

BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC

Published every Friday at Birmingham, Michigan, in The Eccentric Building, 126-128 North Woodward Avenue. Telephone 11 and 12.

Subscription Rates: One Year \$2.50, Six Months \$1.50, Three Months .75

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

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28, 1926.

SOLVING THE "CRIME WAVE"

The Detroit News, seriously, perhaps, attempting to find out the cause of the "crime wave" that seems to threaten the United States and the rest of the world, is publishing a series of articles written by various eminent men.

Judge Harry B. Keiden of Detroit, and U. S. Senator James Couzens. Both men deal only in effects; they have missed entirely, in our estimation, the basic cause of crime.

Judge Keiden suggests that "until society as a whole realizes that it is largely responsible for the business of crime and until it unites to render that business unprofitable, crime will continue to increase and none of the 'corrective' measures suggested will avail in the slightest."

He continues, "the situation will never grow better until society begins to rebel against crime, until it finds some means of keeping the criminal in constant fear and until it convinces him that punishment is swift and certain."

The learned jurist says nothing about the causes that are behind the mentality of the lawbreaker; he entirely overlooks that a man or a woman is basically made up of what may be understood as "soul stuff," and that the physical phenomenon, which we call "body," may be chemically deduced to a combination of water and inorganic salts.

"Carelessness in conveying huge sums of money through the streets frankly invites the payroll robberies to which we are accustomed," says the judge.

Senator Couzens would call a Congressional investigation to ascertain the cause of crime. We would set forth the claim that governmental bureaus might solve the problem of law breaking.

You ask us what we believe is the cause of the so-called "crime-wave"? What is the cause of war? Of quarrels between neighbors? Of most anything visible to mankind that is anti-Christian? Our answer is ready:

It is simply because society has entirely overlooked the most wonderful resource which it has, namely, that there exists between mankind and its Creator an unbreakable bond of LOVE; that a correct UNDERSTANDING of God, of Jesus Christ's mission on earth, will so shape the mentality of the one who UNDERSTANDS, that this one will never do anything that hurts another.

In the meantime, of course, society must improvise the most improved kind of "scoop" to remove that natural scum from the seething pot of humanity.

PAGING MR. LARSON AND OTHERS

Some time late in September a certain number of Birmingham residents are going to assert their loyalty to the "home town" by voting at the special election to be called for the purpose of issuing bonds to enlarge the waterworks system.

A few weeks ago Mr. E. E. Larson of Oakland avenue, appeared at the village commission chambers to learn why the water supply of the town was then low; he was courteously informed that it was because the present water supply was incapable of providing enough liquid to meet the demand.

Next month Mr. Larson will have a splendid chance to prove the worth of his assertion; by the same token, many other residents of Birmingham will be able to do likewise.

BRINGING IN THE STATE TAX OFFICERS

Taxpayers of Oakland County ought to be interested in the manner in which members of the State Tax Commission are being brought into their midst to make a re-assessment of the tax rolls of the townships which constitute the second largest county in Michigan.

According to Robert Y. Moore, Bloomfield township's supervisor, the entire affair is brought about through SELFISHNESS. Mr. Moore says that, last Spring, he went out through Bloomfield township to make this year's assessment; because of certain inequalities of assessments in the township, he made numerous increases, thus bring-

ing his total township assessment far beyond the amount asked for by the State authorities.

When the County Board of Supervisors met this summer in Pontiac, Mr. Moore requested that his total assessment be lowered, asking for the State. Certain members of the equalization committee, notably Mr. Ely of Pontiac, and Mr. Scott of Royal Oak, objected to lowering Bloomfield's assessment.

Mr. Moore argued that this was unfair to his territory; he pointed out that both Royal Oak and Pontiac were even below the amounts asked for by the State. His arguments availed nothing, so Mr. Moore petitioned the State Tax Commission to settle the matter.

Residents of the county may thank Messrs. Scott and Ely for bringing the State officials into the County; thus do we witness how the ends of SELFISHNESS always defeat themselves.

OUR GREATEST, GRANDEST ARMY

The grandest army of the republic marches against the evils of ignorance next week, 20,000,000 strong. Birmingham regiments are mobilizing, with captains and lieutenants in command. Mobilization is for the rule. And as the army moves, so moves the city, state and nation with it.

One could describe this nation-wide phenomenon in the language of statistics—so many children, so many schools, so much money, etc., and etc. But let us view it from another angle.

An army of children, privileged in this respect above all the children of earth, destined to grow into privileged men and women: citizens, not subjects; masters, not servants.

An army of voters more capable of exercising the great function of the ballot because of mental equipment and the power of decision, without which no free government is safe.

An army of mature minds better able to cope with prejudices, class consciousness and hatreds. An army developed intellectually, dedicated to the making of a better world than yesterday, a better tomorrow than either.

An army whose knowledge and taste shall inevitably raise the standards of art, music, drama, and life in all their ramifications.

An army whose proud accomplishments in the past, and whose promise for the future lends glory to the wisdom and leadership of the nation's founders.

An army—ah, what wonderful capacities this vast array of boy and girl might represent in the history of tomorrow's men and women. Such an army can work untold havoc among men if it carries the engines of destruction which modern science has created; such an army can work inestimable GOOD if armed with the banner of Applied Christianity.

This army of tomorrow is now in the making; what it becomes depends upon the kind of treatment which the adults of today have fashioned for it.

OF SCHOOLS AND FASHIONS

The streak of the conventional which keeps men from expressing their own ideas for fear of seeming peculiar is never responsible for any of the great creations or accomplishments in the world's history.

Fashions in art, music, dress, and the like do not foster individual genius, but serve rather to depress and engulf it. J. G. Hunker went so far as to say that "There are no schools in art or literature, only good writers and artists. There are no types, only individuals."

This is a cheering word from one who was well able to pass an opinion on the subject; and it may serve as a warning to those enthusiasts who are all too eager to follow the hue and cry of a new fad in the fine arts.

The attractive thing about a fashion is that its features are plainly apparent to the one who would follow it, and he has to do little or no thinking on the subject himself. It is clear, therefore, that those who shrink from mental activity and creative thought will be found among the ones who most closely cling to the accepted "school" or fashion.

The individuals who have reached achievements in their chosen field have done so because of patient unrelenting toil, together with the conviction that their message is peculiarly their own and hence worthy of beautiful expression.

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. A drive of thirty-five Texas ponies passed through the village in charge of two vaqueros with the regulation saddles, lassos, etc., in full bloom.

All right, Bell and wife are spending a few days at S. Bell's. Mr. Bell will be teaching in Valparaiso during the coming year.

Let There Be Light. A great many are curious to know why the contract proceedings are published in The Eccentric. It is no more than would be expected that those who pay taxes should know in what way the moneys are expended and are unanimously willing to pay the extra expense of printing and of course the printer would have a free heart to own up that it was worth a little something.

Let There Be Light. A great many are curious to know why the contract proceedings are published in The Eccentric. It is no more than would be expected that those who pay taxes should know in what way the moneys are expended and are unanimously willing to pay the extra expense of printing and of course the printer would have a free heart to own up that it was worth a little something.

Let There Be Light. A great many are curious to know why the contract proceedings are published in The Eccentric. It is no more than would be expected that those who pay taxes should know in what way the moneys are expended and are unanimously willing to pay the extra expense of printing and of course the printer would have a free heart to own up that it was worth a little something.

Let There Be Light. A great many are curious to know why the contract proceedings are published in The Eccentric. It is no more than would be expected that those who pay taxes should know in what way the moneys are expended and are unanimously willing to pay the extra expense of printing and of course the printer would have a free heart to own up that it was worth a little something.

COMMUNITY BUILDERS High-grade Community Developments 20 DEVELOPMENTS TO SELECT FROM Birmingham Bloomfield Hills Real Estate

Wash, James & Wasey Co. Detroit - Birmingham - Bloomfield Hills

Church and Sunday School First Church of Christ, Scientist & Church of the Nazarene

Dr. Mabel Campbell OSTEOPATHIC PHYSICIAN 312 First National Bank Bldg PONTIAC

Wormer & Moore REAL ESTATE BIRMINGHAM BLOOMFIELD HILLS SOUTHFIELD ROSTESTER

Emerson C. Brown LANDSCAPE GARDENING and TREE SURGERY Room 12-Levinson Bldg.

Shampooing Marcelling We are giving Soft Water Shampooes POWDER PUFF BEAUTY SHOP

Dale D. Carter Painting Decorating Paperhanging PHONE or WRITE R. F. D. No. 4 Birmingham

Packard-Charlton Bldg. Co. ROOM 4 LEVINSON BLDG. PHONE 630-Birmingham, Mich.