

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

Entered as Second-Class matter in the U. S. Postoffice at Birmingham, Mich.

Subscription Rates: All newspaper and advertising "copy" must be in The Eccentric Office by Wednesday noon of each week. One Year, \$1.50; Six Months, \$1.00; Three Months, .75

FRIDAY, JUNE 12, 1925.

DESTROYING THE SANCTITY OF HOME

Dr. Margaret Daniels, professor of psychology at the University of Chicago, certainly deserves the pitying sympathy of a home-loving world. For the eminent (?) Doctor, at the Sunset Hill Club last Saturday afternoon in the Mid-Western Conference of the National Woman's Party, said "The American home has served its days and its influence is not needed any more. Let it go."

"I hope," she added, "that we will be able to educate a race of girls with whom the idea of marriage is only incidental. The greatest mistake of women today is that they make marriage their chief object. They spend most of their time adorning themselves to please men. The new woman will think more of spiritual beauty. She will be a vibrant being, so full of energy and imagination that she will attract men without trying to. With her home life will be only incidental; her career, her work, will be the first interest."

And then this woman who has divorced one man goes on to say that she hopes the time will come when the State assumes charge of all children, leaving the female of the species to "seek her career." She even advocates the segregation of women who desire to become mothers, referring to them as "breeders." Undoubtedly Dr. Daniels' close proximity to the Chicago stock yards must have influenced her thought processes. We suggest that she move to Kalamazoo, where they raise celery—good for the brain and nerves.

Much might be said about Dr. Daniels and her ideas; our own views of the woman may be summed up in these two sentences: first, we think a kind and beneficent Providence that she is not our own mother; second, we certainly would want our little daughter to stay away from the classroom of anybody who flays the greatest career of womankind—that of WIFEHOOD and MOTHERHOOD.

We have listened to some of the speakers at the recent Mid-Western Conference of the National Woman's Party; we believe that much may be done to give women a more equal footing with men as far as legal rights are concerned. However, we also remain convinced that the Party would be infinitely better, and would succeed faster in what it wants to accomplish, if it removed from its ranks such women as Dr. Margaret Daniels.

We hope that Miss Margaret Whittemore, vice-president of the Party, and her colleagues, will sever their relations with Dr. Daniels or anybody else who would destroy the sanctity of the home; Miss Whittemore has declared that Dr. Daniels' remarks are not the feelings of the Party, yet she admits that she already knew just how and what the unlearned psychologist thinks regarding the home. It is too bad that the Party engaged the exponent of stockyard methods to speak at the Conference—for Dr. Daniels' remarks have done more harm to the cause of the National Woman's Party than a hundred fine addresses would do to better it.

THE BIGGEST EVENT OF THE YEAR

Many fine things occur within Birmingham and vicinity each year; hundreds of splendid acts are committed by various persons during the same interim, but, we believe, nothing of greater moment occurs in Bloomfield township in any one year than the exercises that mark the graduation of the Senior class from the Baldwin high school.

Those who were present at the high school auditorium Sunday night when Rev. Dr. S. S. Marquis gave a preaching-like talk to the seniors must have been impressed with the solemnity of the moment. To witness 49 Birmingham and nearby boys and girls march down the aisle and become seated before a group of ministers for the Baccalaureate Service is better than most public performances. It represents a greater accomplishment on the part of a struggling civilization than anything we can recall—for folks, it is living evidence of society's decree that youth is entitled to have its mentality shaped for the combat of mature life.

Dr. Marquis, knowing that his real job of the evening was to bring into the minds of the graduating class a closer understanding of their relationship to God, brushed aside orthodox and stereotype kinds of sermons and stated a few facts. He told the seniors that their discharge from Baldwin high school proved that they could start a thing and actually carry it through to completion, thereby forming a very necessary habit to acquire success; he stressed the need for building CHARACTER—he pleaded for the injection of spiritual service into whatever kind of job, large or small, that these seniors might engage in. Altogether, Dr. Marquis' address undoubtedly left a deep impression upon all those present, even including the adults.

If there was anything that Dr. Marquis overlooked it was but one thing, in our estimation; we rather hoped he would emphasize the sacrifices which many parents had made in order to provide their children with a high school education. Back of every graduation class, whether it be in a grade school, high school, college or university, there exist the thousands of sacrifices made by almost as many parents that their offspring may receive a better preparation than they, themselves, did in the years gone by.

These eloquent sacrifices are the things that make MEN and WOMEN; these sacrifices are the tools with which America has chiseled out a glorified niche in the forward progress of the world.

It is to be hoped that the 1925 Senior Class of Baldwin high school, in its journey through life, will always remember the part that their respective parents have played in giving them an education; it is to be trusted that each member of the class, by dwelling on the subject, may have instilled into his thought processes the won-

A LOVELY FACE

I do not know what sort of gown She wears. I only know that I am glad to have her come, And sad to see her go.

Her hair is silvery. Her hands Are very soft and white. Her eyes are beautiful and kind And full of joy and light.

I never saw her cross or stern. She always wears a smile And every moment spent with her Seems precious and worth while.

With worldly goods she is not bested. Yet countless are her friends. And everyone who knows her feels The grace and charm she lends.

A ray of golden sunshine streams And lingers near the place She frequents, for one can forget Her sweet and lovely face.

—Beatrice McDonald.

derful attribute known as GRATITUDE—to be GRATEFUL for the wonderful heritage of educational facilities that are so generously provided for all youth.

To be able to express and show GRATITUDE is a possession more to be prized than the ability to decipher even the most complicated mathematical problem.

LAWYERS AND LAWYERS

Taken man for man, it is probable that the lawyers of the country illustrate as high a type of citizenship as can be found in the ranks of any other profession or calling. It is not, therefore, the purpose of this article to cast any reflections upon lawyers, collectively or individually, so far as their integrity is concerned.

It is nevertheless true that lawyers are in the main to blame for the multiplicity of laws with which this country is burdened today, as well as for the dirty tactics exhibited by our courts of high and low degree.

Some time ago the Illinois Bar Association declared that "the subject of law reform is technical and the lawyers must deal with it, yet they do nothing, or are hopelessly divided." No less an authority than Chief Justice Taft condemned our present system of criminal procedure. A similar expression was made in a resolution of the American Bar Association.

Congress and state legislatures are dominated by lawyers; all laws are framed by lawyers, many of them to be later declared unconstitutional by other lawyers acting in the capacity of judges; all court procedure is established by lawyers—yet the highest authorities among them admit that they have made a sorry mess of it all.

What is the remedy? We don't know. Ask a lawyer.

A BROAD CREED

Deploring the present tendency to antagonism over morals and beliefs, an able writer and publicist has attempted to set out a common creed to which all right thinking persons might subscribe, leaving out those questions on which there are honest differences of opinion.

Included in the set of principles enjoined are these: Seek the truth and defend it; execute justice, tempered with mercy; be humble and benevolent; work and do not depend others from working; protect life and health; develop body and mind; strive for pure thoughts and feelings; honor parents and teachers and be civil to all; be loyal, liberal and tolerant; seek peace; aid in achieving the brotherhood of man.

If everyone would make an honest effort to illustrate these fundamental virtues, it would not be long until the world would be a much better place in which to live.

THE STATE GOVERNMENTS

President Coolidge in his Decoration Day address remarked that the people are looking today to the national government to accomplish results that the federal authority was never expected to provide.

There are sharp differences of opinion as to how far the federal government should be called in to make up for the lacks of the various state administrations. But, anyway, the state governments could be spurred on to meet many of the modern problems, much time and effort would be saved to our people, and the regulation would be more in accordance with the needs of the various sections.

It is a difficult thing for a group of men assembled in Washington to legislate for the needs of 48 states. Each member of Congress is supposed to know the needs of his own section fairly well, but, when he attempts to handle matters for sections far distant from his own, he often bungles such matters quite badly. The big nationwide problems must still be handled by the federal government, but the more the states can rise to modern demands and handle their problems in a modern way, the better our government will run.

As the president has well pointed out, when the state governments neglect their proper duties, there is a tendency to run to Washington to get action that the states have omitted to take. The remedy for such conditions is to send our best men to our state legislatures and to fill our positions of state administration, so that they shall look to the problems of Michigan in a big and intelligent way.

It is a high responsibility to take a position in our state government. Our best people should be willing to give this service, so that we can solve our own problems without looking so much to the federal government for help.

FROM THE ECCENTRIC COLUMNS—of Long Ago

Just Bits of News Cleared From Old Files Of The Eccentric—The Items That Made the Background Of The Birmingham Of Today

Forty-three Years Ago. One old woman said as she was trying to get out, "There ain't room for nobody." Miss Lottie Allen was "Queen" of May. The Hall was packed full. Professor W. H. Codnor was in

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STATE OF MICHIGAN—The Probate Court for the County of Oakland. At a session of said Court, held at the Probate Office in the City of Pontiac, in and County, on the 25th day of May, A. D. 1925, Present, Hon. Ross Stockwell, Judge of Probate.

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