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GEORGE THURGOOD AVERILL Editor and Publisher

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 5, 1926.

BIRMINGHAM RESPONDS TO PROGRESS

The fact that a majority of Birmingham electors went to the polls last Thursday and approved the three bond issues means infinitely more than the mere erection of physical buildings and the acquisition of two blocks of land; it actually means that this town possesses cultural and progressive inclinations, and is perfectly willing to subscribe to the realization of its dreams. Such expressions prove that local citizens intend to keep Birmingham head and shoulders above other communities of Michigan in the matter of civic enterprise.

Isn't it the dream of nearly every person to own a home on a broad, spacious piece of land; to equip it with every comfort and convenience possible, including good books and numerous fire extinguishers? If this be true, why should not a community collectively obtain these comforts and conveniences for their mutual pleasure, recreation, and development?

We congratulate the citizens of Birmingham for approving the three bond issues last week, involving the total expenditure of \$415,000.00; those who voted against one or more of the issues may feel a trifle sorry, of course, but, under conditions of American government, they will accept the vote of the majority and, like good sportsmen, assist in paying the taxes.

The result of the election reminds us of something that Elbert Hubbard used to say so often, "If I only had fifty cents in my possession I'd spend half of it for white hyacinths."

SUSPENDING OUR ZONING ORDINANCE

Because they were not in accord with certain phases of the recently drafted Zoning Ordinance for Birmingham, 71 local citizens a few weeks ago subscribed to a petition calling for the submission of the Ordinance to a vote of the people; the application of the petition, as you now know, resulted in the suspension of the Ordinance two weeks ago. Thus, until the village commission submits it to a vote of the people, Birmingham is without any modern legislation regulating the types of building that may go up. With the exception of individual subdivision restrictions, residence property in Birmingham during the interim is subject to possible inroads of business frontage.

As far as the circulation and submission of the petition which suspended the Zoning Ordinance is concerned, it is perfectly all right for a group of local citizens to exercise their rights under the village charter, and call for the submission of the Ordinance to a vote of the people; but, on the other hand, it is too bad that they would not accede to the request of the commission to allow the Zoning Ordinance to remain operative until the people either approved or disapproved the measure; had they done this, Birmingham residence property would have been protected in the meantime, and no particular damage would have been done any property owner.

In view of the opposition to the Ordinance, we propose a rather lively contest when it is submitted to the people at some early special election or at the annual election next Spring. It is to be hoped that the village commission carefully studies the objections made to the Zoning Ordinance, deleting or amending those portions which raise the greatest objections, to the end that Birmingham will have some manner of legislation regulating the types of buildings that may be constructed in this community.

SHERIFF SCHRAM DESERVES RE-ELECTION

With the announcement of Sheriff Frank Schram that he will be a candidate at the September primaries to succeed himself, we are reminded of the promise which he made when he was a candidate two years ago, that, if he was elected, the people of Oakland County could feel assured that the sheriff's office would be conducted as cleanly and efficiently as it had been in the regime of James S. Butler in that office.

We are glad to note that there was one campaign promise that has been kept to the letter. Mr. Schram went into the office with a wealth of experience in police and sheriff's work and with a splendid reputation for honesty, fearlessness and clean living. As we look back over his record as sheriff during the past two years we believe that that reputation is still his and that the work of the office has been handled in a satisfactory manner.

Persons having business to transact with the office find intelligent and courteous officers to deal with and anyone wishing to see the sheriff personally can usually find him on the job, anxious to see that the work of the office is properly done.

We believe that Sheriff Schram is entitled to the respect of the law-abiding citizens of this county and to their loyal support in the coming election. We need more men of Frank Schram's caliber in public office.

PLAYTIME IS HERE

Those who believe that enjoyment of life is the shortest road to everlasting torment should find little hope for the salvation of the American people of this generation. In fact it is not infrequently rumored about by those who look askance upon a smiling countenance that the United States is even now passing through the several stages of the decline and fall.

Surely no country, not even Ancient Greece and the Romans, was ever more abundantly provided with the pleasures of life and relieved of more of life's miseries and discomforts than America.

Like the "woman upon the white horse" of the nursery rhyme, the people of the United States with their phonographs, pianos and piano-players, radio, orchestras

and other music makers have music wherever they go. There are more pastimes to attract people and more leisure to give to those pastimes. This summer millions of men and women in the United States are participating in numerous sports and recreations, highways are constantly congested with motorists pleasure bent, vacation resorts are heavily patronized and the baseball parks and pleasure parks draw their usual crowds.

But why should this love of pleasure be cause for anything but satisfaction? To avail himself of all this play the individual must work the harder and faster, for it costs real dollars and many of them to play in this big playground. And when people work harder they need more play. Those who work must play.

Some self-made men leave parts of the job unfinished. About the only old thing about the antiques you see in some homes is the dust.

Size isn't everything. Some of the smallest vocabularies can rip off the most hide.

Well, if there is a future life for the dead, we may meet a lot of our laws hereafter.

Ten million more people would mean 2,000,000 more automobiles. How would we get across the street at all?

All you need to be a great writer is ideas, the ability to express them, and a good proofreader.

The brook isn't the only thing that goes on forever. There's evolution and the installments.

His glands are functioning normally if he thinks there should be one more law about something or other.

The clothiers still make those snappy things for young fellows. The only difference is that the old boys buy them.

Well, perhaps the pedestrian should have a pistol to protect himself; but how could he use it with both hands aloft?

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.
Married: In Troy, Tuesday, Aug. 8, 1882, by the Rev. Mr. Ball at his residence, Augustus A. Cline and Miss Theresa Jennine. It's a genuine Kline match and the friends of both parties join in wishing the new household the best of fortune.

Will A. Crombie, Whitehead and Mitchell's popular clerk, has been luxuriating among the grassy glades and blooming school marmos of Four Towns and vicinity the past week.

Mrs. Emma St. Johns, who has been visiting her mother, Mrs. R. J. Mitchell, for the past three weeks has returned to Denver, Col.

Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Parrerson and daughter of Detroit were the guests of Dr. C. M. Raynolds during the past week.

Tom Adams solemnly avers that he didn't attend the Auburn grove dance. Hope it's so, but.....

Dick Blue was aroused Tuesday night by hearing a noise in his bedroom and getting up with a pillow in one hand and a boot-jack in the other, his hair standing on end, made a grand charge for the supposed burglar, swinging his weapons right and left ran his nose back against an open door which sounded like the roar of distant thunder. His wife coming to his rescue found Dick flat on his back crying for help. The burglar was a dog that happened to jump in the window and now Dick hears vengeance on all the canines in Bloomfield.

Variety Of New Books Arrive At Library

A diversity of books have been added to the Baldwin Public library and summer readers may select from a range that extends from Eugene O'Neill's "Great God Brown" to Farrar's "Life and Work of St. Paul."

Several juvenile books also have been received. The new books follow:

Adult: Keyserling "Travel Diary of a Philosopher," Pierce, "Soul of the Bible," Kaufman "Flutter and Egg Man," O'Neill "Great God Brown," and other plays," Marriott "Unsettled Plays of Today," Collins "Bible in English Literature," Collins "Modern Poetry," Lucas "Wanderings and Diversions," Clemens "Mark Twain's Autobiography," Farrar "Life and Work of St. Paul," Thomson "The Bayonet," "MacTaverton Goes Out."

Juvenile: Bryant "How to Tell Stories to Children," Mitchell "Here

Telephone your NEWS to The Eccentric—Phones 11 and 12

HOME, DAD AND THE BOY

By FRANK H. CHURLEY



The Swelled-Headed Dad
In the vernacular of boydom he is the wise-guy and, therefore, hopeless. He needs no information, suggestions or help from anyone on any subject. He was a boy once himself (sons age) and he knows all the tricks of the trade. He knows boys like a book, but his son has his number.

He is positive, absolutely certain, beyond any shadow of a doubt, that his son is O. K. in every particular, extraordinary, thoroughly well provided for from every angle, and can know no need for look who his Dad is!

All boy organizations are entirely superfluous and undesirable. All boy gangs are bad.

All boy activity a waste of time and money, and quite unnecessary.

Yet it is invariably the son of such a Dad who knows more algebra than his mother, more religion than his father and more wiggly wisdom than both of them put together, and when he gets into trouble, instead of going to his "wise" parent, he looks up a real man who is still human, understanding and sympathetic.

He doesn't understand that building boys is better than mending them.

UNDERWOOD TO TRY FOR RE-ELECTION

Prosecutor Says Office Is Busiest In Its History; Has Served Year And A Half

Clyde D. Underwood announces he will be a candidate on the Republican ticket at the September primary election to succeed himself as Prosecuting Attorney of Oakland County.

Born in Pontiac the son of Mr. and Mrs. William J. Underwood who

served there have been 4,193 prosecutions made by his office. This is a record for that length of time. With the growth of the county the criminal business is on the increase and the office of prosecutor has become an important one. The major crimes have become so numerous that his time is largely taken up with the trial of Episcopal Church.

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There's no place just like the Birmingham-Bloomfield Hills district. Over twenty community developments to choose from.

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Lone Pine-Franklin Road Estates—A 1926 development, considered the highest and best land in Bloomfield Hills with long range views in all directions, located in the Lone Pine-Franklin Road intersections and near the Pope and Chalmers Estates.

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