

BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC

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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1926

CHRISTMAS

Christie parade of the downtown shopping district. Stores are filled with eager customers. Christmas is upon us once again, another milestone in the varied journey that we take as we press on to varied goals.

The years no longer last in their passing as they did when we were children. They speed by now and leave their marks upon us. So busy are our hands and heads in the eternal task of finding means to provide food and warmth and shelter, that time has become a mill-race that sweeps us on to the end of our courses.

The grind of business weighs our brains. The disappointments make heavy our hearts. The greed we nurture within as makes us selfish. Our ego, prompted by our yearnings, destroy our concern for others.

The most hopeless, hapless, helpless individual in all the world is the unbeliever who believes in everything that is worth while—the individual who does not believe in man; who does not believe in women; who frowns at ideals; who mocks at faiths; who covets love as a weakness; who worships at the shrine of Self.

See that white-haired old man, whose step is slow, whose hands are palsied, but whose eyes are bright with a light that is but a reflection of the spark of gladness that nestles in his soul and perhaps in some other child is standing at a window, dreaming of the generous-hearted Santa Claus.

At a recent election the citizens of Troy Township approved a \$30,000.00 bond issue for the purpose of erecting a new City Hall.

At the annual meeting of the M. E. Sunday School last Friday evening the following officers were elected for the coming year: Superintendent, James Brooks; secretary, Arthur King; treasurer, Charles Parks; chairman, Mr. Ida Parks; organist, Miss Nellie Randall; librarians, Fred King and Eugene Smith.

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CITY OR VILLAGE—WHICH?

Perhaps the most important civic responsibility now confronting citizens of Birmingham is the finding of a proper answer to this question: Will Birmingham be benefited by becoming a city, or shall we be able to get along as a village with an independent character of personal? Indeed, the question is so vital that the present village commission last week selected a score of local citizens to investigate the proposition.

Without attempting to set forth specifically and actually the relative merits or demerits of the various methods of change to our method of government, we have a few things to pass on to you that may assist you in obtaining certain leads for further investigation. Here they are:

First, we are not a competent authority, that the city form of government has all the advantages of the present village system. With the addition of many other desired phases of municipal control.

Then, too, it would absolutely divorce the new city from all contributions in the shape of taxes for improvements carried on in the remainder of the township. At present the village of Birmingham probably pays at least 40 per cent of the cost of improvements made by our township board outside of our corporate limits.

Let's assume that a large sewer, or other special assessment improvement is to be made in some part of Bloomfield township outside of Birmingham; the cost of this would be levied against the township at large, including Birmingham. We are told that this condition could not exist if we became a city.

Under the city form of government, Birmingham would have at least four supervisors, giving us more representation on the County Board of Supervisors; the remainder of the township, of course, would have its single supervisor.

As a city, Birmingham would have its own police force to handle its own law violations, thus assuring the prompt and fair dispensation of matters related to the realm of law-created justice.

As a city, Birmingham would automatically control the public improvements within a mile of its borders, thus assuring for a uniformity and permanence of such improvements; new subdivisions would be compelled to install adequate sewers and water mains, as well as new streets that line up with those already established.

Undoubtedly, there are other benefits to be derived from adoption of a city form of government, some of which will be unearched by local citizens; perhaps there may be a few disadvantages.

In any event, however, it is to be hoped that the citizens of Birmingham satisfy themselves fully in matters pertaining to the change from village to city form of government before the project is actually crystallized as an election proposition. The Eccentric will be delighted to publish letters from its readers, setting forth their reasons why Birmingham should, or should not, become a city.

TROY TOWNSHIP IS GROWING

Just a few years ago a majority of the area of the earth's surface known as Troy Township was used for agricultural purposes, and it was a common sight to witness the seasonal activities of the farmer folk. But now due to the great growth of Detroit with its over-flow of people who seek quieter districts to establish homes, Troy Township has attained a population influx that calls for real governmental planning.

At a recent election the citizens of Troy Township approved a \$30,000.00 bond issue for the purpose of erecting a new City Hall. Since the passage of the bond issue Morris Wattles, supervisor, and Garner Miller, clerk, of Troy Township, assisted by other members of the Township Board, have obtained plans for a two-story Colonial type building, bids for which will be advertised soon; before the summer is over the new edifice will be completed at the corner of Main street and the Seventeen Mile road.

We congratulate Troy Township on its new municipal building. In the attainment of self-well-founded success there has been found no substitute for honest labor with the hands or mind. The ages have recognized this as an immutable truth, yet every age, including the present, has had its skeptics, its unbelievers, its seekers after fame and fortune without paying the price in their own hands.

PEACE ON EARTH

Joseph and Mary, wearied With a journey from afar Were glad of the humble shelter 'Neath Bethlehem's guiding star, And though cruce and bare the stable, The place of Jesus' birth, On that blessed day He brought us Peace and good will on earth.

The shepherds out on the hillside, Watching their flocks by night, Roused by the song of the angels, And the wonderful heavenly light, And from the east the wisemen, Bringing their gifts of worth, Joined in the single chorus, Peace and good will on earth.

Dearie we love the story Of the first Christmas Day, Of the blessed Virgin Mary, And the Baby asleep in the hay. May we on this best Christmas Be filled with joy and mirth, And our hearts re-echo the anthem, Peace and good will on earth. —Beatrice McDonald.

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 Effie Ford, of Detroit, is the guest of her aunt, Mrs. V. A. Van Every. Mrs. Emma Tibbles was home for the holidays and her many friends were all glad to see her again.

A happy gathering of the Hagerman family was held on New Year's Day at the home of William Hagerman, at Circle. Arthur Craft, of Milwaukee, is visiting his sister, Mrs. N. T. Shaw. His many friends are rejoiced to shake his hand once again.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Allen are visiting during the holidays at the home of their daughter, Mrs. Dr. F. E. Thomas of Mason. Mrs. J. C. Rainey has just returned from a holiday visit with her daughters, Mrs. Frankie Gleason and Mrs. Agnes Pood, both of Richmond, Mich. She had a delightful pleasant time and was very well remembered by Santa Claus.

At the annual meeting of the M. E. Sunday School last Friday evening the following officers were elected for the coming year: Superintendent, James Brooks; secretary, Arthur King; treasurer, Charles Parks; chairman, Mr. Ida Parks; organist, Miss Nellie Randall; librarians, Fred King and Eugene Smith.

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Just about Christmas day Mr. Eugene Brooks received a large case of tropical fruits from his son Frank, of Saratoga, N. Y. The contents of the box were all Frank's own raising and consisted of oranges, tangerines, grape

fruit, lemons, etc. The fruit arrived in good condition and many of Gemp's friends have enjoyed it with him. The oranges are finely flavored, very sweet and most excellent. The grape fruit is very large, and from a tree hardly four feet high Frank picked 47 of them. The converted fellow follows. The South had a cold snap not long ago, and it was feared that the fruit would suffer somewhat, but it rallied.

A bright merry Christmas was observed at the home of Mrs. Elizabeth Randall who was blessed with a visit from her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Converse, of Owosso. A Christmas dinner was served at the home of Mrs. Randall. The season closed with Mr. and Mrs. Birdseye, of Pontiac, spending Sunday with Mrs. Randall and Miss Nellie.

Mr. Harry Baldwin, of Ovid and Mrs. C. J. Mills of Pontiac were the guests of John Baldwin and family the fore part of the week. These Middletons preached his farewell sermon last Sunday evening to a sorrowing audience who wish him well in his new field of labor.

Our worthy citizen Mr. H. J. Bloomberg lived in a critical condition caused by a run of typhoid fever. We trust Henry will recover ere soon.

A whist club was organized at Mattie Baldwin's last week. The second meeting takes place at the residence of Mr. Allen Bigelow tomorrow evening.

At a glass ball shooting match last Monday, ten balls each, the following hit: Frank Jenks, 6; Frank Crook, clean score; Bert Keayne, 7; Chas. Mudge, 9; Bert Peabody, 1.

Tom Hanna's beautiful white steed of long legs, big Bert Richardson on his hand, Bert has been laid up with a bad fettered hand, and with the best medical

advice, will recover, but the dog died instantly. While Mrs. Utter and her daughter Mamie were cozy chatting by the side of the blazing coal fire one day last week the large coal stove upset "all of a sudden" and the red-hot coals were strewn all over the carpet resulting in a sudden blaze, but prompt application of a pail of water saved the house. Mrs. Utter was burned but not seriously and both ladies were frightened nearly out of their wits. Of course the carpet and some of the furniture was ruined, but it is really fortunate that the consequences were not more serious.

Prof. H. J. Jones has resigned his position as principal of the Birmingham Union School and his resignation has been accepted. Miss Bell G. Campbell, the preceptor, has been elected preceptor and will take charge at the first of next term, Jan. 7th, '27. The position of preceptors will be filled by the registering of the term also. We hope that all will take an interest in the school and help instead of hindering its progress. The board all think that during the coming term we will have a good school.

STATE OF MICHIGAN, County of Oakland—vs. Suit pending before George B. Hartwick, a Circuit Court Commissioner for Oakland County, between Harold H. Erickson, plaintiff, and George H. Harbeck, defendant.

Summons having been issued in this case and having been returned unexecuted, and appearing by affidavit on file that the defendant's address is unknown, it is Ordered, That said defendant appear at the court room of the undersigned, at my office in the City of Royal Oak, Oakland County, Michigan, at nine o'clock a. m. Eastern Standard Time, on the 18th day of January 1927, to defend the complaint filed in this case, or judgment will be entered by default, and that this order be served or published as required by statute.

This writ is brought to terminate the interest of the defendant in a certain and certain for the sale of premises described as Lot 311 of Beverly Hills Sub. No. 1, N. E. 1/4 of Sec. 18 of Twp. 12 N. R. 1 E. E. Royal Oak Township, Oakland County, Michigan. Dated December 14, 1926. GEORGE B. HARTWICK, Circuit Court Commissioner, Oakland County, Michigan.

STATE OF MICHIGAN, County of Oakland—vs. Suit pending before George B. Hartwick, a Circuit Court Commissioner for Oakland County, between Harold H. Erickson, plaintiff, and George C. Carney, defendant. Summons having been issued in this case and having been returned unexecuted, and appearing by affidavit on file that the defendant's address is unknown, it is Ordered, That said defendant appear at the court room of the undersigned, at my office in the City of Royal Oak, Oakland County, Michigan, at nine o'clock a. m. Eastern Standard Time, on the 18th day of January 1927, to defend the complaint filed in this case, or judgment will be entered by default, and that this order be served or published as required by statute.

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STATE OF MICHIGAN, County of Oakland—vs. Suit pending before George B. Hartwick, a Circuit Court Commissioner for Oakland County, between Harold H. Erickson, plaintiff, and Catherine Cobb, defendant. Summons having been issued in this case and having been returned unexecuted, and appearing by affidavit on file that the defendant's address is unknown, it is Ordered, That said defendant appear at the court room of the undersigned, at my office in the City of Royal Oak, Oakland County, Michigan, at nine o'clock a. m. Eastern Standard Time, on the 18th day of January 1927, to defend the complaint filed in this case, or judgment will be entered by default, and that this order be served or published as required by statute.

This writ is brought to terminate the interest of the defendant in a certain and certain for the sale of premises described as Lot 287 Grand River Hotel Sub. Part of 24 of 28 1/2 of Sec. 17, T. 12 N. R. 1 E. E. Royal Oak Township, Oakland County, Michigan, according to Liber 32 of Plat on page 19. Dated December 14, 1926. GEORGE B. HARTWICK, Circuit Court Commissioner, Oakland County, Michigan.

Dr. Mabel Campbell FIRE, OSTEOPATHIC PHYSICIAN, 312 First National Bank Building, PONTIAC. Phone Pontiac 3147. Hours: 11:15 to 6:30 by appointment.

Dr. George W. Corns, DENTIST, Gas Administrator for Extracting, By Appointment, PHONE, Royal Oak 1452, Howarth Bldg., 415 S. Washington, ROYAL OAK. Shock & Ogden, General Practice, 520 So. Woodward, PHONE 225.

W. S. McAlpine, Engineering Co., SURVEYING, Farm and Lot Surveys Made Quickly and Accurately. Telephone 805, 508 S. Woodward - Birmingham. Maurice E. Baldwin, COUNTY SURVEYOR, 103 1/2 N. Saginaw St., Pontiac, Mich. Allen Engineering Co., ENGINEERING AND SURVEYING OF ANY DESCRIPTION, "Rapid" Farm Surveys, a Specialty, Telephone 135-M.



Merry Christmas and where can Christmas be as Merry as right here in your own home in this beautiful Birmingham—Bloomfield District.

SAUNDERS-COLGROVE-BUCK, Acquires - Estates - Subdivisions, Residences - Business Management, First State Bank Building, Phones 830 - 1185.

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

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Bids Wanted

Erection and completion of the NEW TOWN HALL, TROY TOWNSHIP, Oakland County, Michigan.

The TOWNSHIP BOARD of the Township of Troy, Michigan, will receive sealed bids up to 8:00 P. M., Eastern Standard time, Wednesday evening, January the fifth, 1927, when they will be opened—for the erection and completion of a two-story and basement fireproof Town Hall, to be located on the north side of Wattles Road, near Main Street, according to the plans and specifications prepared by Ed. E. Biswell and Hubert F. Howe, Architects, 910 Edgewood Ave., Birmingham, Mich.

Bidders may bid on any one trade or the entire work. Plans, specifications and terms of bidding may be seen at 910 Edgewood Avenue, Birmingham, Michigan, and at the office of the Town Clerk, R. 4, Birmingham, Michigan.

A deposit of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) will be required for each set of plans and specifications taken for the purpose of estimating. Instructions to bidders supplied to each bidder.

The Owner specifically reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted and to waive any irregularities in favor of the Township. INDORSE: Bid on Town Hall, Troy Township, Mich. ADDRESS: Garner Miller, Town Clerk, R. No. 4, Birmingham, Michigan.