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Old Stuff

By Almeron Whitehead

AN AMERICAN EPIC.

Back in the early sixties, in the Richmond campaign in the Civil War, a soldier in Co. A, Fifth Michigan Cavalry, was writing a letter home to his sister, when an orderly stuck his head under the flap of the pup tent and summoned him away upon urgent business. One of the officers of his company came along and, seeing the unfinished letter and the envelope ready addressed, added a postscript advising the sister of the circumstances and assuring her of the warm friendship existing between the writer and her brother-soldier. Upon the receipt of the letter, the recipient expressed her determination to answer it and incidentally to write the officer-friend thanking him for his kindness. The matter was fully discussed in the girl's family as to the proprieties involved, but she finally received her mother's consent and a correspondence ensued, which I hope has been preserved in the family archives, as indicative of the days of the Civil War. They would be good letters, for they were both capable by reason of education and heritage of writing good letters upon any subject, and soldiers' letters were subject to rather wide publicity in those days when any and all letters from the front were considered common property.

The red tide of war claimed the brother-writer in the campaign before Richmond, Va., but the officer-writer, coming home on furlough, the consequent personal acquaintance increased the mutual esteem which the parties already held for each other and the inevitable engagement ensued. The return of the officer-lover to the front added another item to the anxieties incidental to the dreadful conditions of the civil war, with the daily list of killed and wounded, so eagerly scanned by the home-folks. The dreaded news came one day, that the officer-fiancee was grievously wounded and had suffered the amputation of his left arm in action at Winchester, Va. He was upon the verge of death for many weeks in the hospital, but finally recovered to such an extent that he was sent home to his parents in Franklin, Mich., whereupon his fiancee announced her determination to go and nurse him back to life again. All question of propriety was overlooked, (and they were more closely observed as a rule, in those days than they are now, I'm telling the world of Eccentric readers,) and the girl assured her parents that he would live "and she would marry him if both of his arms were gone!" And her old father and mother were very proud indeed of the daughter who proved herself so true to both country and soldier lover.

The tedious and anxious winter dragged its slow length along, during which the girl nurse-fiancee, with none of the luxurious sick-room conveniences which we consider necessities in these days. Repeated amputations left scarcely enough blood in the emaciated body of the wounded soldier to encourage his devoted nurse to persist in her constant attention. But with the spring-time came improvement, rapid convalescence, and gradual return to health and vigor.

Came one of the early June weddings celebrated at All Saints Church at Pontiac, when the old rector Rev. Stephens pronounced "this twain one flesh" and good old mother Butterfield gave her blessing and exclaimed: "there's another of my soldier boys made whole!"

This is a simple true story of the lives of a worthy Birmingham couple, the details of which are remembered by few who lived in the stirring days of the great civil war. I sincerely wish a more facile pen than mine had been selected to do justice and tell the story of the heroic souls who so well deserve a better memorial.

I sat near the graves of these two in Greenwood Cemetery the other evening; the vesper songs of a myriad birds and the murmur of the nearby brook sang their requiem, the crimson sunset tinged the flowers and shrubbery with a warm good-night like a benediction as I read upon the two modest, unpretentious markers, the names of these two whose story I have so lamely endeavored to tell. They were:

J. Allen Bigelow, 1839—1925.
Isabel W. Bigelow, 1844—1925.

Consult an Expert

A waggish contributor inquires: "What do they raise in the garden of dreams?" Well, forage for a nightmare, we suppose, for one thing.—Boston Transcript.

Honeymooning with the aid of Long Distance

They were married in Saginaw—and John and Mary left on a tour of Michigan that would take them to Detroit, Ann Arbor, Lansing, Grand Rapids and up to Petoskey; then on across the Straits of Mackinac.

Wise John changed plans, at the last moment, to outwit the well-wishing jokers, however.

And so he telephoned ahead, changed hotel reservations and got into touch with Aunt Jane at Grand Rapids, a friend at Petoskey and another at Sault Ste. Marie. The value of Long Distance appealed to him.

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Clark, Emmons, Bryant & Klein, attorneys, 2303 First National Bank Bldg., Detroit, Michigan.

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE—Default having been made in the terms and conditions of a certain mortgage given by the Buckner Building Company, Incor., a Michigan corporation, with its principal offices in Oakland County, Michigan, to Leinbach-Humphrey Company, a Michigan corporation, with its principal offices in the City of Detroit, County of Wayne, State of Michigan, under the date of April 1st, 1925, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds in Oakland County, Mich., on the 4th day of June, 1925 in Liber 563 of Mortgages, on pages 279-82 providing that should default be made in payment of any principal, or interest, or taxes, or insurance, or any part thereof, when the same are payable, and should the same, or any part thereof, remain unpaid for the period of thirty days, then the aforesaid principal sum with all arrearages of interest, taxes, and insurance premiums, shall, at the option of the said mortgagee, become payable immediately thereafter, although the period limited for the payment thereof shall not then have expired. Whereas, by reason of said default the entire principal is declared due, and there is claimed to be due, and is due and unpaid on said mortgage, at the date of this notice for principal and interest the sum of Eight thousand one hundred twenty-seven and 97-100 dollars, and no proceedings at law or in equity have been instituted to recover such money or any part thereof. Now, therefore, notice is given that by virtue of the power of sale in the above mortgage contained and of the statutes of the State of Michigan in such case made and provided, the undersigned will sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, on the 7th day of Oct. A. D. 1926, at 2:30 o'clock in the afternoon, Eastern Standard Time, at the main entrance of the County Building for Oakland county, in the City of Pontiac, County of Oakland, State of Michigan, (that being the place where the Circuit court for said County is held), the premises described in the said mortgage, or so much thereof as may be necessary to realize the amount due as aforesaid on said mortgage, together with 6½% interest and all expenses of sale and all legal costs allowed by law and provided for by said mortgage, including an attorney's fee, and also any sum or sums that shall be paid at or before said sale for taxes and insurance and for any prior mortgage or other liens to protect his interest in the premises, described as the land, premises and property situated in the Township of Troy, County of Oakland, State of Michigan as follows: Lot No. 197-198-399-400-401-402-403-404-405-406 of Leinbach-Humphrey's Woodward Ave. Sub. of the E. ½ of the S. E. ¼ of Section 36, T. 2, N. R. 10 E, Bloomfield Twp., and part of the W. ½ of the S. W. ¼ of Sec. 31, and part of the N. W. ¼ of Sec. 31, T. 2, N. R. 11 East, Troy Twp., excepting the Grand Trunk Rld. right-of-way, in accordance with the recorded plat thereof as filed in Liber 27 of plats on page 5 in the office of the Register of Deeds in and for Oakland County, Michigan, and subject to the building restrictions common to the lots in said subdivision.

Dated at Detroit, Michigan, this 3rd day of June A. D. 1926.

LEINBACH-HUMPHREY CO

Clark, Emmons, Bryant & Klein, Attorneys for Mortgagee. 8-22

Clark, Emmons, Bryant & Klein, 2303 First National Bank Bldg., Detroit, Michigan.

MORTGAGE SALE—Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Ephriam E. Buckner and Edith E. Buckner, his wife, and Floyd E. Oliver and Jessie Oliver, his wife, all of Birmingham, Michigan, to Leinbach-Humphrey Company, a Michigan corporation, with its principal office in the City of Detroit, Michigan, dated the first day of November, A. D. 1924, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for Oakland County, on the 10th day of November, A. D. 1924, in Liber 322 of Mortgages, on page 523-9. The said mortgage was assigned by Leinbach-Humphrey Co., a Michigan corporation, to Harold H. Emmons, of Detroit, Michigan, on the 7th day of November, A. D. 1924, and duly recorded on the 19th day of November, A. D. 1924, in Liber 286, page 656 of Mortgages of the Oakland County records. There is claimed to be due and unpaid on said mortgage for principal and interest at the date of this notice, the sum of Three thousand five hundred eleven and 06-100 dollars, and no suit or proceeding in law or in equity has been had or instituted to recover the moneys secured by said mortgage or any part thereof. Now, therefore, by virtue of power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statutes in such cases made and provided, notice is hereby given that the undersigned will sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash on Thursday, the 7th day of Oct. A. D. 1926, at 2:30 in the afternoon, Eastern Standard Time, at the main entrance of the City of Pontiac and County of Oakland, County Building for Oakland County in the Michigan (that being the place where the Circuit Court for the said county is held) the premises described in said mortgage together with hereditaments and appurtenances or as much thereof as may be necessary to pay the amount due on said mortgage, together with all costs allowed by law including the statutory attorney's fee. The said premises are situated in the Township of Troy, Oakland County, and State of Michigan, and described as follows: (B-0-S) Lots Nos. 522, 523, 524, 525, and 526 of Leinbach-Humphrey's Woodward Ave. Sub., being the E. ½ of the S. E. ¼ of Section 36, T. 2 N. R. 10 E. Bloomfield Twp. and part of the W. ½ of the S. W. ¼ of Section 31 and part of the N. W. ¼ of Sec. 31, T. 2, N. R. 11 E., Troy Twp. excepting the G. T. R. R. right-of-way, Oakland County, Michigan, according to the map or plat thereof as recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds in and for said Oakland County, and subject to the lien of a certain Trust Deed to American Loan and Trust Company covering this and other properties, also subject to the building restrictions common to the lots in said subdivision.

Dated at Detroit, Michigan, this 3rd day of June A. D. 1926.

HAROLD H. EMMONS,

Clark, Emmons, Bryant & Klein, attorneys for Assignee of Mortgagee, 8-22

VILLAGE COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS

Regular meeting of the Village Commission held Monday evening, July 12, 1926, at 8 o'clock.

Present: President Shain, Commissioners Ladd and Bell.

Minutes of meetings of June 23 and July 6th approved as printed.

195—Moved by Commissioner Ladd that notice be sent out in accordance with the Zoning Ordinance to the adjacent property owners, regarding application of Chas. McBride for Public Service Garage on St. Woodward Avenue. Hearing to be held p. m. July 19, 1926. Yeas: Shain, Ladd and Bell. Nays: None.

196—Moved by Commissioner Bell that application No. 169 for Gas Filling Station on So. Woodward Avenue be refused. Yeas: Shain, Ladd and Bell. Nays: None.

197—Moved by President Shain that the owners of such gas filling stations be notified to discontinue same by Jan. 1, 1927. Yeas: Shain, Ladd and Bell. Nays: None.

198—Moved by Commissioner Ladd that the following resolution be adopted:

Resolved, that the following special street improvement rolls

Brown Street, from Pierce to Southfield, No. 74; Brown Street widening, from Woodward to Pierce St., No. 75; Residence Park Area, No. 76; Dalzee Street, from Woodward to Purdy St., No. 77; Pompleton Avenue, from East Maple to Oakland Ave., No. 78; Oakland Avenue, from No. Woodward to Adams Ave., No. 79; George Street, from Woodward to Pierce St., No. 83; Elm Street, from East Maple to Forest Avenue, No. 84; Bates Street, from Brown to Lincoln Ave., No. 85; Townsend St., from Pierce Street to Southfield Ave., No. 86; Ferndale Ave., from Euclid to Oakland Ave., No. 87;

heretofore prepared by the Village Assessor for defraying the cost of street improvements, and after due hearing thereon and review by the Commission and Village Assessor, and no objections having been heard thereto, be in all things ratified and confirmed and the Village Clerk be and is hereby instructed to certify the said Assessment rolls to the Village Treasurer for collection.

Yeas: Shain, Ladd and Bell. Nays: None.

199—Moved by Commissioner Bell that the bills be allowed as read:

Charles Pismistead, $47.69; H. S. Starr, $45.98; Detroit Edison Co., $1,231.85; Crane & Co., $1,374.56; Michigan Valve & Foundry Co., $816.62; Perfection Foundry & Machine Co., $277.50; Pittsburgh Meter Co., $210.06; Peerless Blue Print Co., $9.01; Evans-Jackson Motor Co., $9.99; David C. Bliesath, $55.10; F. E. Sternal, $13.50; Birmingham Eccentric, $352.50; Contractor Publishing Co., $16.25; Contractor Publishing Co., $16.90; E. E. Buckner, $50.00; Frank Burton, $25.00; Walter Blucher, $25.00; Birmingham Sash & Door Co., $5.50; James D. Barker, $141.80; Clark & Leonard, $1.25; Brown's Shoe Hospital, $9.00; James E. Brown & Co., $1.75; C. L. Miesner, $4.50; Long's Sales Service, $14.25; Birmingham Transfer & Cartage, $146.75; Grand Trunk R. R., $3.99; F. W. Conant, $4.77; E. H. Dalton, $24.10; Ray E. Walker, $364.18; Stanley J. Fons, $19.72; Foley & Beardsee, $198.88; R. C. Moulthrope Lumber Co., $32.07; Parks Coal Co., $19.86; Hawthorne Electric Co., $2.94; McBride Hardware Co., $57.85; Birmingham Hardware Co., $5.70; Lew Henry, $262.59; W. H. Miller, $33.65; Mueller Co., $117.55; Birmingham Wall Paper Co., $10.48; Leonard Electrical Co., $88.97; Fred Barton, $42.04; Leon J. Greer, $5.18; Bell Bros. Garage, $13.75; Rice & Archibald, $75.26; Huston Hardware Co., $1.25; Century Carbon & Ribbon, $18.00; Consumers Power Co., $2.74; Miller's Tire & Battery, $1.25; Mix, the Jeweler, $12.65; Lansing Paint & Color Co., $1.60; Howard J. Bell, $28.05; Lawson-Erb $71.69; Howard J. Bell, $28.05; Lawson-Erb Earl Gaskill, $18.75; Wm. Thornton, $18.75; David Anderson, Secretary, $23.00; C. M. Jones, $25.00; Vern Griffith, $25.00; Glenn Allen, $25.00; Truax Hardware Co., $45.15; Standard Oil Co., $121.94; Henry Stoll, $211.75; Parks Coal Co., $45.66; Henry G. Stoll, $127.14; Birmingham Elec Co., $9.00; James L. Kelley Co., $23.20; Harry Smith, $688.50; Detroit Independent Oil Co., $70.00; Frank L. Doty, $148.33.

Yeas: Shain, Ladd and Bell. Nays: None.

400—Moved by President Shain that the bonds of Fred Wilson and Dallessandro & Placido be accepted and placed on file. Yeas: Shain, Ladd and Bell. Nays: None.

401—Moved by Commissioner Bell that Frank Arcovi Company be granted Sidewalk Builders License, and that bond be accepted and filed. Yeas: Shain, Ladd and Bell. Nays: None.

402—Moved by Commissioner Ladd that the following preamble and resolution be adopted:

SECOND RESOLUTION ON HANNA STREET SEWER

Whereas July 12, 1926, was heretofore fixed by this Commission as the time for the meeting to hear suggestions and objections to the proposed 8-in. sanitary sewer on Hanna Street from Watkins to W. line of lots 11 and 12, Schlaack Bros. Subdivision, in the Village of Birmingham, and

Whereas due notice of the meeting has been given in the manner required by law to each person owning property liable for special assessment within a special assessment district established for such purpose, and the Commission duly met on this 12th day of July, A. D. 1926, at 8 o'clock p. m. for the purpose aforesaid, and due hearing has been given to all persons making suggestions and objections to the proposed improvement, therefore

Be it resolved, that an 8-in. sanitary sewer be constructed on Hanna Street, from Watkins to West line of lots 11 and 12 Schlaack Brothers Subdivision in the Village of Birmingham, and more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at an existing manhole at the intersection of Watkins and Hanna, and extending West on Hanna Street to the West line of lots 11 and 12, Schlaack Brothers Subdivision, and

Be it further resolved, that all lots and parcels of land fronting and abutting on each side of Hanna Street within the district hereinfore described be constituted Special Assessment District No. 96, upon which shall be levied and spread according to benefits, the sum of $264.67, being 6/6 of the cost of the sewer, and the sum of $60 being the entire cost of the house connections, or a total of $326.67, according to an estimate heretofore prepared by the Village Manager and now on file with the Village Clerk, and

Be it further resolved that the Village of Birmingham shall pay from the general funds the amount of $32.33, being 1/6 of the cost of the improvement, and

Be it further resolved, that the Assessor of the Village of Birmingham be hereby directed, in pursuance hereof, to make a special assessment according to benefits as herein provided on all taxable lands and premises constituting Special Assessment District No. 96, for the sum of $326.67 aforementioned, and report the same to this Commission with all due haste.

Yeas: Shain, Ladd and Bell. Nays: None.

403—Moved by Commissioner Bell that the contract for building the pump house for the new well be awarded to Chiesa Bros. at their bid of $2,325.00. Yeas: Shain, Ladd and Bell. Nays: None.

404—Moved by President Shain that a public hearing be held on July 26, 1926, at 8 o'clock, on the necessity of opening Lincoln Avenue from Southfield Avenue to the Cranbrook Road. Yeas: Shain, Ladd and Bell. Nays: None.

Moved by Commissioner Ladd that the meeting now adjourn. Yeas: Shain, Ladd and Bell. Nays: None.

HAZEL E. LAWLER,
Village Clerk.

for Economical Transportation

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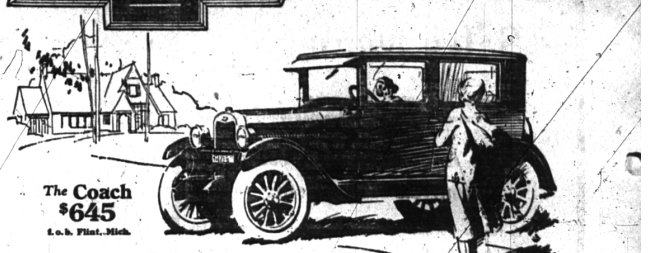

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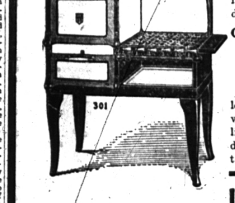

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