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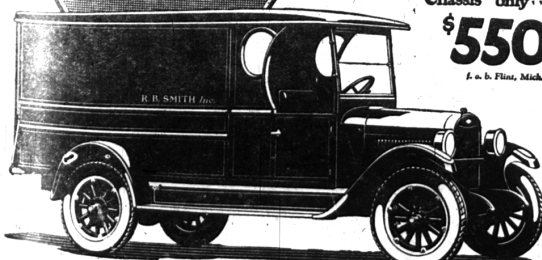
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ECCENTRICITIES

Being a few stray notions by G. R. A. Sometimes they are sane notions (when they meet popular approval); then, again, they are quite insane (when they don't). However, this column will attempt to build constructively—destroying only foundations that we think are socially flimsy.

Three days spent in Lansing last week brought to light the fact that Governor Groesbeck will almost assuredly run for another term as Michigan's Chief Executive. Whether or not he will be elected is a matter for conjecture. However, a discussion with many newspaper editors from various parts of the State points that Mr. Groesbeck's road-building program has met popular approval. Some editors told us frankly that, though they disliked the Governor's personality, they would support him for his "intestinal fortitude" in doing things.

Once before in this column we chronicled the fact that Muri H. DeFoe, editor of the excellent Charlotte Republican, always wears a flower in the lapel of his coat. He does it yet—for a red carnation vied with his happy countenance when we met him at the annual meeting of the Michigan Press Association in Lansing last week. "Flowers are God's thoughts of beauty taking form to gladden mortal gaze," said Wilburforce. Which makes us believe that Mr. DeFoe's habit of wearing a flower has done much to gladden the hearts and lighten the cares of those whom he meets each day.

We commend what Gotha once said to the kind consideration of the legions that dwell within that physical manifestation known to the world as A. J. C. Gotha. He is a bit of a bungler as I do sin, but particularly lambasting in public we can look at the misery and ruin of many thousands and millions of people.

If one's life here is but the school for learning lessons, then we believe that every thing which befalls us, good or bad, is the direct result of our actions. To lose an arm, scratch a finger, stub a toe, break a valued piece of china, furniture or friendship, is but the physical reminder of a wrong thing which we have done. The good things that come to us are "bread returning upon the waters." Nothing in life, we believe, from the pricking of a finger to the annihilation of a nation, can be separated from the wrong thoughts and acts that caused it.

When it comes to characteristics of thrift, perhaps no people on earth are subject to the thrusts of humor as the Scotch. One of the latest of such stories we have heard is about the Scotchman who actually gave a friend a Christmas present—proving, at first, that giving is not altogether a lost art with Andrew Carnegie's countrymen. The only trouble with the present, however, happened to be that it was a homing pigeon.

Ross Thompson, chairman of the Oakland County Road Commission, believes in letting the public know what his office is doing. When the Detroit Free Press, a few weeks ago, published a statement regarding the high cost of paving a part of Grand River avenue, it set forth substantiation of that fact as given by Mr. Thompson's office. When he was criticized for allowing the reporter to view the county books Mr. Thompson said, "Our books are open to the public at all times—which includes the reporters." Good word, Ross, always take the public into your confidence—then you'll have them with you.

Now that the Episcopal church officials have publicly reconciled themselves as favoring the enacting of the Volstead Act, to allow the sale of light wines and beer, we presume that a good deal of sympathy will still be flooding the country; if the Volstead Act is amended, it will be because Christianity has failed to prove that intemperance is the bridge that links man's condition with that of the beasts. It is just the same as sending Jesus Christ out into the world to preach for the anti-prohibitionists. Do you think that Jesus would pour intoxicants ahead of pure water for quenching thirst?

Another week has wended its way in the calendar of eternity. The modern business man, each night, balances his books to learn what the day's merchandising has meant to him, which brings us to wonder if every person ought not to balance "the books of his daily life" to see what his thoughts and actions have brought him.

As John Owen puts it: "What a folly to spread the thought of throwing away life at once, and yet have no regard to throwing it away by idleness and inactivity." Or, as you say: "Count that day lost whose low-asserting sun views from thine side no worthy action done."

Mrs. Virginia Hewitt, of Oakland avenue, who last week filed for reelection as a candidate for the office of Bloomfield township clerk, is, undoubtedly, qualified for the position. We hope that she succeeds Mrs. Martha Dewey Wilson, present clerk.

Robert Y. Moore, supervisor of Bloomfield township, could do his supporters no more good than by persuading his fellow officials to purchase a chemical fire truck for use in the town's outskirts of Birmingham. This truck could be kept in this village and manned by the volunteer firemen. The recent Richman fire proves the need of an adequate chemical apparatus—a kind of equipment that would serve well where scarcity of water prevails.

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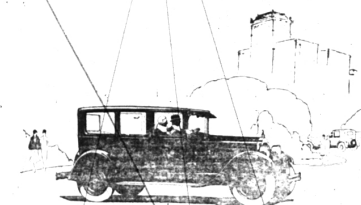
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