

BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC

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THURSDAY, JULY 15, 1926.

THE RECENT WATER BAN

Much criticism has been directed against village officials during the past week regarding the ban placed on sprinkling; of course, some of this criticism may be warranted, but most of it is due to misinformation and misunderstanding. However, when anything goes wrong or awry in public affairs those in office must expect the criticism of the electors.

As far as we are able to determine, the only charge that may be brought against the village commission and the manager is the delay which has taken place since the people voted bonds for water extensions on September 17 of last year. Under ordinary conditions the new well and mains should have been completed long before this, and Birmingham would not have encountered a water shortage this summer.

You will remember that September 17 was the date when local people voted \$68,000 worth of bonds for a new well and mains, and \$31,000 for an elevated tank. The tank has been in use for several months, and no doubt aided much in holding in reserve a greater portion of water than would have been possible without it; but the new well and tank project, contracted for last October, has not gone so nicely as expected.

According to Manager Starr, unforeseen difficulties were met in drilling the well, necessitating the drilling through immense boulders; this, together with financial problems on the part of the contractors, resulting in the delay of equipment being shipped to the well site, is given as the real cause of the well not being completed before this date.

Manager Starr stated Tuesday of this week that the new well ought to be connected to the village mains by Sunday; it is hoped that his predictions are realized and that the Commission, next Monday night, removes the ban on sprinkling.

It is to be hoped, too, that the Village Commission comes to a realization that WATER IS BIRMINGHAM'S MOST VITAL NECESSITY, and takes the necessary steps, via the Metropolitan Area plan, to soon permanently solve our local water problem.

WATER AT ANY COST should be Birmingham's immediate future slogan, or else the Village's accepted slogan of "The Village of Homes Where Children Thrive" may have to be amended by adding thereto "and where green grass and flower gardens wither."

DETROIT: A MORAL DECLINE

More commercialized vice has been found in Detroit in one month by three under-cover investigators of the American Social Hygiene Association than the same men have been able to uncover in New York City in the last six years. Such is the blanket statement revealed last Saturday about conditions existing in Birmingham's parent-city. It is enough to make every community adjacent to Detroit ashamed of the morals of the great community to which it looks for guidance.

Parents have always been told that "children learn more by example than by precept." This applies equally as well to cities and villages.

We in southeastern Michigan have just cause to be proud of the progress of Detroit during the past 25 years. Wherever we go, when it is known that we live near Detroit, or in Detroit, people acclaim the vast automobile industries which we possess in Michigan, and they consider Detroit as a wonder city. As far as material progress and worldly possessions are concerned, Detroit may boast of its riches; but when it comes to moral and spiritual possessions, what can it claim in the face of the recent vice report?

Detroit may be compared to a very wealthy man—but the kind of a man whose morals we are not expected to emulate and to imitate, it would seem. Birmingham and dozens of other adjacent communities to this parent-city may be pardoned if they express sympathy for the inebriety and otherwise moral decline of the City of Cadillac.

It is time for the leaders of Detroit to stimulate their fellow-citizens into an existence of decency; it is time that Detroit pause from the ringing of its collective cash register and turn its attentions toward the removal of vice that is said to be so great a part of its community life.

MAN'S FADING PRESTIGE

For five days we have been pondering upon the sad fate of the Berlin man who came home and found his young wife in flesh-colored stockings, a short skirt, an armless dress and bobbed hair. The reader will remember the story; it was in The Gazette. It told of the man's surprise, chagrin and sorrow; and the story went on to say that after he had consoling himself with a few assuaging drinks—and who would begrudge him that poor boon to his suffering?—he went out into the street in the moonlight by way of revenge upon society in general and the so-called softer sex in particular, clad as he rushed from his home only in his shirt and bedroom slippers. Then a cruel and unjust government arrested and jailed him. To that sad pass has man's degradation come.

He had on as much raiment, ounce for ounce, as his wife had. She was not molested. His clothes for all domestic and hygienic purposes were probably even better distributed than hers. As a scenic spectacle he was no more shocking than she. Yet he sits all alone in jail all day long with "nothing a-tall to do but to be thinking of you!"

While she, merely because she is a female, goes forth wearing a dab of cotton, a spool of silk and gets away with

a lot of indecent exposure under the protection of fashion. Man is lost.

He can never come back.

He began by giving woman his seat in the street car. Then he gave her the ballot. Whereupon she took away his booze and now she takes off her clothes and runs wild.

And if man tries to regain his ancient rights to frisk in his manly beauty in the moonlight for the delight of the populace—what does he get?

Will he get six months in jail and the opprobrium of public opinion molded by the soft but subtle hands of woman?

Man on this planet is a busted community! He might as well quit.

—William Allen White, in Emporia (Kans.) Gazette.

THE DAILY MIRACLE

Time is the most valuable of all human possessions. It outranks Love, for Love is not permanent. It abides after friends are gone and wealth has vanished. Time is priceless because it is changeless. Of all other things one must say: This, too, shall pass away. Time is the only thing that never ceases to be.

The most precious thing in life is the 24 hours which are allotted to mankind each day. Time is the changeless possession. And the more time one has the wealthier one is. And in this, Youth is the wealthiest of all.

Time is the equal possession of mankind. Without time nothing is possible. With it, all things are. Rich man, poor man, beggar man and thief, all are equally blessed by the daily miracle.

Said Emerson, "Give me health, and a day; and I will make the pomp of emperors ridiculous." Said Franklin, "If thou wouldst lay hold on life, save time, for time is the stuff that life is made of."

Arnold Bennett, in his brochure, "How to Live on 24 Hours Per Day," says: "You wake up in the morning and your purse is magically filled with 24 hours of the manufactured tissue of the universe of your life. Waste your infinitely precious commodity as much as you will, and the supply will never be withheld from you. You cannot draw on the future. It is impossible to get into debt. You can only waste the passing moment."

What a singularly inept race we are to have invented the phrase, "killing time!" After all, that is the real race suicide problem in a nutshell!

When a financial bubble bursts, a lot of suckers get sprayed.

At times the farmers need rain more than city men need baseball.

Some men reach the age of discretion too late in life to be able to appreciate it.

Women formerly wore the wedding ring on the thumb, now they wear the husband under it.

The Bible is to be rewritten to fit the twentieth century. Probably without the commandments.

The missing link is a minor problem beside the husband who begins to be missing as soon as the links dry out.

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. Sister, Mrs. Charles Howard of St. W. J. Bell Valparaiso, Ind., re. John and camped at Elizabeth Lake turned home yesterday after a short visit with Ed Biting. Will is ably conducting his... It is rumored about town that Uncle Benjamin Daniels has been committing matrimony and that the object of his heart's affections is a lady having considerable property who lived at Highland, Mich.

The Misses Georgie and Eva and Mr. Marshall Logan, an old Southfield boy, is home from his arduous Ed Bodine, who is in the employ duties as telegrapher, and with him of Charles Root & Co., of Detroit, he brought a wife and both are now has been enjoying a two weeks' visit spending the honeymoon at Mar-at home and on a brief visit to his hall's mother's. Here's out beat

THE BRIDGE OF PROGRESS



A town's success depends mainly upon the number of successful people in it, and since material success is usually measured in terms of dollars and cents, this feature of local enterprise cannot be overlooked.

Probably many are tired of hearing it preached that saving is the surest road to financial independence, but from a community standpoint the wisdom of this advice cannot be urged too strongly. Unless the idea of properly investing time and money is accepted, progress will be curtailed.

A bank account, systematically maintained, will prove to be a bridge over obstacles which now block the way to home ownership or the realization of some other aim in life. We can live in comfort, spend wisely and save at the same time on modest income. The important thing in saving is the regularity with which we lay aside a certain amount at stated intervals.

Men and women who follow this practice are a decided asset to Birmingham. They are the real boosters of the town and more should be encouraged to follow their example.

wishes for a long and happy life to this young couple.

Mr. and Mrs. Leshar (Sarah Stafford) of Detroit, have been the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Starr for the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. M. T. James are making a tour on the lakes visiting relatives at Alpena, Au Sable, Fort Huron, and other points.

25 Years Ago. Mr. and Mrs. Austin of Ypsilanti Sunday with Mrs. E. F. Toole and had a jolly, nice, old fashioned visit interspersed with many a funny tale told only as Mr. Austin tells 'em. From here the Ypsians visited friends in Pontiac.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hanna attended the Bible conference at Orion last Tuesday and heard Campbell Morgan of London, England.

Raynale Whitehead is home from Drayton Plains where he has been enjoying himself the past two weeks.

James Cobb of Ann Arbor called on old Birmingham friends the latter part of the week.

It takes our old friend, Frank Young, to do a good deed when he sets out to do so. Some time ago he promised his large family of boys (a large gang of little fellows working under him in the best fields) that he would treat them to ice cream. Well, Tuesday evening he gathered his little band at his home and out on the lawn served them with ice cream to their heart's content. Something less than 25 gallons were disposed of and there is not a boy in the entire party who would not take off his coat and fight for Uncle Frank if it were necessary.

Mrs. Ellen Langdon of Highland Park was the guest of her sister, Mrs. John Tombs last week.

Sage's Bitter Reflection. There are four good mothers, of whom are often born four unhappy daughters. Truth begets hatred; Happiness, Pride; Security, Danger, and Familiarity, Contempt.—Steel

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BALDWIN THEATRE COMING SUNDAY JULY 18TH

"THREE IN EXILE" WITH Louise Lorraine - Tom London REVIEW COMEDY PICTURES ORGAN MONDAY AND TUESDAY - JULY 19 and 20 George O'Brien - Margaret Livingston

"HAVOC" PATHE NEWS COMEDY PICTURES ORGAN WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY - JULY 21 and 22 "NORTH OF HOME" All Star Cast NEWS COMEDY PICTURES ORGAN FRIDAY AND SATURDAY - JULY 23 and 24 "HIS JAZZ BRIDE" WITH MARIE PREVOST and MATT MOORE NEWS COMEDY PICTURES ORGAN

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