

BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1924

LET'S STAND BEHIND THEM.

Willingness to accept offices on the Village Commission by Charles J. Shain and S. O. Wiley Bell, as announced in last week's edition of the Eccentric, has brought a sign of relief to many local citizens. They feel certain that these two men, assisted by C. A. Bingham, present Commissioner, whose term lay another year, will bring about many progressive things in this village.

March 10, the date for the annual election, will soon be here. On this day local electors will place into office the men who will make their laws, see that they are enforced; levy and collect taxes—and spend them, too; prepare and plan for the future, and administer to the present needs of this rapidly growing community.

Quite a job for Messrs. Shain, Bell, and Bingham. But, in the knowledge that entire Birmingham stands behind them ready to assist, the job will go forward with, perhaps, more pleasure than it has for many years.

The absence of "personalities" and "mud-slinging" will have a beneficial effect upon the political, social, and economic life of Birmingham.

THE METROPOLITAN AREA IDEA.

The creation of a Metropolitan Area within the 30 mile radius of Detroit, as outlined to care for sewer, water, transportation, and other collective needs of this district, looks to be a good thing. It seems reasonable that such an organization, composed of representatives from each of the communities affected, could function better than if no such organization existed.

The appointment of H. George Field and Village Manager Harry S. Starr to represent Birmingham on the Metropolitan Area Board is timely, and shows that this village is progressive. Let's hear more about this splendid start.

LET'S PAY FOR THE TANK.

The test made last week by a representative of the Michigan Inspection Bureau relative to our present fire-fighting equipment is most satisfactory. It shows that Birmingham, through the wise expenditure of part of its money, is prepared to protect the lives and property of its citizens from the ravages of fire.

Those who claimed that not enough water was available in our mains to supply the new \$12,500.00 pumper were mistaken; those who said the 300,000 gallon steel storage tank was of no value were similarly wrong in their hasty judgment.

It would seem, then, the worth of both the pumper and the tank having been proved, that the time is ripe to pay for the tank. No one can prove that it is no good, and payment for it will settle a long-standing feud in this village.

Corrective measures can be made to change our village charter so that a repetition of the methods employed in purchasing this tank can not be repeated by any future Commission. But let's pay our debts for a thing that we openly admit is good for the town.

THE SCHOOL ACCIDENT.

The crashing of three floors in part of the new Baldwin High School addition two weeks ago was a serious affair. Fortunately, nothing but dollars were lost in the accident. Dollars may be reclaimed; but not human lives. Local parents who are fearful about the construction of school buildings may set their fears aside, as far as this building is concerned. Members of the School Board will see that all the regulations are conformed with before accepting the building. And we may also rest assured that both the architects and the contractors will do their best to repair the damage.

Now that "June Bug," early aid of the Birmingham Fire Department is laid away, may it rest in peace—not pieces.

"Boys are the stuff that men are made of." Last night's annual Father and Son banquet at the high school proves that Birmingham is contributing its quota of men for the next generation. Yet, the kind of men they will be depends a great deal upon the men who sat next to them.

Base ball will soon be here. That means that we'll have to get out the lawn mower and prepare to cut the grass that may grow in our yard if we have enough water to sprinkle with.

Nevada last week killed one of its prisoners by the use of lethal gas, a new method of life extermination. This method is being greatly criticized by other states. It appears that scientists are attempting to devise a plan that will make death easy for all prisoners sentenced to death. It proves that, although organized society still clings to the "eye for an eye, life for a life" idea, we are still bent on injecting kindness into our acts. Just another paradox.

BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC

LIVING ROOM LYRICS

By CHARLES S. KINNISON of Birmingham

CLUMSY.

These feet of mine were never meant
To trip the light fantastic.
I know, if my frame was stiff,
Whereas, I'm quite elastic.
But still there's something, surely, wrong—
For I am not a dancer—
I kick about as though the gout,
Perhaps, might be the answer.

But I am sure it's not the gout,
For, folks, I'm not a glutton—
But if it's meat that stiffens feet
I'll gladly quit the mutton.
But "tisn't feet that's wrong with me,
At least, it isn't, mainly,
The painful truth—alas, forsooth—
Is just that I'm ungainly!

Each time I ask a girl to dance
Her stare makes me glassy,
And I can see full well, that she
Is not a happy lassie.
She plainly shows that she's aware
Of what is soon to happen—
For she has seen how I careen,
With arms and legs a-flappin'!

Of all the duffers you have seen—
Behold the classic duffer!
I scrape their shoes—their toes I bruise—
No guy could treat 'em rougher.
I'm fairly smart at certain things;
To much I know the answer;
But I confess, with sore distress,
That I'm an awful dancer!

MICHIGAN VIOLETS.

By Grace K. Eldred.

Lavender violets, with purple spur,
Bending with grace on your slender stem,
Your faces all smut with touches of brown,
Your little white beard makes a funny old gem:

Sturdy blue violets, haughty and cold,
Stiffly you grow in the woodsy glen,
In a bunch of your clear cut heart-shaped leaves,
You steal away from the haunts of men.

Down in the moss with squaw berries red,
The tiny white violet lifts its sweet head,
Fragrance o'er coming tender new leaves of beech seed,
Just starting to grow stalwart trees.

Pale yellow violets, flaunting your grace,
No sense of modesty in your tall stem,
Twas witchery formed you, your green forms a whirl,
As you nod, and you dance through the glen.

'Neath a tangle of wood grew violet gray,
Marked with brush of nature, in black;
The briar patch held those of old softer blues,
A scratch as you pluck them, a thorn in your back.

"O, Bank of the Mill Pond! No money can make
You give forth more pleasure to those of today,
Who have cleaned up your brush heaps, and cleaned out
The decay;"

"Till the little old violets trotted away."

(Written for the Birmingham Eccentric, Jan. 1924.
These lines are dedicated to the west bank of the mill pond, known to you as Quarton Lake.) appended the author.)

FROM THE ECCENTRIC COLUMNS
of Long Ago

Just Bits Of News Gleamed From Old Files Of The Eccentric—The Items That Make Up The Historical Background Of the Birmingham Of Today

45 Years Ago.

To Washington.

The D. G. H. and M. R. R. will sue round trip tickets by all routes from Birmingham to Washington, D. C. and return, to witness the inauguration of Mr. and Mrs. A. Garfield on the fourth of March. The tickets will be placed on sale at all the ticket offices. This is a rare chance to visit the capital at a merely nominal rate.

A Sudden Swap.

Last Friday evening a party was given to Miss Elyse Ebling of Big Bear, a home from her studies at the Normal School by her friends and schoolmates of this place. A very pleasant evening was had by all. Mr. and Mrs. George Brown, of Pontiac, in attempting to pass Wm. Brown's load, tipped over into the ditch which full of water, both disappearing head first beneath the rushing waters. Mr. Brown stopped his team, cast over several life preservers and they were saved. They drove home after the horse, right plain in the middle of it, too.

A Lively Fracas.

It was extremely lively Tom's birthday celebration on Thursday evening of last week. The crowd were sitting around the stove in the bakery Thursday discussing the spring match when George Tom came in to see his old seam over and asked the proprietor. Mr. Beers, how much he owed him. This was followed by a dispute which Beers was seen with a game of poker, giving Tom several blows therewith.

Melvin Rose and James A. Garland are alike in some respects—that is they will both move into their new white house about March 1—says Melvin who smiled on us recently.

A party was held at Mr. White's on Wednesday evening of last week, some fifty persons attending and tripped the light fantastic to the wimmas' hours. Brooks Bros. and McHenry furnished the music.

Shootin' Match.

At a shooting match between the Franklins and Piety Hillers on the Hill Pond last Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock the Franklins were victorious. The match was merely

for the sport and the price of the balls, which are allotted to Oscar Mudge for our pleasure were the Franklins were P. Durkee, Mudge, O. Mudge, F. German, R. Haskins, B. Johnson, The Piety Masters, G. Gaines, J. Johnson and B. Birkhead.

M. D. Masters has bought back the house and acres of land which he sold to Dr. Thomas of Detroit last spring. The Dr. has returned to the city with his family.

Mr. Beardlee is spending most of his time in Pontiac as jurymen.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. George Dawson, a 10 pound daughter. Thursday February 9. Everybody doing nicely.

J. D. Van Every and daughter Carrie attended the wedding of his niece, Miss Allie McCall to John Armstrong at Milford, Wednesday evening, February 15.

Next Monday the Democrats will feast with the Hon. Wm. J. Bryan at their second annual banquet at Pontiac. Big time. City full of enthusiasm.

Little Roy Robison, better known as "Silver," investigated the old trick of frosting his tongue on the blade of a frosty axe one cold morning last week with the usual results. Mr. Beers, how much he owed him. This was followed by a dispute which Beers was seen with a game of poker, giving Tom several blows therewith.

Postmaster Mitchell is a member of the Committee of Reception to receive and care for Hon. Wm. J. Bryan, who addresses the Jeffersonian Club at Pontiac next Monday evening.

J. John Camp had a spell of heart failure Wednesday evening and fell to the ground from the effects of pneumonia. He was carried inside and Dr. Charles Rayne soon had him recovered.

Miss Isen Cassell gave up her position in the Schlosscraft school to accept one in the Berry school, Detroit.

Mrs. Robert Hanna is convalescent after a hard tissue with the gripe.

You have all heard Martin Blunt, the man with the flax-brain, the sell cows, sheep, etc., but you have

never heard him undertake such a large task as he has undertaken with the first house near the First church. Lunch at noon and enough for everyone. For particulars call the Exchange.

John Hamilton and family have taken up their residence at Chas. Sly's and have leased the farm for a time.

Frozen ears, nose and toes are the latest woes here.

Mrs. Pemberton, who has been visiting her sister Mrs. Houghton, has returned to her home in Nebraska.

A SHORT HISTORY OF FRANKLIN CEMETERY

By J. B. Wood

A great many questions are asked concerning this burial place, how it was attained, its age, etc.

The land was originally purchased by Eliot Miller, 1825 and two days later he deeded the original acre of land to a gift to John B. Worthington, a trustee in a place of burial.

The first interment in it was that of a brother-in-law of Dillicent Steughton, a man named Warner, who died of consumption in the spring of 1830. His son, a dry goods merchant, of Franklin, was laid to rest there in 1831. His was the first grave marked by a memorial stone, which stands alone there for a good many years.

About twenty years after, an additional tract adjoining the old cemetery was donated to the people of Franklin by Jonathan Worthington, a trustee in a place of burial.

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The record of the cemetery is as follows:

1831—First interment.

1832—Second interment.

1833—Third interment.

1834—Fourth interment.

1835—Fifth interment.

1836—Sixth interment.

1837—Seventh interment.

1838—Eighth interment.

1839—Ninth interment.

1840—Tenth interment.

1841—Eleventh interment.

1842—Twelfth interment.

1843—Thirteenth interment.

1844—Fourteenth interment.

1845—Fifteenth interment.

1846—Sixteenth interment.

1847—Seventeenth interment.

1848—Eighteenth interment.

1849—Nineteenth interment.

1850—Twentieth interment.

1851—Twenty-first interment.

1852—Twenty-second interment.

1853—Twenty-third interment.

1854—Twenty-fourth interment.

1855—Twenty-fifth interment.

1856—Twenty-sixth interment.

1857—Twenty-seventh interment.

1858—Twenty-eighth interment.

1859—Twenty-ninth interment.

1860—Thirty-first interment.

1861—Thirty-second interment.

1862—Thirty-third interment.

1863—Thirty-fourth interment.

1864—Thirty-fifth interment.

1865—Thirty-sixth interment.

1866—Thirty-seventh interment.

1867—Thirty-eighth interment.

1868—Thirty-ninth interment.

1869—Fortieth interment.

1870—Forty-first interment.

1871—Forty-second interment.

1872—Forty-third interment.

1873—Forty-fourth interment.

1874—Forty-fifth interment.

1875—Forty-sixth interment.

1876—Forty-seventh interment.

1877—Forty-eighth interment.

1878—Forty-ninth interment.

1879—Fiftieth interment.

1880—Fifty-first interment.

1881—Fifty-second interment.

1882—Fifty-third interment.

1883—Fifty-fourth interment.

1884—Fifty-fifth interment.

1885—Fifty-sixth interment.

1886—Fifty-seventh interment.

1887—Fifty-eighth interment.

1888—Fifty-ninth interment.

1889—Sixty-first interment.

1890—Sixty-second interment.

1891—Sixty-third interment.

1892—Sixty-fourth interment.

1893—Sixty-fifth interment.

1894—Sixty-sixth interment.

1895—Sixty-seventh interment.

1896—Sixty-eighth interment.

1897—Sixty-ninth interment.

1898—Sixty-tenth interment.

1899—Sixty-eleventh interment.

1900—Sixty-twelfth interment.

1901—Sixty-thirteenth interment.

1902—Sixty-fourth interment.

1903—Sixty-fifth interment.

1904—Sixty-sixth interment.

1905—Sixty-seventh interment.

1906—Sixty-eighth interment.

1907—Sixty-ninth interment.

1908—Sixty-tenth interment.

1909—Sixty-eleventh interment.

1910—Sixty-twelfth interment.

1911—Sixty-thirteenth interment.

1912—Sixty-fourth interment.

1913—Sixty-fifth interment.

1914—Sixty-sixth interment.

1915—Sixty-seventh interment.

1916—Sixty-eighth interment.

1917—Sixty-ninth interment.

1918—Sixty-tenth interment.

1919—Sixty-eleventh interment.

1920—Sixty-twelfth interment.

1921—Sixty-thirteenth interment.

1922—Sixty-fourth interment.

1923—Sixty-fifth interment.

1924—Sixty-sixth interment.

1925—Sixty-seventh interment.

1926—Sixty-eighth interment.

1927—Sixty-ninth interment.

1928—Sixty-tenth interment.

1929—Sixty-eleventh interment.

1930—Sixty-twelfth interment.

1931—Sixty-thirteenth interment.

1932—Sixty-fourth interment.

1933—Sixty-fifth interment.

1934—Sixty-sixth interment.

1935—Sixty-seventh interment.

1936—Sixty-eighth interment.

1937—Sixty-ninth interment.

1938—Sixty-tenth interment.

1939—Sixty-eleventh interment.

1940—Sixty-twelfth interment.

1941—Sixty-thirteenth interment.

1942—Sixty-fourth interment.

1943—Sixty-fifth interment.

1944—Sixty-sixth interment.

1945—Sixty-seventh interment.

1946—Sixty-eighth interment.

1947—Sixty-ninth interment.

1948—Sixty-tenth interment.

1949—Sixty-eleventh interment.

1950—Sixty-twelfth interment.

1951—Sixty-thirteenth interment.