

BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC

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GEORGE RODGERS AVERILL, Editor and Publisher.

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FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 1924.

IT IS OUR GOVERNMENT.

Birmingham boasts of being 100% American!
That sounds nice—but it will look much better if the
poll book next Monday shows that those registered in
the Village have actually taken part in the annual election.
"Taxation with Representation" is the thought that
gave birth to the United States of America.
All those who dwell under the shelter of the Stars
and Stripes are given representation in the halls of parliament
through the medium of the ballot.

We who constitute the adult population of this country
today perhaps have never been told of our sacred duty,
at the polls, a duty that is as much ours to fulfill as any-
thing connected with life. We are subjected to various
laws under our government, and our "government" is af-
ter all nothing but our opinion as expressed by ballot at
election time.

Whether it be good or bad, it is our government; we
can make it better by interesting ourselves in various issues
at stake whenever election day rolls around, or we can
allow it to stagnate and rot by keeping away from the
polls.

Every qualified local elector who votes next Monday
is not only doing his duty but is proving himself a real
citizen; every qualified elector who can and does not vote
is shirking his duty, and is not a real citizen.
This editorial is not a "sermon," folks, it is just a re-
minder.

SUPPORT THE BOND ISSUES.

These are days of too liberal governmental expendi-
tures when watchful care by the voter is supremely needed
that nationally, and locally the people may not be swamped
in a flood of financial obligations.

Yet there are obligations that ought to be incurred,
intelligently and reasonably. That we may progress
properly, the wheat must always be separated from the
chaff.

Just because the tax rate ought to be kept down to the
lowest possible minimum it does not mean that we should
reject all proposals that come before us for consideration.

Locally there are two bonding propositions submitted
to the voters of Birmingham for their approval at the Village
election on next Monday, March 10.

One is for the erection of a sewage disposal plant.
The other is for the payment of the ground water
tank that has been used and useful to the Village ever
since its construction.

Both bond proposals qualify one hundred per cent
under every rule of reason.

Birmingham, thanks be, is an extremely healthy com-
munity. To help keep it in that condition we have most
properly started upon a system of sanitary sewers. The
sewage therefrom must be promptly taken care of by those
in authority so that the sewage disposal proposal comes
now at the right time. It is vitally necessary. Therefore
it should be voted upon in the affirmative.

Our water problem has not yet been solved. It may
not be for some time. Perhaps the future may give us an
adequate supply from Lake Huron, from Detroit or from
underground wells to the extent that perhaps someday
no tank, elevated or ground, may be necessary for a reserve
supply.

In the interim, however, such reserve IS NECESSARY.
The ground tank, built but not paid for, supplies that need
today. Its needfulness is evident. Its usefulness, for fire
protection alone if for no other purpose, is warmly en-
couraged by the state authorities.

Therefore it should be paid for. That the Village
has knowingly made use of this tank ever since it was con-
structed gives reason to the belief that the courts will
maintain it to be a Village obligation if the course of litigation
is pursued. Therefore there are open two ways by
which the tank may be paid. One is by court decision
when the entire amount becomes an obligation at one time.
The other is by vote of the people under which plan the
indebtedness may be spread over a period of years, instead
of being forced upon us at one time.

A "YES" vote cast for each of these bond proposals
will be most helpful to Birmingham's welfare.

And that "YES" can be given only on election day.
Favoring these proposals but remaining away from the
polls, will not help in the slightest.

FROM THE ECCENTRIC COLUMNS
of Long Ago

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

45 Years Ago.
We are glad to chronicle the safe
return of Mrs. Robert Crombie, from
Leadville. She returned Thursday and
expressed herself as well pleased with
the far west.

Last Friday evening, twenty-eight
of the school scholars paid Thurston
Lahar a visit, had an order supper and
made merry until three o'clock in
the morning. Wish we were young
once more.

Frank Durkee started for Washing-
ton to attend the inaugural cere-
monies last week, but only got as far as
Leadville. The parties at Wash-
ington were not properly cared for that he
couldn't attend.

A strange disease has broken out
among the pupils of the school at
Bloomfield Center. The parties at-
tacked are, to all appearances, per-
fectly well, and all at once they are
loved with an eruption like the

measles. The disease lasts about 45
hours, leaving the patient as well as
ever, though somewhat weak.

A large audience greeted Mr.
A. Brush in Red Ribbon Hall on Sat-
urday evening last and all were well
pleased with the exhibition. The
Red Ribbon club have been exerting
themselves to prevent the getting of
the tobacco juice on the floor and has
succeeded to some extent in stopping
the disgusting habit.

However,
certainly objects in human form
took advantage of the turning down
of the lights for the Scipitron enter-
tainment to indulge in this low
dirty trade to their hearts content.

Victor Hugo is being overwhelmed
among the pupils of the school at
Bloomfield Center. The parties at-
tacked are, to all appearances, per-
fectly well, and all at once they are
loved with an eruption like the

Next week Friday is the last day
of school in District number 10, and

LIVIN' UP IN MYRCS

By CHARLES S. KINROSS of Birmingham
SWEET—HEAR!
The world to them a Heaven seems.
A paradise of happy dreams,
As they gaze into the future
Building castles in the air.
Their skies are sunny, bright and blue,
With scarce one cloud to mar their view
Oh the days that lie before them,
Rich with life, sublime and fair.

They can't conceive of grief nor pain
As darkening their sunny lane;
They can only see the beauty
Of the life that lies ahead—
A life aglow with wondrous charm,
A life of love that's sweet and warm,
That shall hold them one, forever—
After life itself has fled.

Though time shall pass and make them old,
'Twill never make their love grow cold,
But 'twill only make it fiercer—
So they say, in passion's heat.
But as the years go slipping by,
The flame of love will slowly die,
Yet within the glowing embers
There'll survive the love that's sweet.

May you who bring these thoughts to mind
Find future life as fair and kind,
While you tread the path together,
As it seems upon you now.
May love from either ne'er depart,
But glow for aye within your heart.
And may each be ever loyal
Unto each sweet solemn vow.

THE ISLAND OF ETYAH.

(By George Rodgers Averill)

Two cannibals sat on a rock by the sea,
On the far-away Island of Etyah;
With a ring in each nose and bells on their toes
They were awful to look at, you betcha!

Each had seven wives in a hut on the hill
And their children were 'bout forty-seven.
No clothing they wore on this far-away shore,
And they knew not of Hell or of Heaven.

When the stew-pot was empty the men grabbed their
spears
And through forest they plunged in a hurry;
To fill up the pot with a few victuals hot
Be it neighbor or beast fierce and furry.

All these cannibals sought in this far-away place
Was some meat and some bones for their bellies.
They knew not of cars or of thick prison bars,
Or of ice cream, convention or jellies.

They lived day-by-day in this place far away;
They were born and their lives were soon o'ber;
Their bones turned to dust (just as white men's must)
A short while—and no one remembers.

We know that these cannibals still live a far,
They love, laugh and kill one another.
They have simple creeds and the sum of their deeds
Is about like their civilized brother.

But the thing that is puzzling most of the world
The question that bothers, you betcha,
Is to find if we people who build dome and steeple
Are wiser than those on far Etyah.

If all's well there will be a "blow" fall of snow that has been so heavy in that
region that they are unable to escape
their ferocious pursuers.

The country folk will kindly give
entertain to a conspiracy with Mr.
and Mrs. M. J. James on Tuesday
evening and make very pleasant
prize for Miss Emma Mooney by call-
ing upon that young lady and spend-
ing the evening. The source and his
estimable wife know how to make the
young folks glad and delight in do-
ing so.

A homing pigeon with a silver band
around its leg flew down among the
poultry on J. P. Rundle's farm last
Sunday evening by the storm. Last
evening it was caught and the finders
would like to know the history of the
feathered wanderer.

We don't know what causes it, but
ever since that Masonic blow-out in
Detroit W. M. Dan M. Johnston and
D. D. Morell Dennis have been sick
in bed with a doctor attending to each
case. They do say they are
down sick with the gripe but we
shouldn't wonder if they over-ate and
got out of pepan.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Hunt were tend-
ered a surprise and honoring at
Detroit, Pontiac, Southfield and
Troy, as well as Birmingham. To
say they had a jolly time would be
putting it mildly, however we do
press to early for further particu-
lars.

It hardly seems possible that it
occure more time to record Grand-
ma's birthday anniversary. But
such is the case and last week Tues-
day the good old lady reached her
eighty-ninth birthday and celebrated
the event by entertaining 26 of her
friends with a sumptuous dinner
with several useful and acceptable lit-
erary presents to the presider. The
table was graced with many merry
remembrances and we wish for her
many more joyous anniversaries.

WE HEARD
IT SAID BY

(Little Editorials picked
up by the Staff in and
around Birmingham.)

Mrs. O. F. Brien, a Pines street
resident, has no slums in Birmingham,
but there are in the school district.
Most of these cases are in Eco City,
and they are very interesting. An
instance is of a family where, following
a long illness, the wife died. Be-
cause of the illness, large debts had
accumulated and in order to keep up
the home, the husband rented the
house. His tenants, however, be-
cause of unemployment, were unable
to pay their rent, with the possibility
of the operation of a landlord. The
family had adopted two children
and after his wife's death, he
learned that the Michigan Children's
Aid would take back the children, he
feared that nothing would get him
from his children because they were
his own. He had wanted them from
their infancy and it was his wife's
last wish to try to bring them up and
give them the same advantages that
other children had.

Willis M. Brewer, chairman of the
Oakland County Board of Auditors,
"Luther Allen, who is supervisor of
Detroit Township, has done more to
eliminate political patronage and
licentiousness than any other man in
the county. He wants the business of
the county to stand on an efficient basis
and is a good man for his township."

Dr. Arthur W. Newitt, Health Of-
ficer: "At the present time the con-
tagious diseases in Birmingham are
under control, with the exception of
diphtheria and two cases of scarlet
fever. Whooping cough, chicken
pox, measles and scarlet fever are
what over the village, but there is
comparatively little. While, if any
disease were to get into the
basket ball team of Windsor Park
high school, they would be quarantined
their scheduled game here. It
may be that it would be better to
run any risks and possibly lose
something on ourselves that we have
so successfully avoided."

Mrs. John Saunders, Bloomfield
Hills, was delightfully surprised
when I inserted an ad for some
papers for sale, rather than ex-
pected to sell some of the things, but
during the first few days the paper
went out I disposed of everything and
could have sold them several times
over. Birmingham is fortunate in
having such a productive means of
advertising."

Neal Black of Knox street, when
approached in regard to subscribing
to the Eccentric: "Do I subscribe?
Why everyone who is good judgment
does that, don't they? Oh, yay, yay,
as far as I can remember we started
taking it and we had a supper last
meal than my copy of the Eccentric.
You can see the efforts that have
been made to get it before you very
easily. There was a time when it
was an advertising sheet and now it
is a real news medium. You will
find everyone in this neighborhood
feels the same way."

H. G. Field of the First Furniture
Shop: "Business is picking right up,
it's the other way around. Our
shop. Our reports for February were
just as good as for the February of
1922, and much better than that of
1923."

Mrs. C. C. Field of Oakland ave-
nue: "I advertised two rooms in the
Eccentric, and Friday morning, al-
most the instant the paper came out,
a man came and rented one of
the rooms. Monday afternoon, I
rented another. Both rooms were
occupied by good reliable peo-
ple—and all in three days. I'm cer-
tainly well satisfied with the Eccen-
tric's Classified Ad service; it's fine."

Clarence Vliet, Superintendent of Schools:
>Last week I attended a meeting of
the Chicago Association of Superintendents
and had occasion to note various
suburban conditions there. I want
to say that Chicago has found a
place that can equal our own Bir-
mingham. Oak Park, about 20 miles
from the Loop, is dirt as clean as
Pittsburgh. And even in the auditor-
ium in Chicago the smoke and fog
is not so bad as here. I think I
could just note the outline of the speaker
on the platform. All that Bir-
mingham has to do is to keep its
growth is rapid transit. People al-
most unanimously admit that Bir-
mingham is the peer of all suburban
communities."

David A. Bell, village commissioner:
and we were a frame dwelling burnt
up. All they had to fight the fire
was a fire engine. I thought of the splen-
did fire-fighting equipment we have
here in Birmingham. I am much
pleased that my property is located
here. I feel sorry for the people of
Detroit; they ought to do something
to protect themselves from future
conflagrations.

Horace G. Williams, Attorney at Law, 1026
Frontenac Bldg., Detroit, Michigan.

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE
Default has been made in the con-
dition of a mortgage made by David
Beale and Edith Beale, his wife, of De-
troit, Michigan, to the Michigan State
Trust Company, of Detroit, Michigan,
dated the 1st day of December, 1922,
and recorded in the office of the
Register of Deeds in the County of
Oakland in Book 12, page 148. The
mortgage is for the sum of Two
Thousand Six Hundred Dollars (\$2,600.00),
and is secured by a first mortgage
on certain lots in the City of Detroit,
Michigan, as follows: Lot 1, Block 1,
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the office of the Register of Deeds in and
around Detroit, Michigan, March 7th, 1924.
LUTHER ALLEN, Supervisor of
Detroit Township, Michigan.
HORACE G. WILLIAMS, Attorney at Law,
1026 Frontenac Bldg., Detroit, Michigan.
PATTERSON & PATTERSON, ATTORNEYS-
AT-LAW, PONTIAC, MICH.

MORTGAGE SALE
DEFAULT has been made for more than
six months in the condition of a certain
mortgage made by Stephen A. Brien,
husband of Edith Brien, his wife, of De-
troit, Michigan, to the Michigan State
Trust Company, of Detroit, Michigan,
dated the 1st day of December, 1922,
and recorded in the office of the
Register of Deeds in the County of
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