

THE ECCENTRIC

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LUCK

If we do not believe in pre-ordination, we must sometimes believe in luck. There are hard-headed extremists who deny the word and insist that it is simply a misnomer for "pluck." The fact remains, however, that if our steps are not ordained by divine law, life is surely a gamble. We bow to chance at every turn.

Success, certainly, in any line of endeavor, demands work and plenty of it. Men who have risen to become great artists, statesmen, financiers, have labored hard for their places. But there are other men who work fully as much and get "nowhere." Bad management? Not entirely.

It has been scientifically proven that heredity has much to do with ability, and that with an equal amount of labor the man with greater natural ability will proportionately outdistance the lesser man, until at the end of a lifetime of equal effort, the two will be even farther apart than at the beginning. This fact in itself might be sufficient evidence of luck. But there are other things.

Some people seem to be continually having their plans upset. Now it is sickness, now accident, now loss by fire, now a collapse of investments. They work hard to get ahead, only to have some disaster overtake them. It isn't their fault; it's bad luck. And there are people who reach out and rake in cash prizes and who haven't the thrift or mental machinery of a slop-forked porter. Yet after a few years we see them rolling around in limousines and turning up their noses at former acquaintances. Why is it? Luck; pure luck!

And then look at the girls who are awarded big prizes simply for being born beautiful. Verily, then, has gets! Oh, we aren't kidding—just stating facts. We're fairly lucky, as luck goes, and, even if we thought we weren't, compensation returns in devious ways. A wave of financial disaster has sometimes carried tremendous happiness in its undertow, and great grief has been known to bring immortality. We sympathize with those who are unlucky, but chance and the weather are two things that man just naturally has to contend with. When you're "down on your luck" there's only one thing to do. Try to grin!

OCTOBER PASSES

A clear pool, dark, still, and cold in the frosty air; a clump of birch, long-limbed and white, leafless, reaching up to catch the last glimpse of the setting sun; yellow leaves lying with the red in their last splash of splendor; the willows still wearing the drooping green branches; the grass greener in contrast with the straight yellow road which leads to the rambling farm house, windows shining brightly giving out their warm welcome to weary workers on their way home at the end of the day—this is the last of October.

FROM THE ECCENTRIC COLUMNS

Forty-three Years Ago
 Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Hall returned from Denver on Monday last. Their daughters remain in Denver for the time being.

You won't believe it but it is an absolute fact. Moses M. Adler was admitted to a sample of whiskey which he claims is twenty-one years old. Must be a mistake for we don't believe Moses would let it be known that long—not if he knew it.

Not being able to make election

lets fast enough last week. Fred Lawrence" by Neal McLary five dollars to one that he could eat a pound and a half of cheese in ten minutes, and he lost. He had eaten five sixths of it when the time was called and he had to choose it. Neal kindly made Fred a present of two dollars considering it worth that much to see Fred make the attempt.

During the nine months ending September 30, domestic provisions valued at \$104,722,559 were exported. A great increase over last year.

Kenward Philip, editor of "Truth" has been arrested in New York, charged with forging the Garfield Chinese letter. Philip denies the charges. The court decided to hold Philip and a writ of habeas corpus was applied for.

Twenty-five Years Ago
 Last Tuesday being the 40th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Horace Leet, their daughter, Mrs. J. B. Hunt, gave a dinner at her home in honor of the event. Several relatives were present and the table fairly groined beneath its burden of the good things to eat.

Young man and maiden, John Hartway and Grace Leet, He. Will you be mine? She, Yes. Young man becomes enamored with another fair daisy, Mable Taworth (proving himself fair deceiver) and they skip to Pontiac by the light of the moon last Monday evening and the train became one. Soon after maiden No. 1 brings action for breach of promise and as a result of her nerve carries \$400 undoubtedly congratulating herself on procuring the "dough" free from encumbrance.

L. Bush and Miss Anna Lyons were married Tuesday at the Lutheran Church. The young couple are going to live in the Wm. Schrader place.

Wm. Shovan, living on V. James' farm, while helping Mr. Truesdale of Troy, saw wood to his home, and accidentally cut into the saw cutting his hand nearly off. Dr. Shaw, of this place and Dr. Anderson, of Big Beaver, dressed the wound, which required 23 stitches. He is doing well.

J. H. Carter and T. B. Eldred have been in Marietta for several weeks, where they are putting in a system of water works.

Your Garden Beautiful

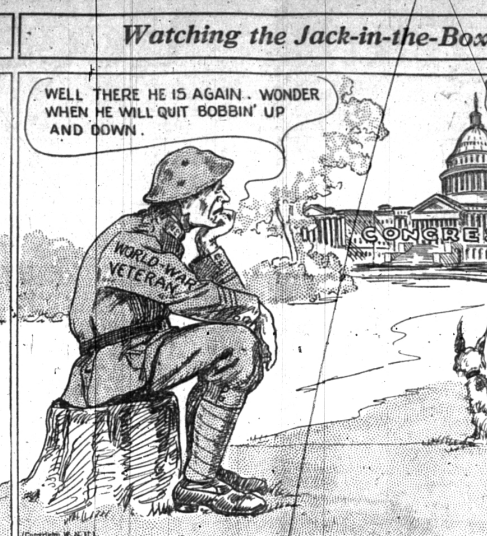
FOUNDATION PLANTINGS

The principal function of shrubbery is to give the home a natural background. The treatment is widely variable depending on the effect desired. Some homes are so situated that the setting while others are severely formal. The treatment depends on the location of the home, whether it is in the country, on the lake shore, or facing a city boulevard.

The foundation planting is perhaps the best known form of landscape treatment. It consists of a mass or series of masses of shrubs grouped about the house. It serves to tie the house to the ground and softens the severe architectural lines of the house. Many of the houses of the Old World have aged for centuries, have been surrounded for countless years by old trees, and their walls are covered in many cases with mosses and vines. To many connoisseurs these homes are attractive because of the toning down process which has been going on for many years.

In designing a foundation planting regard must be given to the height of the house, the height and arrangement of windows and doors, vistas to be left open and areas to be screened. In general the height of the shrubs or evergreens should be in proportion to the height of the house. The corner may often be built up higher with shrubbery than the front or sides. Strong plantings on the sides of the house will soften the straight lines. The plantings under low windows or in front of tall ones should be of medium or low height. It is often desirable to plant low growing shrubs in front of the taller varieties, especially on the corners this will give depth to the planting as well as all around effect. It serves also to hide the bases of the tall shrubs and presents a more uniform and pleasing appearance.

Among the tall shrubs used for foundation planting are Bush Honey-suckle, Lilac, Forsythia, Red Branch Dogwood, Syringa, Tamarix, and Weigela. The shrubs of medium height include Spiraea, Yucca, Houtteya, Snowberry, Indian Currant, Spiraea, Japanese Quince, and Japanese Privet. Kerria japonica, Rose rugosa, Spiraea Anthonii, and in some cases, Hydrangea paniculata grandiflora.



Short and Maybe Snappy

By G. R. A.

Value For Our Dollar
 Isn't it wonderful tribute to any man to be repeatedly called upon by citizens from every walk of life to assume the role of Chief Executive of these United States? One of the most important conventions ever held in America will take place December 12 when "Ford-for-President" boosters gather at Dearborn to mass their respective powers to nominate Henry for the 1924 election. It will be important because it shows that public opinion has reached a new idea regarding the abilities of its elective officials. Henry Ford is an inventor, a manufacturer, a financier, and, if you please, a real builder in civilization's progress. He furnishes work to thousands of men and women; he also pays them enough to keep them satisfied. He comes pretty near to giving the people a dollar's worth of value for every dollar they invest in his product—probably nearer than any manufacturer of a similar product. We believe that he will give the taxpayers the same kind of a fair deal. That's why we hope he'll be our next President.

Acting The Lines

While most of America's population is busy trying to earn a living, things go on all over the world that vitally concern us. For instance, Ambassador Harvey in England has stated that the United States is willing to enter a general European conference, with the ultimate view to settling differences between France and England. Thus we see how one man, by what he says or does, can precipitate a conflict entailing hardship to each and everyone of us here, or he can, if mentally big enough, propose a peaceful way to settle difficulties. Of course, Mr. Harvey is merely the spokesman for our official at Washington, but, like an actor, he must have some talent for carrying out an author's lines. We believe that the lines of any national or international drama are written along peaceful themes by the rank and file of that vast majority of each

Why Not Reward Him?

Quaker is the case of one William Burk, 76 years old, who last week was arrested in New York City charged with stealing a dictionary. Burk told police officers that he has spent his late years in collecting dictionaries—irrespective of who owned them. Although he may have had a passion to increase his vocabulary, Burk evidently has not been able to find Webster's definition of the word "thief" in any of the many volumes he possesses. We hope the old fellow is left off easy—for any man who wants a dictionary had enough to steal it ought to be rewarded in some way for his zealousness to keep dictionaries in circulation.

Advice To Drinkers

A government chemist advises chronic drinkers to watch their hearts. Much of the present boozing along peaceful themes by the rank and file of that vast majority of each

Both Are Selfish

"Opinions," declared Adam to his wife, the Garden of Eden, many years ago, "will differ." Whereupon Eve, having a mind of her own, merely nodded assent. The population of the State of Michigan is made up of men and women from every walk of life—that is merely to remind you that a farmer thinks differently than does his city friend. Yet both contribute to the State treasury and both want as much from that liquid and unbounded mythical material as they can get. Witness the case of the recent meeting of the State Grange, at Muskegon. Among the many things it wants is an income and gasoline tax passed through the next legislature. Farmers never have to pay much in the way of income taxes and they also know that the greatest amount of gasoline is burned in the cities of Michigan. Thus they have devised a selfish way to increase the size of the State treasury without working any great hardship upon themselves. In the meantime the city brothers will be planning and scheming to make the farmers pay. If only both parties would plan to assist the State officials in the wise expenditure of taxes some real good might be accomplished.

Front Page News

Eight hours last week when fire consumed the barn they were being housed in at Monroe. This news item found front page position in many of the daily papers of the state. In this age of automobiles the fact that eight horses were found on any one spot is getting to be unique in itself. How long before we, reading our newspapers in the air, or listening to the radio in the clouds, will consider the burning of eight automobiles in the same manner?

Who Are "Your Printers"?

Remember, if you're satisfied With average marks, you'll be denied The rich reward the world assigns To those of more ambitious lines. Be sure that he who wears the crown Would hold a place that's lower down Had he not fought to win the crest. Had he not passed the leader's test.

It may be true we're just at par,

But I am glad we're all at war, We get from life our honest due. She gives to us a just return, We're sure to get just what we earn. But just a pass, is not enough For him who's made of stalwart stuff!

Shen Out.
 The rest of no fewer than six sheep is used for making the best quality tennis rackets. Good gut depends on the health of the sheep. Color is no test. No rules limit the size of rackets. The wood used is generally second growth white ash. Various substances, among them pine, hickory, steel, and aluminum, have been tried, but with comparatively little success.

Bulgaria After Profiteers.

Profiteers in Bulgaria will be subject to public hearings with fines, confiscation of their property and permanent disbarment from business under the terms of a bill to be submitted to the national assembly. Deputies of what constitutes profiteering or a legitimate speculation is to be placed in the hands of the communal councils under the measure.

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

Amount Claimed	Amount Allowed
Geo. German	\$ 42.13
John Baum	1.90
M. Kelly	8.90
Mrs. Sam Brown	4.00
Jeannette Lyons	14.00
	23.00
Mrs. J. M. Heliker	32.87
H. P. Gaultier & Son	20.00
Frank Jensen	8.10
Thomas Furniture Co.	128.72
Rogers Sporting Goods Store	174.31
F. S. Hudson Co.	275.00
Edwin A. Hudson	2.50
H. Hobbs	208.25
The Midford Times	51.85
Birmingham Eccentric	82.25
E. J. Andrews	82.25
Geo. A. Spotts	18.50
Campbell & Hood	45.85
Stewart-Glenn Co.	45.85
F. L. Hudson Co.	42.35
Electric Housekeeping Shop	56.84
F. S. Lovejoy	16.40
W. F. Tuttle	30.73
Geo. Ratenberg	8.25
C. W. Smith	24.22
S. W. Todd	16.43
F. J. Vanatta	13.79
Floyd Smith	10.35
Roy Reynolds	1.00
Frank Rathka	14.40
Chas. Thayer	1.00
Pontiac Provision Co.	13.40
Pontiac Dairy Co.	9.16
Michigan State Telephone Co.	17.15
Oliver Co., Inc.	16.10
Fred S. Drake	12.00
Emma Vandercar	19.00
Michigan Printing Co.	360.00
Wm. A. Grant	44.00
Cleonia's Drug Store	83.90
State Hospital	82.90
John Leferve	86.45
John Leferve	15.00
University of Michigan	2.20
Oakland Oil & Gas Co.	68.40
Postal Telegraph-Cable Co.	75.00
Western Union Telegraph Co.	88.98
Holly Herald	88.98
Dr. H. Neff	10.15
J. L. VanWagoner	17.15
Shell Baking Co.	26.80
Triffin Bros.	35.01
Dr. E. Orton	36.01
Library Bureau	6.50
Dr. H. Neff	11.10
Mrs. James Butler	24.44
Chas. A. Farmer	15.05
William Baker	19.35
John Moses	15.05
J. A. Stephens	115.92
William Baker	115.92
W. Backenstose	24.00
John E. Bice	605.16
Leon G. Greer	605.16
Frank Schram	3.12
E. F. Farmer	3.12
Ed. Stetley	15.45
Rochester Auto Garage	28.43
Pine Grove Garage	31.45
Orin Hutton	38.00
Abbie Barrett	10.00
Rich Meyers	63.00
Wm. Fagan	7.70
Richard Smith	8.00
George M. Schmidt	2.30
George Clark	58.20
Oscur Curtis	27.00
Alb. Guiles	2.10
Deubidley Bros. Co.	20.28
W. B. Matterson	6.35
Abbie B. England	150.00
Gregory, Mayer & Thom Co.	270.11
Deubidley Bros. Co.	158.65
Clarence Brace	75.00
Deubidley-Hunt	400.19
Smith-Skelton Printing Co.	246.52
American Railway Express Co.	13.26
Art Metal Construction Co.	607.73
Francis Fruit Co.	102.13
Roscoe Finkel	43.58
Fred W. Farmer	10.50
Walter Brown	22.70
Eames & Brown	1.97
Wiggs Fair	6.35
Consumers Power Co.	275.00
Whitfield, Walter & Dawson	117.81
Whitfield-Fisher Co.	3.51
Whitfield-Fisher Co.	3.51
Wm. F. Works	12.75
T. Stewart & Sons	12.60
E. F. DePuy Co.	12.00
John E. Bice	1.25
James Cuthbert	13.00
Alfred Gale	24.00
Central Michigan	12.00
Michigan Children's Aid Society	500.00
Methodist Children's Home	22.02
Arvon D. Riker, M. Co.	15.00
The Corkins Chemical Co.	15.00
Pontiac Laundry Co.	111.28
Evans-Gale	31.50
Pontiac Laundry Co.	2.40
Clayton Glass Co.	14.30
The Lawyers Co-operative Publishing Co.	22.50
M. F. Heleferich	38.12
The Union Paper & Twine Co.	33.96
John E. Bice	15.05
H. J. Rohmick	15.05
J. D. Timney	10.00
John E. Bice	10.00
John E. Bice	20.00
John E. Bice	82.80
Frank Doty	29.00
H. J. Brown	1,425.51
John E. Bice	5.90
John E. Bice	2.00
Mrs. M. J. Heliker	4.40
Emma Vandercar	20.00
William A. Fagan	10.00
John Baum	10.00
Austin Trucking Co.	6.12
Whitfield-Fisher Co.	20.00
Mrs. Sam Brown	10.00
Michigan Flag & Decorating Co.	25.00
John E. Bice	40.00
Hart Williamson	40.00
Ether Holmes	45.00
E. J. Hardware	45.00
Chas. E. Groves	15.79
Frank Elwell	15.79
Mrs. Bernice Coons	26.30
Dr. Joseph Chapman	75.00
Eames & Brown	17.00
S. E. Hodges	24.56
F. S. Hodges Motor Sales	16.27
J. M. Furman	16.27
James Curran	34.00
Fred Hale	9.00
Chris. Hornbeck	2.00
Fred S. Drake	19.50
Deubidley-Hunt Supply Co.	3.00
Gregory, Mayer & Thom Co.	23.25
John E. Bice	7.50
Deubidley-Hunt Supply Co.	7.50
Michigan State Telephone Co.	12.00
John E. Bice	4.00
Remore Orchard Co.	4.00

WILLIS M. BREWER, Chairman.