

THE ECCENTRIC

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THE LIBRARY'S NEW HEATING PLANT

That the Baldwin Public Library in the Village Hall is worthy of all the people of Birmingham can give it; there is no question.

Those to whom its welfare has been entrusted are displaying of unstinted commendation for the efforts they have expended in its behalf. They have labored most diligently for the maintenance and growth of an institution which is as vital to the Village as are the churches and the schools. The library is the result of those who have been able to see into the future, and who have had the cultural growth of the citizens in mind.

These people have asked for a new heating system—a new heating system for an institution which is invaluable to the development of the Village. A mobile device which would be adequate to the present needs would cost \$3,000.00. It is doubtful if \$3,000.00 should be spent for the construction of a new heating plant in the Village Hall. And for one reason or careless people? It is a "Birmingham" is growing. Irresponsible! You hold spite of the discolored opposition in your hands not only your own existing at present, its own life but the lives of those growth cannot be stunted. In whose ride with you, the lives of four or five years at the outside of a new and modern Village Hall will be absolutely essential. There was a time when each community chose for its city hall its oldest landmark. Thank Heaven that age has passed. Birmingham is not quite up to the times in this respect. Have you seen your Village Hall? Have you seen the space in which the two fire-trucks and apparatus and the Village motorcycles are housed? The Village Hall is an excellent fire-trap, and the authorization of the spending of \$3,000.00 for a new heating system in such a building seems to be a fallacy, on the part of the Commission. It is too much money to spend on such a building. The money would be better spent on something similar to putting mahogany woodwork and Oriental rugs in a tar paper shack.

Better that the Library officials and others connected with the Village Hall be satisfied with the expenditure of a much smaller sum to hold over the present heating system until a new Village Hall is erected. Of course, if the business men of this Village cannot see all that's holy your proper ing, and present factions are going to continue their fool squabblings and no co-operation, then it makes little difference whether \$3,000 or \$30,000.00 is spent for a new system—providing the money may be had.

WE NEED ACTION HERE!

Conflagrations do not come preceded by a brass band. The Field Building was destroyed within three hours—and three hours is but a very small part of a week. The entire Village business section and many residences might be wiped out in a few hours if a blaze similar to last Saturday's again occurred, and there was enough wind to feed the flames. Granted that the 300,000 gallon water storage tank at the waterworks does assure us a limited reserve supply, the fact remains that we are still without adequate mechanical means to pump the water at the necessary volume and velocity required for fire-fighting purposes.

In the matter of REAL FIRES, Birmingham has been lucky—just LUCKY! The fact

that few buildings have burned to the ground is NOT because we have plenty of water and fire-fighting apparatus; it is merely because Fate has been extremely kind to us in dealing out her conflagrations.

The Commission of Birmingham was elected to serve local people; to provide them with the things necessary to prevent FIRE, FAMINE or FLOOD! Situations may arise that demand IMMEDIATE ACTION. If this IMMEDIATE ACTION is not taken by the Commission they must then be replaced by the people they were elected to serve.

The three men who preside over the destinies of Birmingham are well able to cope with the problems that confront them at various times. But they, like many of their predecessors, PROCRASTINATE. They ought to carry out the strength of their convictions on any question without delay; they ought to administer to the needs of the people without the necessity of lowering their dignity at the demands of any single individual who does not agree with them on any particular issue.

MR. MOTORIST!

There are thousands of automobile drivers who thought not of getting anything more complicated than a lawn mower or a car. Are you one of them? Do you fully realize that sitting behind the wheel of a motor car is not a pastime for nervous people? It is a "Birmingham" is growing. Irresponsible! You hold spite of the discolored opposition in your hands not only your own existing at present, its own life but the lives of those growth cannot be stunted. In whose ride with you, the lives of four or five years at the outside of a new and modern Village Hall will be absolutely essential. There was a time when each community chose for its city hall its oldest landmark. Thank Heaven that age has passed. Birmingham is not quite up to the times in this respect. Have you seen your Village Hall? Have you seen the space in which the two fire-trucks and apparatus and the Village motorcycles are housed? The Village Hall is an excellent fire-trap, and the authorization of the spending of \$3,000.00 for a new heating system in such a building seems to be a fallacy, on the part of the Commission. It is too much money to spend on such a building. The money would be better spent on something similar to putting mahogany woodwork and Oriental rugs in a tar paper shack.

Fourteen thousand persons, one-third of them children, were killed in the United States last year by automobiles! Think of that! More than twice the population of Birmingham! Most of these accidents were preventable.

The constantly increasing number of motor cars will eventually make drastic laws and qualifications for drivers almost certain. The day will come when any man, to obtain a driver's license, will be obliged to pass an examination more rigid than that of a subway motorman. But until that day comes—have you a conscience in the matter?

If you are the kind of person who is easily excitable, who "goes to pieces" in a tight place; if you have weak eyes or a torpid liver; if you feel that you must talk and can't keep your eyes on the road ahead while doing so; if you can't resist "stepping on the gas," if you think that traffic rules don't mean anything, then, by anything on earth is sacred, human life is that sacred thing, and a careless murderer in a shiny coupe is no different than a careless murderer who throws cigarette stubs around to start human bonfires, or one who leaves behind him dynamic caps for little children to play with.

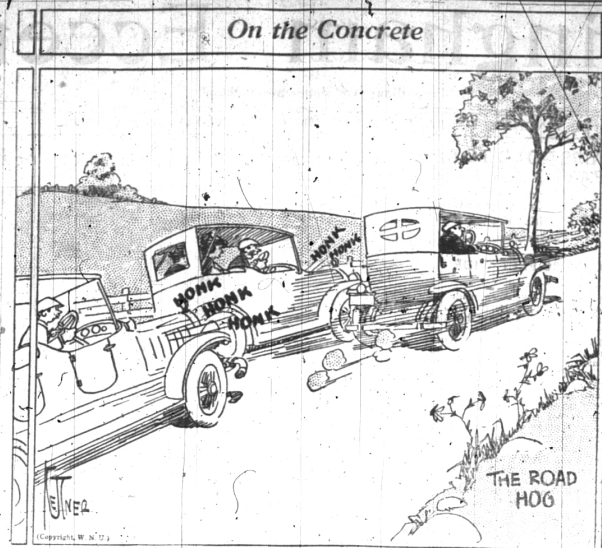
If you are certain of your ability to drive a motor car carefully, then "go to it"; but don't forget to keep your eyes open and honk the horn occasionally.

Oakland County stands fourth in the State with its 25,146 cars and trucks with a long gap between this county and Ingham which is the next contender for honors. The Ingham total is 20,793. No other county in the State even approaches Oakland in percentage of cars to population. There is one machine for every 3.6 residents of the county. If the average value of the machines owned in Oakland County is estimated at \$500 each, the present investment is in excess of \$12,500,000.

Philosophy: John Burroughs once said, "Growing old is a kind of letting go. The moon has its rights and entrance, but the moon has its rights and entrance, but there are a certain number of things and a spiritual uplift about the close of the day that belongs to neither."

"JUST POMES" "Yes, We Have No Poetry Today"

Dear Editor: The divine inspiration was not mine today, but above you will find a bit of blank verse of which I am rather proud. In the event you have not space to print it, try putting it in the margin. Next issue—possibly. Poetically yours, (Nelle Reclaw)



Short and Snappy

Magnum Johnson, newly elected mayor of Minneapolis, is planning to front-page position the number of the concrete columns. Most of the concrete about the city is good friend, Harry Nims, of Saturn Night fame, wastes a lot of space in his last edition about Johnson. After reading what Nims has to say by reference to Johnson's attempt to send the B. S. A. to the other Nims-ows, We'd like to know there is something wrong with the country's attitude toward the farmer, he must admit there is a mass of the satirical and ironical type of ribbon, do you think Johnson can commit any more blunders than are issued from our National Capitol then hedge and a few other centry who are around it, and of producing a glass-blower? If we need varied opinions in our legislative halls, why restrict them to fellows with sheep skins. A leather apron ought to vary the color scheme.

Francisco (Pancho) Villa, long a terror in Mexico, is being shot by bullets from an airplane. Villa was occupying a station of equality with the vast throng of people who sleep beneath the soil. The birds that are our gatekeepers around it, and of producing a glass-blower? If we need varied opinions in our legislative halls, why restrict them to fellows with sheep skins. A leather apron ought to vary the color scheme.

Twenty-Fix Years Ago: Harvey Starr is expected to obtain a company of bicycle riders from Toledo and other famous cities including his brother, A. G. Staley and Tom and Albert Humphreys. A part of the company are enroute for Milford.

From one of the ads. Pays per week, 19c; six or over, 25c. Kelly Taylor.

A merry party are enjoying a week's outing in Mrs. S. C. Mills' cottage at Pine Lake. Who are they? Mrs. Koonce, Mrs. Johnson, little son, Master Russell Bethel, Misses Mahal and Edith Koonce, Jennie Castle, Belle Ward of this place and Miss Dora Lamb and Grace and Bessie Robinson of Big Beaver.

Visitors at Mrs. Edmund Jaeger were Mrs. J. W. Toms and daughter of Lacrosse, Mrs. and Mrs. Cal Simpson of Louisville, and John Simpson of Bay City.

Five people were slain and two are on the way to death as the result of a "party" in Detroit, on Sunday. That is, indeed, a small rate in comparison to the total population of the Fourth City of the land. Street fights and domestic brawls staged the scenery for the battles. There are more people on earth than there are human emotions—while one may delight in being kind another is filled with the lust to kill. Life is cheap to the great majority and graves are easy to dig; the building of character is often harder than the erecting of a skyscraper or the discovery of a new planet.

Thirty lunatics fought their way to liberty in an Illinois hospital for the criminally insane Sunday. With its normally leads one to ask if the keepers of the institution were not crazier, than their wards. Unrestricted freedom is the goal of every human being. The soul can never be confined here within iron or concrete. In the soul goes the body generally, attempts to follow.

This ought to interest every taxpayer in America. It is announced that the Navy Department will turn

THE FOLLOWING BILLS WERE ALLOWED BY THE OAKLAND COUNTY BOARD OF AUDITORS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, 1923.

Table with columns: Name, Amount, Amount. Lists various individuals and companies with their respective amounts.

STATE OF MICHIGAN - The Circuit Court for the County of Oakland in Chancery. Plaintiff vs. Edith M. Walsler Defendant. Suit pending in the Circuit Court for Oakland County, in Chancery, on the 18th day of July, A. D. 1923, at Pontiac in said County. It is satisfactorily appearing by affidavit in this case that the defendant Edith M. Walsler is not a resident of the State of Michigan but resides at Chicago in the State of Illinois, and in motion of Vincent D. Ryan, attorney for plaintiff, It is Ordered, that the defendant Edith M. Walsler cause her appearance to be entered in this cause within three months from the date of this order and a copy thereof to be served upon the plaintiff's attorney within twenty days after service of this order, and a copy of said bill, and notice of this order, and that in default thereof that said bill be taken as confessed by said non-resident defendant. And it is further ordered that within the time after the date hereof, the said plaintiff cause a notice of this order to be published in the Chicago Daily News, a newspaper printed, published and circulated daily world into which they are thrust. The strains of your piano may set the spark going of "plaintiffs." Continue to give us music with your industrial tread.

Not the Usual Ending. I was the victim of the "spook boys" attending my father's funeral. I was very nervous and my mind was wandering. I saw a man in a white coat and a white mask. He was holding a book and looking at it. I was very nervous and my mind was wandering. I saw a man in a white coat and a white mask. He was holding a book and looking at it. I was very nervous and my mind was wandering. I saw a man in a white coat and a white mask. He was holding a book and looking at it.