

BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC

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FRIDAY, MAY 9, 1924

INCREASING LAND VALUES.

Toiling year after year in an often vain effort to grasp from the soil a livelihood, generations of families have plowed and harrowed the land of Oakland county. Hardy pioneers they were, these first settlers who disputed with Chief Pontiac and his tribe right of possession to local lands. Less than a generation ago Birmingham was a scattered "four corners," Royal Oak was merely a tree; Ferndale was a swamp; and now we witness the Allandale building of homes and the miracle of a 200 foot pavement on Woodward avenue. All because a handful of men, dating with Trevithick back in 1797, had an idea that a self-propelled vehicle was a possible mechanical contrivance, and the choosing of Detroit as the automobile center of the world. Wouldn't old Pontiac turn over in his grave if he knew that his old stamping-ground was selling at \$1,000.00 per acre?

We have committed the Golden Rule to memory; let us now commit it to life. We have preached Brotherhood for centuries; we now need to find a material basis for brotherhood. Government must be made the organ of Fraternity—a working-form for comrade-love. Think on this; work for this.—Edwin Markham.

THE ABUNDANCE OF LIFE.

Life is, perhaps, the most abundant manifestation on this whirling molecule. Animal and plant life are the two kinds that interest us most. An individual's life is, sad to relate, of chief value to himself alone; society still clings to the selfishness that is misinterpreted as self-preservation. In the course of an average life, one has the chance of making many REAL FRIENDS. Ever attend a funeral and realize that but so few of the earth's populace cared enough for the deceased to witness the last rites? Ever get to a strange city and, when purchasing souvenir postcards, have to scratch your head several times in an effort to recall the names of even two dozen people to whom you'd like to write? A broader perspective on life will give us more out of it. Life abounds everywhere; the hovel houses its haggard souls; the mansion is its jewelled inmates; the conservatory blooms with rare flowers, while out in the woods, uncared for by man, beneath a rotten log, are worms and maggots, and a few feet away nod violets and forget-me-nots. Each a form of life.

When I would beget content and increased confidence in the power and wisdom and providence of Almighty God, I will walk the meadows by some gliding stream, and there contemplate the lilies that take no care, and those very many other little living creatures that are not only created, but fed (man knows not how) by the goodness of the God of Nature, and therefore trust in Him.—Izaak Walton.

BE A "KNOOSTER".

This is a lately discovered, though long-pedigreed American who fills the place of "happy-medium" between the chronic knocker and the chronic booster, both of whom are too one-sided to maintain any equilibrium. The chronic knocker is the spirit of the stormy and dismal night, and the chronic booster is always seeing sunshine and blue skies. The "knoster" loves the sunlight but sees the possibility of rain.

In other words: the "knoster" is the thoughtful man. He doesn't object to the crowd having a good time but he thinks it ought to know when to stop its revelry and go to bed. The chronic booster is always upholding the latest proposition and urging on the crowd. The chronic knocker, with a brow of gloom, is just naturally averse to anything that might make the world more beautiful.

For instance, when Mary, the familiar flapper, wants to see a movie, we put the question to dad (that is, we ought to).

Dad Knocker says, "No! Absolutely not! Who ever heard of such a disgraceful thing! Girls, these days, haven't any morals at all! What's the world coming to! You stay at home like your mother does and be decent!"

Dad Booster says, "Sure! Go ahead! Have a good time! Do anything you like! We're only kids once. Go on and enjoy yourself!"

Dad Knoster says, "Well, what kind of a picture is it? Is it something you want to see very much? Let's see the paper. Looks like it might be a pretty good show, although movies aren't all that they should be. Who are you going with? The Smith boy. H-m-m. Well, what do you think, mother? Shall we let her go?"

These are merely samples of an attitude of mind, not formulas for good conduct. The same men are often knockers at home and boosters abroad. It is the attitude of thoughtfulness that should be our ideal in every walk of life. Not what I want, nor what you want, nor what the world wants; but what is the wisest thing, the JUST thing. Let's be "knoster!"

There must be something even glorious in a fraternity that moves the mind and soul of men to set about the business of building a new edifice to house its membership. Such an institution as the local Knights of Pythias lodge merits the best that any individual or group of individuals can give it. May the autumn leaves, of 1924 fall happily upon the roof of the new K. P. Castle.

Her Highness—The Queen of May



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MY ROSES THREE.

By BEATRICE McDONALD

My lover brought me roses three, Three perfect blossoms they, Their fragrance wafted on the air, Memories of love and moments rare, Which I had stored away.

My lover brought me roses three, They were three happy years, Of wedded bliss and perfect love, Only surpassed an heaven above, Though sometimes marred by tears.

My lover brought me roses three, They spoke of happy things, Of tiny hands so sweet and dear, Of little faces hovering near, Of greater wealth than kings.

My lover brought me roses three, I watched them slowly fade, Nor wept because my roses died, With babes and lover at my side, The years could cast no shade.

My lover brought me roses three, I can no longer see, Their wondrous beauty, but for naught, Would I exchange the joy they brought, My precious roses three.

R. F. D. 4, Birmingham, Mich.

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

Forty-Three Years Ago Those mocking birds of Mrs. Rose's, and Mrs. Pote's are simply tremendous. They imitate everything they hear and keep up a general chatter on their own hook besides.

We thought it was Barnum's tattooed man who had escaped but it wasn't, it was George Toms with his new calico suit on.

We omitted to notice the arrival of a young girl at the house of Mr. and Mrs. Pote's during the month of 14 of the deaths occurred in Pontiac, 6 of which were inmates of the asylum.

The room in the Stanley & North building, formerly occupied as a band room by Prof. Sherman and his pupils will shortly be occupied by George Toms as a tonorial studio.

Julian Lee's new house near the depot is rapidly approaching completion under the vigorous hands of Lewis Simpson. It will be a tasty and convenient dwelling when completed.

We want to see what the people in this vicinity have to say in regard to the eccentric individuals of Whitehead & Mitchell, said a Big Beaver fellow.

Erastus Wooster returned home from Port Henry, N. Y., on Saturday night, having been under the necessity of resigning his position as book-keeper in consequence of a persistent attack of fever and ague.

Best of a verity it would seem as if all our best young men would leave us ere this year is half over in Bert Baldwin who has secured a position in the new dry goods house of Oxford, Stockwell & Co.

and shall keep an accurate account of same.

Section Two—Definition of Terms. (a) The Department shall have the right to make such alterations in the regulations in this section as shall be necessary in this ordinance, unless otherwise specified.

Section Three—Water Mains. (a) The water mains of the Department shall be laid on the surface of the street, and shall be protected by a concrete curb and sidewalk.

Section Four—Service Pipes. (a) The service pipes of the Department shall be laid on the surface of the street, and shall be protected by a concrete curb and sidewalk.

Section Five—Water Connections. (a) No person shall make any water connection to any building, or shall install any water fixture, without first obtaining a permit from the Department.

Section Six—Water Connections. (a) No person shall make any water connection to any building, or shall install any water fixture, without first obtaining a permit from the Department.

Section Seven—Water Connections. (a) No person shall make any water connection to any building, or shall install any water fixture, without first obtaining a permit from the Department.

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Section Thirteen—Water Connections. (a) No person shall make any water connection to any building, or shall install any water fixture, without first obtaining a permit from the Department.

Section Fourteen—Water Connections. (a) No person shall make any water connection to any building, or shall install any water fixture, without first obtaining a permit from the Department.

also is required, and his attention is called to the fact that the Department will not be held responsible for any damage to property caused by the installation of water mains or service pipes.

DIRECTORY

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