

BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC

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BIRMINGHAM WANTS FAIR PLAY

Ever since the State of Michigan, as represented through its Governor and highway department, began to widen Woodward avenue, between Detroit and Pontiac, it has seemed to be "nobody's business" in particular.

The average resident of Oakland county, content with the progress being made on Wider Woodward, paid no attention to just how the work was going to be paid for.

And this conversation, you will note, was not started until the matter of widening Woodward avenue through Birmingham was confronting the project.

Members of the local village commission are thoroughly familiar with the methods used by the State in handling the wider Woodward project outside of our town.

The Eccentric, although questioning the judgment of State officials in not giving publicity to the possibility of creating a special assessment district for the partial payment of widening Woodward avenue, is not claiming that a special assessment district should not have been part of the original plan.

Birmingham has already interfered with one State official board, namely: the Public Utilities Commission. This body is unsuccessfully attempting to control traffic over Birmingham's streets.

Governor Groesbeck and his highway department may rest assured that local people, through their elective officials, will see that the State of Michigan treats Birmingham fairly in the building of a trunk line road through its corporate limits.

HOBBIES FOR EVERYONE

Some questioner a few Sundays ago, asked Rev. Dr. S. Parkes Cadman, through his famous service at Brooklyn, New York, which is broadcast by radio, if "every business man should have a hobby?"

The word "hobby" used to be thought to mean usually some notion which people emphasized in a disagreeable way. It has come to refer now to some diversion or incidental occupation by which people obtain relief from daily work.

The hard-working old timers, and some modern folks who cultivate strenuously, would not fully approve of hobbies. They have felt that people must throw their entire energy into their daily tasks.

The housewife at her pots and kettles, the wage-earner at his machine, the clerk in the store, might well also have their hobbies. It should be a rather active pursuit, not merely a passive amusement where they sit still and watch other people do things.

KID CANVASSERS

When you get that very imperative ring at your doorbell, it may not be some impressive person demanding immediate attention, but merely some youngster who is trying to earn a little pocket money by selling some article, or disposing of tickets for some entertainment.

Some people are irritated by canvassers and they turn down these juvenile solicitors with a sharp rebuff. Yet boys and girls who show initiative and energy should not be frowned upon.

The majority of people are always lacking in force and ideas of their own, and when a youngster starts out with some original idea as to how money can be made, he is showing a good spirit that will help him later.

BABY SUSAN

Little baby Susan, lyin' on the floor,
Feet a-kickin' in the air all the while—
Eyes-a-peepin' through your hair—
Would that I could keep you there—
A baby evermore.

Wiggin' an' squirmin', always on the go.
From early morn till close of day—
Whilin' childhood's time away—
Baby, do not stop your play—
We all love you so.

Just keep bein' little, thy soul divine;
Let me steal a smile or two—
Need them in the work I do—
Need them when the day is through—
Susan, baby-mine.

—George R. Averill.

SMALL FAMILIES

Many observers of modern conditions feel alarm because the educated classes do not seem to be reproducing themselves through an adequate number of children. It is noted that cultured families very frequently have only one child or none at all, while those that have more than two are uncommon.

There is some reason for this complaint, and it seems unfortunate when people of highly cultured families cannot bring enough children into the world to pass on their training and ideals.

The principal cause why this is so, is apparently the higher standard of expense which these families have to conform to or think they must. This leads many young people to delay marriage until a rather late date, thus reducing the chance of large families.

What is needed is to have a more reasonable standard of expense for these families, so that it would be possible for the young people to marry at an earlier date, and so that they would not be so fearful about supporting children. The public sentiment of the time should encourage economy and frown upon unnecessary expense.

Every young woman should be taught to do her own housework, and the young men should be instructed to some extent in the same arts so they could take hold and help their wives. Young people ought to be urged very strongly also, to save their money before marriage, so that when they start their little family they will have a considerable reserve ahead.

FROM THE ECCENTRIC COLUMNS— of Long Ago

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

43 Years Ago
Grant Race is home from Lansing, the Legislature having adjourned.

Heavy rain last Friday night, followed by thunder and lightning the following day.

A very pleasant surprise party and dance came off at John H. Snow's last week, at which time a large crowd heartily enjoyed themselves to their utmost capacity.

Lost: A white hound dog with lemon colored ears. Went last seen south of Troy Corners, leave him with J. D. Beatty, Elmira, Mich.

Alex McKinney of Southfield lost a cow from eating too much meal. Dr. James Warrington was called in and the cow died. This was a surprise for the doctor's success was almost assured ever since he saved a poisoned man's life.

On Monday evening, March 20th, of Southfield, the following officers for the ensuing term: President, Samuel Slade, vice-president, Messrs. Beatty, Parrino, and Simpson; treasurer, E. R. Smith. The Lyceum desires the patronage of the entire high and grammar department.

One day last week Walter North was turning a heavy casting when it flew out of the lathe, and caught his hand between the lathe frame and the casting, mashing the fingers and fingers. Dr. Post dressed the wound and—well, Walter hugged his girl with J. D. Beatty as his only good arm has left.

The new corporation board met at John Bodine's office Monday evening. Present trustees, Brown, Bodine, Bloomberg, Gibson, Parrino, and Rosner. The following standing committees were appointed: Ways and Means, Messrs. Williams, Parrino and Bodine; by-laws and ordinances, Messrs. Wilber, Gibson, and Parrino; sidewalks, Messrs. Bloomberg, Brown and Bodine.

The following are the names of those who have not been absent during the winter term in District No. 2, of Southfield: Emma Adams, Clara Rainey, Jennie Bassett, Maple Adams, the standing by recitation of nine of the pupils as follows: Stella Daniels, 98; Aggie Rainey, 98; Geo. Bingham, 98; Clara Rainey, 97; Polly Curran, 97; Jennie Bassett, 95; Emma Adams, 95; Annie Carrin, 95; Clara Adams, 95.

The various township boards will hold their annual meetings for the auditing of accounts, etc., on Tuesday next, March 23rd. All parties who have been adjudged damages for having sheep killed by dogs during the past year will do well to be on hand to show the township board to their satisfaction that the dog or dogs that killed their sheep are either unknown to them or owned by irresponsible parties.

'Rah for Birmingham and Zimnie We clip the following from the sporting section of Saturday's Detroit Free Press: "J. N. Zimmerman, the Birmingham Bat manufacturer, has sent a

letter of congratulations to the new owners of the Detroit Club, and says a nice lot of bats, said to contain everything from bunts, to home runs, awaits the order of Manager Stallings, with the compliments of the maker.

A very rare astronomical feature belongs to the month of February. It has no new moon, but January has two, and March will have two. This peculiarity in due this century year, not being a leap year. We had new moon March 1, which would have responded to February 29, if this year had been observed as leap year.

Eugene Brooks and Mr. and Mrs. Bert Peabody are sojourning with Mr. and Mrs. Frank Brooks, at Sarasota, Florida. Mr. and Mrs. Peabody will remain but a short time, while Mr. Brooks extends his in the "sunney south" for about a month.

Last Friday evening Miss Minnie Ford very pleasantly entertained a few of her young friends at the home of her sister, Mrs. Frank Hamilton. There were six merry couples present and the event was one of the happier in recent annals of young society circles.

Notice is hereby given that at the annual Township Election on MONDAY, APRIL 6, 1925, for the purpose of electing one Justice of the Peace, one Treasurer, one Member Board of Review (full term), one Member Board of Review (short term), four Constables, four Overseers.

Notice is further given in the qualified electors of Southfield Township in checking the books of paving for 1924 over-head lights for the period between 2:30 Mile Road and the 11-Mile Road, at \$100 per month by the Southfield Township Board, according to a certain resolution passed by the Township of Southfield raised by taxation and expand the sum of \$10000 for the purpose of over-head lighting of Southfield, Oakland County, Michigan.

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STATE OF MICHIGAN—The Probate Court for the County of Oakland. As a season of said Court, hold at the Probate Office in the City of Pontiac, on said County, on the 16th day of March, A. D. 1925, Present: Hon. Ross Stockwell, Judge of Probate.

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