

BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1926

"I DON'T KNOW WHY—"

He is but 22 years old; an age in the life of youth when that happy transition between adolescence and maturity takes place...

He stood before the bench of Circuit Judge Frank L. Covert in Pontiac Monday morning, and pleaded guilty to the slaying of Frank Powley...

"Would to God that I had shot myself rather than Powley," said Lawrence Colburn, the 22-year-old youth to whom we have been referring...

Some of you who read this have sons and daughters; you who are not parents nevertheless wield an influence upon the youth with whom you come in contact...

As he grew from babyhood to maturity how many people passed him by who could, had they chosen, added even a tiny bit of character and manly purpose to his life...

Youth is youth, and men are but the youths of yesterday; you and I, grown up, are what we are because of the guidance that was given us by parents, relatives, and friends...

Then, as youth turns twenty-two, fewer of them—because of your interest in them—will ever need to stand before the bar of justice and pitifully sob, "I don't know why I did it."

YOUR LOCAL NEWSPAPER OFFICE GROWS

For more than 48 years The Eccentric, each week has made its appearance in this community; during that time it has attained various proportions...

Although title to this new press, as well as other important in the Eccentric office, rests in the hands of its publisher, the entire production community enterprise, and Birmingham and Bloomfield township will feel proud of its progressive newspaper plant.

You are welcome to come into our office at any time and inspect the equipment. It is a fitting Christmas present to this growing community.

THE RECALL ELECTION

Next Thursday, December 9, citizens of Birmingham will be called upon to make known their decision relative to the recall of village president Charles J. Shain from the office that he held here for nearly three years.

It will be interesting to learn the final results of the pending recall election; the results will show, to a greater degree than most any other means, just how highly the people of this community evaluate a public office.

The Eccentric, during the past few weeks, has honestly tried to be the medium of presentation for both sides of the recall movement, believing that the people would read and learn, and having none of this, come to the decision that Mr. McCallum's recall action does not have behind it sufficient serious importance to make a special election necessary.

It is to be regretted that those standing with Mr. Shain and those against him have brought about the recall election in such a manner that, though it entirely conforms to the village charter, it does not comply with the state law governing recall elections. Both sides are agreed, though, that it is too late to appeal to the State Supreme Court for an interpretation of the law, and are willing to allow the proposition to come to a vote next Thursday.

As we view the situation, the action of Mr. McCallum will undoubtedly result in a stimulation of the civic conscience of Birmingham, to the end that every citizen will take a more active interest in public affairs—and that is not an entirely bad thing for any community. On the other hand,

though, we reiterate our opinion that the three charges against Mr. Shain are insufficient to cause his removal from office; and this is the real issue, Mr. and Mrs. Birmingham—for, should you vote to recall Mr. Shain, how can you expect any other citizen of your community to accept the responsibility of public service?

WE NEED A COMMUNITY FUND

On numerous occasions in this column we have affirmed the essential necessity of instituting in Birmingham and Bloomfield township a Community Fund, an institution designed to cope with the charities that are carried on from time to time, and into which our citizens, at a certain period of each year, could make a single contribution.

During the past two months local people have been asked to make contributions to many causes: Birmingham and Bloomfield township a Community Fund, an institution designed to cope with the charities that are carried on from time to time, and into which our citizens, at a certain period of each year, could make a single contribution.

Early next year there will be the campaign for local Y. M. C. A. funds, and a little later the Community House will seek its annual budget. Would it not be a good thing for the Y. M. C. A. and the Community House committees to get together and create a Community Fund, including worthy agencies of charity, and then go out together each year for money?

We think it would; we believe most local people think the same. We believe that a greater amount of money could be obtained in one single drive; we actually know that shoe leather and the wear and tear on door bells would be conserved. It is worthy of serious thought, is this Community Fund idea.

"Can King Ben Cheat Justice?" asked a Detroit pastor in his pulpit last Sunday. Our own guess is that real justice is never cheated by any human being that ever graced the face of terra firma. For pure justice does not improve their conduct in such a manner, but by a Higher Power—a Power that does not depend upon human agencies for the apprehension of wrong-doers.

Governor Groesbeck's unintentional or intentional neglect to mention the Deity in his annual Thanksgiving Day message reflects to his discredit, just as his refusal to do other legally required things has made him forfeit his position in the affairs of Michigan. Imagine a person trying to work out a problem in mathematics without using or paying attention to the rules and regulations of this exact science; how far would he get toward a correct solution of his problem? The same is true of a man trying to solve the riddle of life without reference to a Deity! What Alex needs more than another term is a religious revival, it would seem.

A committee composed of Chippewa and Ottawa Indians in Mackinac County, Michigan, is arranging a legal battle to prove their perpetual right to hunt and fish, regardless of the laws banning such activities by white men. The Indians, having been bereft of their original possessions by the invasion of the white race, and unable to adapt themselves to the white man's civilization, are hard put to make a living. Such is the progress of canning factories in the U. S. A.

Michigan at last has won its fight in the United States Supreme Court for the possession of Sugar Island, in Green Bay; for a long time Wisconsin thought that this land belonged to its own commonwealth. With the addition of this island as the property of the Wolverine state, it ought not to be difficult to "keep sweet" with so much sugar.

Charles G. Smith, who has resided in the San Fernando Valley of California for the past half century, remarked the other day as he celebrated his ninetieth birthday anniversary, "I have never used a sex word in my entire life." Which, you must admit, is saying a whole lot for the California climate.

Here's a tip for the Baldwin high school athletic association that may start them on the road to acquiring some sort of a stadium for Barnum Field. Jay Walker, local realtor, told us last Thursday that he would give \$100,000 to assist in starting a movement to build a stadium in Birmingham. Are there enough people in this community interested to the extent of formulating a plan for such a fine project in Birmingham?

A Chicago alderman, desiring to keep women's skirts at the present length, tried to introduce an ordinance covering his idea to his fellow-councilmen last week. Evidently he has figured out the average velocity of Chicago's windstorms; he would undoubtedly make a good mate aboard a sailing vessel.

Albert B. Fall, Secretary of the Interior in the Harding Cabinet, is making a final legal effort to clear himself of any criminal charges relative to leasing certain valuable oil properties belonging to the United States to one Edward L. Doheny. If his name implies anything, he is due for a fall; he ought to have known that oil is a slippery thing to handle so crudely.

Fifty prominent New Yorkers, including a young son of the Rothschild family, are indicted for violation of the dry laws. Why not turn the Statute of Liberty around so that it will have a chance to watch New York for a spell?

Village Firemen Buy 1,000 Feet Of Hose

Equipment of the Birmingham Fire Department will be increased by the purchase of 1,000 feet of fire hose from Bloomfield Township. It was decided at the village commission meeting Monday evening. The hose is costing \$1.35 a foot.

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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.

25 YEARS AGO Miss Martha Baldwin spent several days in Detroit last week.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. Walter Nichols Saturday morning, Dec. 2, a baby boy. Mother and child doing nicely.

The L. O. T. M. tea meeting which was to have been held at Mrs. Fannie Shain's has been postponed until next month.

Frank Hagerman, wife and daughter, left Tuesday for California, where they will spend the winter. They were accompanied by Mrs. F. Packard and daughter Alice. The party took the southern route, via Texas.

Do you want your child to stay at home? Then give him six months reading at the library. Money cannot be better invested. Six months' reading for 50 cents is about two cents for a book, with your choice from 2,175 volumes.

The first meeting of the Chrysanthemum Club was held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Hill last Tuesday evening. First ladies' and gentlemen' prizes were won by Mr. and Mrs. V. A. Burrows, and the boys' prizes by Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Blair. A good time was enjoyed by all.

The K. P. Lodge last Tuesday night, after completing the election of officers, repaired to the hotel dining room where a jolly lot of fellows were served to one of the finest clam chowder buffets he could wish for.

Mrs. Fish shows the clam chowder business a dot. Seymour D. Adams was honored by being unanimously chosen C. C., which means his further elevation next month to Past Master. The following officers were elected for next year and will be installed Jan. 14: C. C., D. I. Johnston; V. C., S. D. Adams; Harry Sterletter; M. W., H. A. Appleton; M. of Ex., T. B. Smith; M. of F., W. D. Clibbe; M. T. A., George E. Dames; I. G., Laude Harris; A. G. Will O'Neal, representative to Grand Lodge; D. I. Johnston; alternate, J. L. Campbell; trustee, H. F. Daniels.

Schlaack Bros. have just put into their market a new gasoline engine and fine up-to-date sausage machine. The combination is fine and their work excellent. The boys want everybody in Oakland county, and especially farmers, to know that they will make sausage or them while they wait. Bring a four meat and get the finest sausage ever made.

Tuesday evening, Dec. 4th, Mr. and Mrs. William Harrison celebrated their wedding at their home in Troy, over 90 guests.

Telephone your NEWS to The Eccentric—Phones 11 and 12

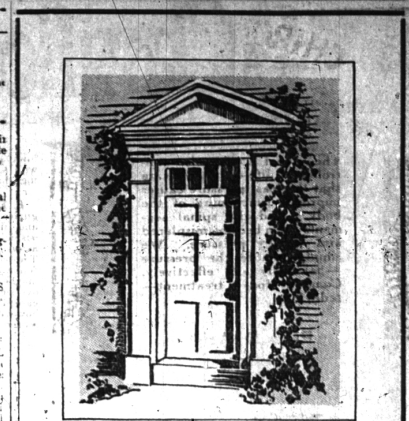
To maintain the integrity of the office of village president, vote NO on the recall ballot, Dec. 9th.

C. A. Bingham

Eventually— Why Not Now? CONSULTANT ON INCOME TAX MATTERS E. W. LACKIE Suite 4, First National Bank Building PHONE 95

It is your duty to protect village officials. Vote NO on Dec. 9th in the recall ballot.

J. B. Howarth



Pleasant View Subdivision

In addition to Chesterfield Gardens (they are selling fast), we are now the exclusive sales representatives for Pleasant View Subdivision which adjoins Chesterfield Gardens on the south.

Pleasant View Subdivision carries the same desirable restrictions that you always find on all the property we sell.

The reason there is so much activity on these Chesterfield Road properties is because, in our opinion, they are offering the best home values in Birmingham today.

Chesterfield Gardens

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