

BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC

(Founded in 1878 by Whitehead & Mitchell)
Published every Friday at Birmingham, Michigan, in The Eccentric Building,
126-128 North Woodward Avenue. Telephone 11 and 12.
GEORGE RODGERS AVERILL Editor and Publisher

Subscription Rates: All newspaper and advertising
copy must be in The Eccentric
Office by Wednesday noon of
each week.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14, 1925.

PROVE THAT SOCIETY SHALL KILL!

Practically speaking, there are three tendencies of
human effort: first, that which tends to revert to past
performances and traditions; second, that which stands
quite still, accepting today's performances and traditions
as sufficient guide for life; third, that which advances
new ideas, better ideas—ideas of social advancement that
have for a background the mistakes of past performances
and traditions.

In the majority of articles which have been printed
on the subject, the second kind of the three human ten-
dencies is predominant, with a bit of the first tendency
thrown in for good measure. Thoughts of some very con-
scientious editors cry out in the printed word for the
execution of Scott—the desire to "Kill! Kill!" even
emanates from otherwise peaceful citizens.

"What protection has society against murderers and
gangsters who, when duly apprehended by officers of the
law are allowed to escape the hangman's noose, or the
electric chair," lament the scribes who would save human-
ity by killing off part of it. And thus do we choose the
hardest (though momentarily, easiest) way of protecting
(?) society against individual slaughter.

Ever since Cain slew Abel the world has been both-
ered with persons of murderous inclination; until ALL
the people on earth are absolutely Christianized society
may expect to witness individual killings—and it may be
many centuries before such a transformation takes place.
In the meantime what shall be the method pursued by
society to combat the evil thoughts that are the fount of all
wrong actions? The answer lies in the full development
of the spiritual and mental capacities of every member of
society for doing good. (See Function of Schools and
Churches.)

Russell Scott is no more deserving of the hangman's
noose than either Loeb or Leopold; however, according to
the foolish notion of the State of Illinois, this trio should
have forfeited their lives for killing others. Legal pro-
cedure pointed out that Scott killed a man in a drug store
burglary; that Loeb and Leopold ruthlessly slew a boy
to satiate perverted appetites. As long as Illinois places
its official stamp of approval upon capital punishment,
all murderers in that state ought to be accorded the same
treatment. The only difference in the ultimate disposal
of a murderer in Illinois is the amount of money that the
victim has at his command to hire legal talent; which
proves in itself that JUSTICE has a price attached to it.

A few years ago the world staged the biggest war
known in history; it was widely heralded as a "war to end
all wars." Even the casual reader of today has since
learned that more wars are scheduled for the future; that
all nations are building engines of destruction to defend
themselves against future invasion. Why? Simply be-
cause the mental and spiritual capacities of mankind have
not changed very greatly since 1914; if anything, racial
hatreds have increased, especially in Europe. That's the
reason that we may expect another "war to end all wars."

When an individual kills another it is because, primar-
ily, he has a small valuation of his real relationship to
society; he has no conscious knowledge that he has no
right to the life of another; he has no TRUST or FAITH
in the ability of his Maker to supply him with what he
needs. So he sets out to get something, as Scott did, and
kills another in the act. Apprehended by the police, the
murderer is turned over to the courts, which carries out
the State's mandate to murder in return.

There is not, there can not be any lasting or decent
proof of the goodness of capital punishment any more
than there can be for the act committed by the individual
murderer, or by the staging of a war between nation and
nation. Painfully and slowly the world will learn this
truth: that the only agency capable of fixing the exact
time when a man may enter the portals of death is the
Power that created man; that "Thou shalt not kill . . ."
applies equally to collective society as to an individual.

We hope that Michigan never adopts the capital
punishment law. We trust that States which now carry
it out will soon realize that a murderer needs as much
LOVE and KINDNESS as a person whose body is wasting
away. After all, folks, is there much difference between
the leper who is isolated from society, but treated for
recovery, and the man who, because of a twisted mind,
murders another? Both are dangerous to society; both
need help to become healthy, normal citizens.

HELPING OUR BOYS AND GIRLS

Within Birmingham and vicinity are many boys and
girls, growing into manhood and womanhood; ere long
they will be the parents of tomorrow. Each day brings
into their lives some new adventure, some new observa-
tion upon which their character is built. Many things
make up their environment.

First, there is the home. Mother and Father are
partners in the homestead; they guide the destiny of its
inmates. All boys and girls are deserving of good parents.
The biggest job any parent has in life is to guide properly
the footsteps of his boy or girl; and homes without chil-
dren have an example to set for the children of the neigh-
borhood.

Then come our schools and churches. We should not
begrudge any amount of money that will enable our
educators to properly shape the character of a child.

Outside of these associations there are many insti-
tutions that are working hard to aid boys and girls toward
righteous living. In this community the Boy-Scouts and
the Girl Scouts are doing a splendid work; the man and
women who are active in these two organizations are

A pretty little home it was and all so bright and new.
The range with shining kettles that held just enough for
two,
The hand embroidered linen and the lustrous silverware,
The dainty glass and china to be handled with such care,
And all the other lovely things that fill with joy and pride
And happiness the heart of any girl who is a bride.

Her biscuits were delicious and most tender was the steak,
Supreme her pie and cookies and the frosted layer cake,
And yet one day dark clouds appeared. Then came a
heavy shower of tears
Oh, never more will she forget the anguish of that hour,
When from her hand it slipped and fell, a little cherished
glass,
And in a thousand atoms lay, the first sad break, alas!

—Beatrice McDonald.

giving their time and money without material compensa-
tion. Local parents may be proud that this community
abounds with such a spirit of helpfulness.

THANKFULNESS FOR AMERICA

News from Europe nowadays is full of uncertainty.
The threat of war is ever on the horizon. Millions of
people are oppressed by heavy tax burdens and the general
prostration of industry.

The American people ought to feel profoundly grate-
ful that we are not suffering from such conditions. We
have our troubles, but they are relatively light. Our tax
burdens are far below what they have to bear. Our load
of debt is small relative to our national wealth, as com-
pared with the amount of debt they are carrying across
the sea.

We are getting today the fruitage of the courage,
the energy, and the sacrifice of the ancestors and pioneers
who established our country and its institutions, and who
performed the tremendous physical task of building and
equipping a new country.

They toiled and sweated, they fought the savages and
they ploughed the fields and cut down the forest and con-
structed roads and built railroads, and created a wonder-
ful civilization, and we get the benefit. And many of us
kick now because we have to work half as long hours as
they did.

The original settlers were bright enough to see that
conditions over in Europe were too crowded, and that they
could make a better country if they would start in a new
land. It took a great deal of courage and the spirit of
adventure, and involved harder work than if they had
remained in their native lands. But they had the resolu-
tion to do it, and we benefit.

Our hearts ought to be overflowing with thank-
fulness. We should remember the words of Scripture, "To
whom much is given, of him shall much be required," and
we should contribute generously of time and money to
make it a good country, and to assist peoples and lands
that are not so fortunate.

THE PAY OF MINISTERS

No report has come in of ministers going on strike,
and less is heard from them in the way of complaint about
their pay, than from any of the various classes of people
in the community. And yet the average salary of min-
isters has probably been advanced less in the past 10 years
than in the case of any of the various occupations.

A minister who has taken pledges to work unselfishly
for the community, hates to appear in a position where it
looks as if he were considering money. And yet his family
need the usual amount of bread and butter. He would feel
his career had been a failure if he could not educate his
children. It is well to think of the untiring service that
these men render. We need to attract the highest type
of young men into this noble calling, but it can't be done
if the minister is not given adequate support.

INTELLIGENCE AND ACCURACY

There are a multitude of persons who have good
qualities, but it is not often that people are found who
have combinations of desirable qualities. If they are strong
in one respect, they often fall down somewhere else.

The combination of intelligence and accuracy is one
that the business world values. The two things do not
always go together. Some intelligent people are quite in-
accurate. Their minds spread out so far that the mental
substance seems to get rather thin. They are so interest-
ed by a wide variety of things that they cannot easily pin
themselves down to small details.

Frequently they have rather a contempt for such de-
tails. Such persons make a rather impressive addition to
a business office, and give the idea that the concern has
big and broad ideas. But it is not always safe to depend
on them, if you want goods delivered at a certain place
at a certain day and hour.

They have the folks who are accurate but who lack
intelligence. They have had training in certain methodical
work, and can be depended upon to perform certain pro-
cesses faithfully and correctly. But if something comes
up out of the routine, they are very much puzzled. They
have a way of passing the buck over to someone else, in-
stead of setting their own thinking powers to work and
deciding what ought to be done.

The intelligent people should realize that the whole
structure of civilization is built upon the performance of
the small daily duties in a correct manner, and that their
intelligence will get them nowhere unless it produces a
systematic result. And the accurate people must realize
that daily work is full of sudden exigencies which must be
met with some application of brains.

FROM THE ECCENTRIC COLUMNS of Long Ago

Just Bits Of News Cleaned From Old Files Of The Eccentric—The
Items That Made Up The Historical Background Of
The Birmingham Of Today

Forty-three Years Ago. perfect as can be had when we take
into consideration the difficulty of
like-like oil portrait of the late Dr. painting a portrait from a photo-
graph, executed by William graph taken several years ago. The
British of Detroit. The expression likeness is adjudged excellent and it
of the old gentleman's face is as will grace the parlors of Dr. C. M.

COMMUNITY BUILDERS
20 DEVELOPMENTS TO SELECT FROM
Birmingham Bloomfield Hills Real Estate
Profit by our experience of many years in this district
Walsh, James & Wasey Co.
Detroit - Birmingham - Bloomfield Hills

WE HEARD IT SAID BY—
(Little Editorials picked
up from the Staff and
around Birmingham.)
James Lynch, Pontiac Attorney,
and one of county's leading
Democrats. "Perhaps it's because
I'm Irish that I take so much inter-
est in politics, for my original coun-
try went through 700 years of fight-
ing with England to obtain political
freedom. Anyway, I was born a
politician. I've lived a politician, and
I'll die a politician—the kind of a
politician that is interested in good
government, not in getting an office.
What I am going to want no more
fitting epithet carved on my tomb-
stone than the simple, beautiful
word, 'Politician.' It is too bad for
America that so few of its citizens
actually interest themselves intelli-
gently in affairs of government."

Dr. Mabel Campbell
OSTEOPATHIC PHYSICIAN
312 First National Bank Bldg.
RONTAC
Phone Pontiac 3147
Hours: 9-12; 1-5 and by
appointment

Wormer & Moore
REAL ESTATE
—BIRMINGHAM—
—BLOOMFIELD HILLS—
—SOUTHFIELD—
ROCHESTER
Main Office:
2231 PARK AVE. DETROIT
Main 4886.
Birmingham Office:
520 S. Woodward Ave.
PHONE 930

FIRE
COMPENSATION
BURGLARY
INSURANCE
AUTOMOBILE
AND BONDS
Oakland Realty Co.
T. D. LYNCH - Manager
LEVINSON BLDG.
Phone 143-W

Fred L. Tucker, Dentist
FIRST NATL. BANK BLDG.
PHONE 180
Office Hours: 9-12; 1-5
—Evening hours by appointment—

Emerson C. Brown
LANDSCAPE GARDENING
and TREE SURGERY
Room 12 Levinson Bldg.
Phones: Office 808-W, Res. 808-R
BIRMINGHAM, MICH.

Leon B. Miller
138 W. MAPLE AVE.
Phone 772
BATTERY REPAIRING
ACCESSORIES OIL
GAS VULCANIZING

Maurice E. Baldwin
COUNTY SURVEYOR
103 1/2 N. Saginaw St., Pontiac, Mich.
Marine and Engineering - Subdivisions
Topographical and Engineering Surveys
Office: Room 10-12 Bauer Block
Res. Phone 2805—Office Phone 2313

J. J. WEIR
RELIABLE, SAFE AND
QUICK MOVING
Modern Covered Vans
Long Distance Moving Our Specialty
ALL KINDS OF LIGHT AND
HEAVY TRUCKING
Careful, Competent Service on Piano
Res.—130 Brownell St.
Office—119 Brownell St.
Phones: 572-R — 572-W

STATE OF MICHIGAN in the Circuit
Court of the County of Oakland in Chan-
cery, No. 1219.
"Since a year ago last spring, I built
126 houses in Eco city on the east
side of Woodward avenue. Since
last January, I have sold 86 of
these houses, all of which have basements
beneath them. There is still room for
about 10 more houses in the same
division. I believe that this section
east of Woodward avenue, would
be immediately annexed to Birmingham,
if the proposition came up at an
election."

It satisfactorily appearing to the Court
that Robert C. Bailey, Peter Richard-
son, John Richardson, Jonathan Rich-
ardson, William Richardson,
George J. Richardson, John Richard-
son, Albert Richardson, Stephen
Richardson, Charles Albert Rich-
ardson, John Richardson, John
Richardson, Thomas S. Tompser, John W.
Tompser, James S. Tompser, Charles
Tompser, J. J. Tompser, John W.
Tompser, Albert C. Tompser, Stephen L.
Tompser, John W. Tompser, W. De-
laney, Stephen C. Tompser, Stephen
C. Tompser, Powell C. Keenan, G.
Shepherd, A. C. Sheldon, or their
assigns, legatees, devisees and assigns,
Abel H. Bradford, Charles H. Bradford,
G. E. Bradford,
of the County of Oakland, in Chancery, July 29th,
1922.

Dale D. Carter
Painting
Decorating
Paperhanging
We Make Estimates
Free of Charge
PHONE or WRITE
R. F. D. No. 4
Birmingham
Call at 12 M. or 6:00 P.M.

ERRY JOHNSTON
Painter and
Decorator
903 BROWN STREET
Phone 64-R
Birmingham, Mich.
Estimates gladly given on
Any Work