

BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC

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THURSDAY, JULY 22, 1926

"THE ONLY WORTH WHILE THING TO STRIVE FOR"

As he stood before 3,000 people in Tremont Temple, Boston, on Sunday last, and spoke for a few minutes on his ideals in life, Jack Miles, the 20-year-old winner of the famous Marathon race, who had been thought of up till then as little other than a remarkable runner, showed that he was much more. For he showed that he knew something of that race to win in which is the prerogative of every one, but the goal of which is often lost sight of in the midst of material success, and that he recognized the importance of that race. The only great prize, he urged, is eternal life, and the only worth while things to strive for are the love, belief, and service of God.

It was a simple message that he brought to his hearers, but it made them forget the Marathon winner in the more forceful preacher of the gospel. "Since Monday I have had a wonderful time," he declared, adding:

"I have met your prominent men, your Governor, your high officials; visited your historic places and been greeted by crowds of people. But this is the greatest honor I have received, the one of which I am most proud, to be here with you in God's house in the fellowship of those assembled to do God's work."

A little later he spoke to some young men along the same general lines. "It is wonderful to win—to enjoy the publicity and short-time glory," he said. "But after all, what does it amount to? Today you win, and you are a hero—tomorrow you lose, and you are nothing and forgotten. But when you run for God, you are striving for one who never forgets, who is always steadfastly with you." With that spirit in this thought, Jack Miles should be heard from in the future as a winner in another and a greater contest than he won the other day.

—Christian Science Monitor.

HOW DO YOU READ?

"Tell me what you eat, and I will tell you what you are," has cried a publicist so often that he has coined a household axiom. Well might another say: "Tell me what you read and I will tell you what you are!"

The mind is the house in which we live more truly than is the body. If we furnish the mind garishly we must live in a garish house. If we furnish the mind carelessly, we must live in a slovenly house. If we take our mental furniture only from the past, we shall live in the past alone. If we take it only from the fadish notions of the present we shall live amid fads and follies, which vanish e'er we know them.

But if, on the other hand, our mental diet is balanced, comprised of the foods tested by time and sauced and spiced by the piquancy of the present, we may live a balanced, ordered life.

We can with impunity pour poisons and dark, wild, disordered thoughts into our minds no more than we can day after day find strength and health from spurious foods, hastily prepared, indigestible.

To read well, read discriminatingly, widely, thoroughly.

What we read becomes part and parcel of us.

SEASON OF FLOWERS

Looking about for the reason why summer is so satisfying to the soul one cannot fail to fall upon the flower garden as the most logical explanation. It is the one phase of summer that captivates every bundle of humanity possessed of at least one good eye and a capable nose.

Unfortunately the best gardens are not for the masses. Planned and loved by the wealthy they are too often shut off from a beauty-starved world by high hedges and forbidding walls. Less opulent persons must gratify their summer-hunger for the color and aroma of flowers in public parks, covert glimpses through iron fences or brief and infrequent excursions into the country—the natural home of the flower.

It's a wrong road that has no turning back.

Picnics are spoiled by someone drowning or falling in love.

Some day somebody will invent a safety razorback hog.

The differences which cause most trouble are indifference.

Most men sitting around waiting for their ships to come in haven't sent any ant.

If they ever catch a run runner in a bay we have a wise crack about bay rum.

Scientists say the earth is an accident. So don't kick. They are bound to happen.

The man usually takes all the credit for catching a girl, forgetting she co-operated.

Professor says society girls are ignorant. Then it's even. They say professors are ignorant.

A million years of bold adventure resulting in civilized man, who sits on a stool and pores over a ledger.

When the maid says her mistress is out, at least she doesn't jerk an insulting thumb the way an umpire does.

KEEP TO THE RIGHT



WE CAN SEE WHERE THAT ROAD LEADS TO—THE OTHER IS UNCERTAIN. YES, DON'T TAKE ANY CHANCES.

FROM THE ECCENTRIC COLUMNS—of Long Ago

Just Bits Of News Gleaned From Old Files Of The Eccentric—The Hints That Make Up The Historical Background Of The Birmingham Of Today

43 YEARS AGO. Married at Royal Oak, Mr. Fred Ashby of Detroit and Miss Minnie McFadden of this place.

Miss Allie Peabody of Gilbert Lake and Mr. and Mrs. Shelby of Detroit returned on Thursday last week from a delightful trip on the Keweenaw from Detroit to Sault Ste. Marie and return. Miss Peabody expresses herself as highly pleased with the experience, being, but slightly affected with seasickness and the boat being crowded with merry pleasure seekers.

Dr. C. M. Raynald had a tip over last week Thursday but did no damage to himself and only slightly injured the buggy.

On Monday last a very quiet but happy marriage was celebrated by the Rev. J. Frendogast at the residence of the bride's parents, No. 408 Gough street. The parties were Mr. E. B. Wilcox and Miss Tillie E. Hayburn, both well known in society circles.

James McKinley, if he had his choice, shows a decided leaning to the Russell House instead of the Biddle House. Success Jim.

Mrs. C. Utter and daughter, Mamie, are visiting at Chautauque, N. Y., attending the grand annual meeting at that popular resort. Miss Mamie graduates this year after a four year's course at the C. L. S. C.

F. Hagerman has purchased the west side of Saginaw street and we hope to see a new business building thereon immediately. \$1,000 was the price paid.

THE OTHER CHAP SAYS SOMETHING

MICHIGAN'S MUSSOLINI. Dave Hubbel, of the Crowell Jeffersonian, seems to take the position that an Italian Mussolini is, or would be, a good thing for Michigan.

Well, let's see. The Italian dictator suppresses newspapers when they don't support him; he has prohibited all Masonic lodges; he lets congressmen be murdered once in a while, when they don't do his bidding; he forces competing manufacturing concerns out of business; makes the King stay a prisoner in his palace; suspends civil law when it interferes with his ambitions, etc., etc.

Another item of interest is that the hardware store last year did a gross business of some \$100,000. In the furniture store disposed of \$50,000 worth of goods. The history of this unique village has come to light through its bank report, just filed with the state banking department.

But for that and the diligence of reporter the world would never have known of this paradise in the heart of America. Garnaville citizens are indeed to be congratulated. They have solved the age-old problem of content and happiness in these times of struggle and dissatisfaction. They are sufficient unto themselves and the rest of the world envies them and their community. May they live long, continue to prosper and set an example of citizenship in this hurry-burry struggle of modern civilization.—Washington (D. C.) Star

A UNIQUE PARADISE. The American paradise has been discovered! The place where every one wishes to live—in short, the ideal community has been unearthed. Hidden away in Clayton county, Iowa, is the tiny village of Garnaville. Its inhabitants number 342. Every man owns his own home and is engaged in gainful occupation. It has no jail. There has not been an arrest within the memory of the oldest native. It is six miles from the railroad, a bus has replaced the old stage coach which, before the days of steam, ferried to meet the boats that docked nearby. One hardware and one furniture store as well as a few grocery stores and markets supply the needs of the people. One

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The Release of Woman WHEN early man lived in the trees, housework was simple and easy of accomplishment. With the building of the first house, woman's hard domestic labors started—to continue till only the other day, so-to-speak. Electricity now gives the housewife freedom from the tiring tasks of the home. With little effort, and at a cost of but two or three cents an hour, her washing, ironing, or sweeping, is quickly done. She gains leisure for the pleasanter things of life. Electric household appliances are sold generally throughout the city. Prices and terms place them within the reach of all. THE DETROIT EDISON COMPANY