

Birmingham an Eccentric

PART TWO

OAKLAND COUNTY'S GREATEST WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

"For a Bigger and Better Birmingham"

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1926

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THE ECCENTRIC WELCOME NEWS ITEMS. TELEPHONE THEM OR WRITE THEM OUT AND BRING THEM IN. YOUR OFFICE IS OPEN UNTIL 11 O'CLOCK EACH DAY.

FORTY-NINTH YEAR—NO. 34

Glimpses at and about Birmingham

By RAYMOND GIRARDIN

Birmingham turned a crooked Tuesday afternoon, when the streets were covered with ankle-torn ice, and did its stuff in a whole-hearted way. Equilibrium and dignity were offered dirt-cheap and there were no takers. The self-confident walker was like a kid who tried, for the first time, a light rope. Strangers slipped into each others arms and became used to it; friends seated themselves during conversation and came used to it. Autos, nosing their way from the roads chased frightened merchants from their lack of slipping and the sidewalks. A woman whom I had never seen before charged me with an open umbrella and everyone told everyone else it was slippery day. My only conclusion is that I dislike crooked, charging women and people who emphasize the obvious.

Through the courtesy of kind and remembering friends, who have just returned from the east, I have a copy of the first edition of the Philadelphia Public Ledger. It is a four-page affair about the size of an election notice. Its news is difficult to read and especially difficult to find. The front page is given over to advertisements and one lengthy article on Robert Burns, the poet. Issued on the morning of March 26, 1836, its editor found it expedient to explain the appearance of the paper in an editorial that ran close to 3,000 words. The same editorial boasted that the newspaper had secured the service of a "police reporter and a collector of news." Probably the direct antithesis of the edition is found in the tabloid field so popular in the east of today where the police reporter alone suffices.

A contention I used to enjoy shouting at large was given first stimulus Friday night when I saw Mordkin, and his ballet, dance at Orchestra Hall. Pavlova, I believe, even at her age, is farther ahead of her contemporaries in her form of art than is any artist ahead of his contemporaries in any other form of art. Your past masters, among the contemporaries, are being crowded by those nearly as great, whether it be in music, literature or any art save dancing. Mikala Mordkin traveled long with Pavlova, so did Vera Venturina and Hilda Butova who dance in his ballet. They do things gracefully, almost beautifully at times, yet the line that excludes them from Pavlova's class also excludes the wide eyed tuber in that part

Down to His Last Ear of Corn



Jackson Barnett is said to be the world's richest Indian, but he recently sought financial aid from the Indian Bureau at Washington, D. C. His claims. He says he's down to his last ear of corn, which he and his white wife are shown hotting.

of the gallery where the seats are beginning to run out of numbers.

Christmas bundles... any bundle now has that suspicious appearance... what for me... Christmas stories loaded with what is amusingly called human interest... reporter told me he ate a cold egg sandwich for his Christmas dinner in a daily office while, during a slack moment, he read a sob story he had written for his paper... people used to go calling on Christmas... whole-sale callers... or was that New Years... success and a glass of wine... fruit cake... Oh, please do... just a bite... play Santa Claus all year but dress for the part on Christmas... and soon the onslaught of those cards... those blood-chilling cards... the very verse... but anyway the mail man does not have to read them.

Some day, when this village stops having elections and I have more time, I hope to try to learn something of motives for the writing of anonymous letters. The letters are usually far more amusing than intended to be and few persons who receive the things take them at all seriously, no matter why I do not discontinue this habit, even at my age, is farther ahead of her contemporaries in her form of art than is any artist ahead of his contemporaries in any other form of art. Your past masters, among the contemporaries, are being crowded by those nearly as great, whether it be in music, literature or any art save dancing. Mikala Mordkin traveled long with Pavlova, so did Vera Venturina and Hilda Butova who dance in his ballet. They do things gracefully, almost beautifully at times, yet the line that excludes them from Pavlova's class also excludes the wide eyed tuber in that part

FOUR BALDWINITES HEAR DR. LITTLE

Michigan President, At Detroit Banquet, Talks On Education

Four representatives of the Baldwin High School were guests of the Union Trust company at their annual scholarship dinner given at the Bako-Caddillac Hotel in Detroit Saturday night. Superintendent of Schools Clarence Vliet, principal Melvin C. Hart, Frank Higby, editor of the school annual publication and the school page of The Birmingham Eccentric, and Carpenter Hewitt, president of the senior class were the guests.

More than 450 honor students from Oakland, Wayne and Macomb counties were gathered at the dinner. President Clarence Vliet, of the University of Michigan made the principal address of the evening and stressed the ideals and advantages of education. President Little told the guests that knowledge could be found if sought after and said the same applied to most things in life. He urged them to seek always the best and to put their best effort to obtain which is the highest.

Frank W. Blair of the company acted as toastmaster.

Three sisters named Chandler have married three brothers named Jerson at Edinburg.

Mrs. Jane McGregory of Edinburg left her \$100,000 estate to finance a campaign against rats.

Sir Broderick Hartwell of England, who lost heavily in attempting to land liquor shipments on the American coast, has been declared a bankrupt.

Mrs. Ethel Burns of Chicago, testifying in her divorce suit, declared that she became intoxicated after taking one of her pills and got married without knowing it.

The electrocution of a rat on a high tension terminal at night put out the city lights at Hull, Eng., for two hours.

Santa Claus Invents Many Toys For Birmingham Children

The symbol of Christmas to most of us is a rotund, red-nosed Santa Claus with a pack full of toys. Toys are necessary, no matter as fire crackers are to July 4. Without them there's a void.

How Santa Claus and his assistant toy makers manage year after year to find new kinds of toys is something to wonder about, but the facts are at hand. They do Birmingham's stores are filled with new varieties.

For the automobile department, which is just as popular with the little folks as with the grown ups, we find regular inter-city busses. A "blue-goose" vian in popularity with a green double-decker on one counter. The babies haven't been neglected in this automobile supply center. Rattles in the shape of sedans and roadsters will start the infants on the path that will eventually lead to buying gasoline and tires.

HOOFBEATS

An Autobiographical Novel - By Pathos Petoskey

"Maslovich, Maslovich." The thin voice of a mother called quietly through the darkened room for her husband. Pathos heard and knew his mother thought he was asleep. It was the first thing that happened in his life that he remembered. There were many other things in his youth but that was the first. His father who was a cossack and a drinker of vodka lurched through the door and that was all Pathos could recall of his first impression. His father was other things, too.

Years later as he walked the streets of America, tired of soul and body and ruled by a confusion that was born of the traffic mobs that remained orderly and were unlike other mobs he knew, these early impressions returned to him. Nothing had destroyed them, not one of the weird experiences that had come to Pathos before his twenty-sixth year.

"Pathos is a sissy, Pathos is a sissy." "Reck a bye baby on the tree tops; when the wind blows the cradle will rock." Only, of course, all this was in Russian. The headmaster who dressed in outlandish furs beat Nickoloff like Pathos a sissy. That was in Russian too, even the furs. It was in Petrograd and Russia, that was where the black bread and can of vodka he was given daily as a punishment.

He was not like the other boys at school. He bruised too easily. One day one of the older boys poured mud into a mud puddle because he would not admit that Zenovief, who kept a shop was a greater poet than Goats. That was when Pathos was ten. Then the headmaster beat Pathos because he remembered all those things. He remembered, too, the plays of Moliere and the Republic of Plato which he had read at his home when he was ten. And some of them while he was ten.

"Ten, ten, ten, ten," he repeated over and over to himself. That was years later when he was in Birmingham. Pathos heard and knew his mother thought he was asleep. It was the first thing that happened in his life that he remembered. There were many other things in his youth but that was the first. His father who was a cossack and a drinker of vodka lurched through the door and that was all Pathos could recall of his first impression. His father was other things, too.

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DEER VISITS VILLAGE



LAYOFF DOES NOT HURT GOOD HUNTER

D. C. Davenport Shoots 185 Pound Deer After Long Absence From Woods

Hunting does not have to be practiced every season to attain success. This is the opinion of Deyo C. Davenport, of the Detroit Edison company, who lives on Ridgedale avenue. Mr. Davenport after a four year absence from the woods shot a deer weighing 185 pounds near Grayling almost as soon as his packs hit the snow after this season opened.

DIXIE PAVEMENT WILL BE OPENED

Sink Hole Near Pontiac Terminal Covered With 12 Inches of Gravel

The Dixie Highway should be opened to traffic tomorrow, according to an announcement made this morning by Leon V. Balkman, Oakland County engineer. The 1,000 foot sink hole which has been responsible for keeping the three mile stretch between Pontiac and Leon Lake closed for the past two months, has been temporarily covered with 12 inches of gravel. This work of leveling has been aided by the recent cold weather, and Y. P. Schari, contractor, is practically finished with the grading.

The road will be tested according to present plans. The sink hole will be paved next spring as early as weather permits. It is doubtful if traffic will again be forced to detour, however, as when paving operations are resumed, a temporary road will be constructed alongside the highway.

Road Worker Is Killed At Holly

Hugh Belford of Holly, a road maintenance man, was killed instantly at noon Tuesday when he drove his road scraper on the tracks directly in front of a Pere Marquette passenger train, at a crossing one mile north of the village. The body of John Mills has been ordered an inquest.

Telephone your NEWS to The Eccentric—Phones 11 and 12

plentiful than they were this year," Mr. Davenport said after his return to the village. "Most of the hunters found it as I did." Mr. Davenport motored to Grayling with D. E. Herrick of Higgins Park. This year's deer was brought down with a .35 calibre automatic rifle. In discussing the amount deer in the woods this year, Mr. Davenport expressed himself as being of the opinion that hunters were equally as numerous.

TELEPHONE COMPANY NAMES OFFICE HEAD

J. W. Tatham, of Saginaw, Receives Appointment to the Birmingham Post.

Announcement has been made of the appointment of Joseph Warren Tatham, formerly of Saginaw, to the position of manager of the Birmingham area commercial office of the Michigan Bell Telephone company. Mr. Tatham comes to Birmingham direct from Saginaw where he was assistant to the manager of the division, L. A. Walking.

He has been connected with the Michigan Bell Telephone company since June when he was graduated with an A. B. degree from the University of Notre Dame. When he joined the company it was in the capacity of division commercial agent and his promotions from that time on have been rapid.

Born in Saginaw in 1902, Mr. Tatham moved with his parents to Laurel, Miss., an early age. He received his primary school education in Laurel and his preparatory school work was completed at the Notre Dame Preparatory School.

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