular one per cent for collection. After this date the four per cent penalty will be charged. Mail all checks to— LEWIS J. STUMPF Troy Township Treasurer, R. F. D. 5, Royal Oak, Mich.

VILLAGE COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS

Regular meeting of the Village Commission called to order Monday evening, Jan. 8, 1923, at 8 o'clock. (Hall call) President J. Harry McBride, Commissioner. Brown and Bell, Manager. Secretary and Clerk. Hand Clark.

Minutes of the previous meeting read and approved. Moved by President McBride that the pay roll be allowed as read: Wm. Lott, \$22; Ray Lott, \$5.25; John Allen, \$14; Fred Aldred, \$36.25; John Berry, \$54. Yeas, 3; Nays, 0.

Moved by Commissioner Brown that the principal and interest on the following bonds be paid as read:

Table with columns: Name of Issue, Payable at People's State Bank, Detroit, Mich., Total, and Balance in Fund.

Payable at First National Bank, Birmingham, Michigan. (Special) Name of Issue, Prim. Int. Total, Bal in Fund.

(General) Name of Issue, Prim. Int. Total, Bal in Fund.

Moved by Commissioner Brown that the Central Savings Bank be paid \$257.34 for selling sewer bonds to the amount of \$25,732.23 to be drawn from the following funds:

Table with columns: Name of Issue, General Bonds, Total, and Balance in Fund.

Moved by Commissioner Brown that Fred Quinlan be paid \$14.09 from Argus at opening and Chester St. Opening Funds, for reading sewer assessments. Yeas, 3; Nays, 0.

Moved by Commissioner Brown that the following resolution be adopted: WHEREAS on or about February 21, A. D. 1913, a plat known as the Highland View Addition was approved and accepted by the Village of Birmingham and the WHEREAS included therein was a small strip of land at the junction of Lawndale and Oakland Avenues just east of Lawndale and Oakland Avenues and described as follows:

Commencing at the northeastern corner of Oakland Avenue and Lawndale Avenue and running thence northerly along the line of Lawndale Avenue a distance of 184 feet; thence westerly 75.7 feet to a stake; thence southerly a distance of 135 feet to the southerly line of Oakland Avenue; thence westerly along

the northerly line of Oakland Avenue a distance of 20 feet to the place of beginning.

WHEREAS said strip of land was included as a portion of Lawndale Avenue without any reference or indication as to its purpose; and WHEREAS this Commission deems it expedient and advisable that said strip of land be set aside as a park. Now, therefore BE IT ORDAINED that the strip of land so described shall be set aside as a park for the use and benefit of the Village of Birmingham. Yeas, 3; Nays, 0.

Moved by President McBride that the bid of Goodwillie Beesmer Co. for auditing books for 1922, be accepted, and they be instructed to proceed at once. Yeas, 3; Nays, 0.

Moved by Commissioner Brown that the meeting of the Board of Monday evening, Jan. 8, 1923, at 8 o'clock. Yeas, 3; Nays, 0.

HAZEL E. CLARK, Village Clerk.

BETTER THAN EVER Peerless Ice Cream COBB'S, 'BILLY'S PALACE OF SWEETS,' BAILEY'S, GRAY SWEET SHOP, TEMPLE GROCERY, AND UFFER'S. Manufactured by Birmingham Creamery & Ice Mfg. Co. 420 EAST MAPLE Phone 33. 'Patronize a Birmingham-Made Product' The Bank of Personal Service PONTIAC COMMERCIAL AND SAVINGS BANK PONTIAC MICHIGAN Capital, One Million Dollars THE LARGEST BANK IN OAKLAND COUNTY