

BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC

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WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 17, 1924

CHANGING OUR THOUGHT PROCESSES.

The sentencing of Leopold and Loeb to life imprisonment for the killing of little Bobby Franks was one of two things—according to the light in which the matter is viewed.

In the State of Illinois ever allows another man to be hanged for any crime whatsoever, then Judge Caverly's decision (though accepted by society as perfectly right today) will be entirely wrong tomorrow, for he has set a precedent that ought to be the guide of future society.

Viewed in the light of absolute Christianity, (the attainment of which we are all striving for), Leopold and Loeb should not forfeit their lives. All the finer sensibilities of mankind decree that NO MAN has a right to take another man's life. Though these two boys did not possess the better instincts of life, their acts should not be an example for organized society to follow.

Because Leopold and Loeb are the possessors of a warped and twisted mentality, they committed one of the worst acts of which any man is capable. To kill them in return would not be to teach them a lesson in kindness; to kill them would be merely to remove them from society, when society's real problem is to teach kindness.

The world moves in cycles. Geologists have been able to prove from a study of the materials of the earth, just what occurred at various stages of the earth's development.

Clarence Darrow, in his eloquent plea before Judge Caverly, asked for a verdict that would outlast capital punishment in Illinois. He admitted that Cook County had hanged people in the past, but he contended that this was wrong. And, we believe, Darrow is right. The mental attitude of society changes very slowly, so far as elemental things are concerned. For centuries the law has demanded "an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth."

And the very Book that chronicles this saying also records the fact that the Greatest Man who ever lived—though he was just about to be put to death—exclaimed with wonderful wisdom, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do."

A new era in the conduct of society was inaugurated when Judge Caverly announced his sentence of Leopold and Loeb. It is an era of bigger vision, greater perspective, on the part of courts of law.

The real issue in this case is NOT the fact that Leopold and Loeb escaped the penalty of having to forfeit their lives for an act that, in the past, has demanded a life for a life: the most important thing about it all is that a pivotal point in human thought has been reached—that an example has been set in a Chicago court which asks that God, and God only, (Who sent man into this world with out his knowledge or even consent), is the ONLY Power that should determine the day of his death.

Under the terms that guide mankind's willingness for fair play, no man can ever be legally hanged in Illinois again. And Illinois will set the world thinking about the value of human life.

Thus do we witness the transformation in the method of society's thought processes. And thus do we see efforts made to uplift the brute instincts of mankind.

In my home are three children. Little bits of God they are. They leave their imprints upon the furniture—little, sticky finger-marks. They are ever busy; they ply me with multitudes of questions. They climb all over me when I enter the house. But I would not trade them for the wealth of Solomon! They were not made by man—they are part of God's creation. God made them and is just allowing me to look after them for Him for a little while. And I must fulfil my obligation well.—G. R. A.

OUR FIRST "DOLLAR DAY"

Birmingham merchants, keenly alive to modern business methods, have arranged to stage a "Dollar Day" here Thursday, September 18. This fact has been heralded within many miles of our town. The merchants promise to do their part in providing bargains for the shoppers.

Therefore, a certain duty falls upon the people of Birmingham and vicinity in relation to "Dollar Day" here. Certainly they need many things that are sold only in stores, and what would be better than patronizing a local business place?

Upon the success of this first "Dollar Day" depends future ones. "Dollar Day" is now recognized as a sort of national business affair; it only remains for both the merchants and the residents of this vicinity to cooperate to make "Dollar Day" in Birmingham a success.

And may everybody remember that the money spent "at home" stays here—and somehow is used to make our village a better place in which to live.

INTEREST IN COUNTY ELECTIONS

The results of the primary election last week proved that Oakland County may be awakened to a realization that its public officials bear an important relation to everyday life.

Consider at least two cases, that of county clerk and county road commissioner. W. Harry Cryderman has served the county for two terms as clerk; with few exceptions, he has proved a good one. Had he not overlooked the importance of the law in relation to the printing of the Republican ballots a few weeks ago, he might have been nominated for a third term. The news that the ballots were printed irregularly, after being placed before the people, showed that the people do not like anything that is not strictly in accordance with the law. And so the electors nominated Burton P. Daugherty, of Holly,

an almost obscure citizen, for their next clerk. John A. Adams, Republican holder of the office of road commissioner for eleven years, went down to defeat before the candidacy of Luther D. Allen, of Bloomfield township. In no uncertain terms the enlightened public decided that Mr. Adams could not have another six years in so important an office as that of county road commissioner. Why?—simply because the public was informed of certain? of Mr. Adams' tendencies in carrying out the duties of his office.

The Birmingham Eccentric modestly accepts the approval given by many citizens for its efforts to inform the electors over Oakland County on the merits of the various candidates. It will attempt to continue its interest in matters of County importance, so that future elections may not assume the nature of an intricate puzzle to the voters.

"Cows are the chief asset of Macomb County," declares the Mt. Clemens Monitor, "H'm—that's funny," exclaimed a Birmingham man. "I thought there was something funny about Macomb County. Queer, though, how soon they took up drinking milk after the Eighteenth Amendment was passed."

"John A. Adams defeated for road commissioner in close race by Luther D. Allen," the Rochester Clarion told its readers in screaming headlines last week. Which makes us wonder what the Clarion considers a "close race," for Allen received about 2700 majority over Adams. Perhaps the Clarion meant a "close race."

Defense Test Day has come and gone. The men and women, boys and girls, of the United States were impressed last Friday with the necessity of being prepared against foreign invasion. Defense Test Day is, according to those who sponsored it a time when the nation takes an inventory of its military resources. It is wise to know what you have—whether it be merchandise or physical strength. Defense Test Day incidentally informs a noisy world that the United States is not only a part of the Western Hemisphere, but that it is filled with wide-awake people who are prepared to retain what they have worked industrially to get.

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

43 Years Ago

The Township Library has been transferred to the care of the librarian of the high school and all books are earnestly requested to be returned at once to enable a complete list to be made.

Miss Etta Beattie celebrated her ninth birthday last week by giving a party for a number of her young friends who enjoyed themselves as only children can. With the young lady many more "pep" happy events.

This week a jolly party consisting of Mr. and Mrs. Allen Biebow and son, Mortie, Rev. Thos. Middlemiss, Mr. George C. Wallace and wife, and Henry Grennell, are fishing and enjoying themselves at St. Clair Flats.

We understand that the members of the high school Lyceum have been selected the Birmingham Reading Club for a debate on the question—Resolved—"That at the Birmingham Reading Room as now conducted is detrimental to the best interests of Birmingham."

A meeting of the Chautauque Literary and Scientific Circle was held at the house of Mrs. Uter Tuesday evening, September 20. A local circle was organized and the following officers elected: President, Caleb Jackson; Vice President, Miss Mamie Uter; Secretary, Mrs. L. T. Furman. It was decided to meet again in the same place Tuesday evening, October 1.

All who are interested in the C. L. S. C. are cordially invited. Those who wish the secretary to get the Chautauque for them will please hand in their name.

After eighty weary and suffering days and nights the long agony is over and President Garfield sleeps the sleep of the righteous, having breathed his last at 10:35 Monday evening. The whole country mourns and deeply feels the loss of this great statesman. Sympathy from the crowned heads of Europe is tendered to a bereaved widow and reports from all parts of the United States show that the country deeply feels its loss. The funeral will be held at Cleveland Monday and the remains deposited in Lakeview cemetery at the above place.

Portions of four counties of this state lying principally between Saginaw Bay and Lake Huron have been devastated by forest fires. A fourth almost unprecedented in this section of the country had prepared the way for this calamity and houses, barns, fences, and everything, including human life, have been destroyed by the ravages. It is known that more than 200 lives have been lost by burning and suffocation. The number of women and children left without shelter is estimated at 15,000.

The commercial treaty between France and England has been extended for three months from November 8, then it expires by its terms.

Notice—Anyone missing a pumpkin call on Till Trowbridge.

Harvey Carter struck it rich on the farm of Adam Bailey in Troy, getting a thing well at 116 feet depth that took 20 gallons a minute.

James Shane has started up his clover thresher. Anyone wishing their clover threshed in good shape should by all means call on James.

There is to be a dance at Dave Rainey's on Tuesday evening, September 27. All are invited, music by Brooks and McHenry's band.

25 Years Ago The new M. E. minister, Rev. Mr.

Clark, gave his Birmingham congregation their first sermon last Sunday. He comes from Williamstown and is of good repute and no doubt will be just as successful as Bro. Nindo and Allenhard.

John D. Stachler has purchased Charles Lee's interest in the Birmingham Steam Laundry and the business will be conducted as before under the firm name Stachler & Stachler.

One night last week there was a surprise party at Bert Bradford's and the merry-makers met at the Parker school house before going to Mr. Bradford's. During the time that the boys and girls were gathering at the school house, some aleck, to be cut and running, pulled the flag rope out of the halyards and cut it all into little pieces. The director, William Hunt, says the ten dollar bill enclosed to him, which will only just pay the actual expense of repairing, which can be sent quietly with the arrest of the rapid boys. The flag business is a state affair and to fool with it is like sticking a mule's heel with a straw.

Perhaps our people don't know that trotting and pacing maniacs at the Davenport track on Saturday afternoon are largely patronized and heartily enjoyed by lovers of fast horseflesh. Last Saturday afternoon Deputy Sheriff George W. Fay went to do a thing to them but capture first prize with his pacer, Mark Hanna, who led everything on legs a merry chase.

There is a great complaint all over town at the way our laws are enforced. Horses are hitched to trees, bicycles are all over the sidewalk and general lawlessness is everywhere. Hitching posts are needed down town. You can't expect the farmer to trade at your store if you have no post for him to hitch his horse to.

A whole-souled, spontaneous, general uprising of the people, gay bonhomie to our townsman and fellow citizen, Hon. A. Fairbridge and his wife, who have traveled along life's road in double harness for fifty years, will take place at Masonic Hall next Tuesday evening. A reception will be given the worthy pair at the above named place and time. It is such a Masonic reception but a public affair. As yet the couple most interested know nothing of the proposed party but those who know promise to have the 2000 wedding candidates promptly on hand and a merry, jolly, informal good all-around evening will be had.

The Odd Fellows have captured Detroit for all this week and the City Hall decorations in their honor exceed all other previous efforts.

Mrs. C. E. Lott is busy collecting the annual dues from the Eastern Star members. Hurry up boys and girls with your big, round silver dollars.

During vacation William Hilliard put an entirely new lot of flues in the school house boiler for heating purposes and did a very nice, satisfactory job, too.

In an Illinois town all "drunks" are set to work on the street cutting weeds. Birmingham might be improved by adopting this plan and there would be "drunks" enough to go round.

DIRECTORY

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NOTICE I have equipped my Shoe Repair Shop to Retire Baby Buggy and Coaster Wagon Wheels. Prices reasonable. 12 WEST MAPLE AVENUE (In rear of Williams' Boot Shop)

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- And Miner's Quality 22 bars P. & G. Soap \$1.00 3 jars Marasco Pure Jam 40c value \$1.00 12 cans Beech Nut Pork and Beans 12c value \$1.00 12 bars Palmolive Soap 10c value \$1.00 12 bars Flake White Soap 10c value \$1.00 10 cans Beech Nut Spaghetti 12c value \$1.00 3 cans Hawaiian Pineapple 40c value \$1.00 5 cans No. 1 Hawaiian Pineapple 25c value \$1.00 4 cans No. 1 Red Salmon 35c value \$1.00 4 bottles Beech Nut Catsup 35c value \$1.00 2 rolls Royal China Toilet Paper 15c value \$1.00 5 cans Stani Flush 25c value \$1.00 10 boxes Fab Soap Flakes 12c value \$1.00 7 cans No. 2 Roast Beef Tomatoes 18c value \$1.00

Miner Grocery Co. Birmingham, Michigan

BALDWIN THEATRE "Royal Oak's Popular Amusement Center" -Final Showings- 3 Days Starting Monday Sept. 22 TONIGHT - TOMORROW (Fri. Sat. - Sept. 19-20) DOROTHY DEYOVE and WALTER HIEBS In the thrilling comedy "HOLD YOUR BREATH" PATHE NEWS AESOP'S FABLES A Unique Program of 5 Standard Acts - 5 Saturday Mat. for Children at 2:30 - Children, 10c; Adults, 25c Sunday Only, Sept. 21 (Continued 2:30 to 11 P. M.) A film version of the Middle-western Classic "THE HOOSIER SCHOOLMASTER" 5 All-Star 5 Vaudeville Acts 5 PATHE REVIEW Baldwin Orchestra 4 full and complete shows at 2:30, 4:45, 7:00, 9:00 3 Days Starting Monday Sept. 22 3 Days Only - 3 Starting Thursday, Sept. 25 AGNES AYRES in "THE GUILTY ONE" JOSEPH HENABERY Production A Thrilling Picture A flashy society drama and a corking mystery yarn moulded into a thrill-a-minute picture High Class Vaudeville PATHE NEWS 2 Shows Nightly at 8:45 and 9:30 Robert Z. Leonard presents Mae Murray in Mademoiselle Midnight An Unusual Program of Standard 5 Vaudeville Acts 5 PATHE NEWS AESOP'S FABLES Baldwin Orchestra Saturday Matinee at 2:30