

BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC

(Founded in 1875 by Whitehead & Mitchell)
Published every Friday at Birmingham, Michigan, in The Eccentric Building, 126-128 North Woodward Avenue. Telephone 211 and 12.

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Entered as Second-Class matter in the U. S. Postoffice at Birmingham, Mich.

Subscription Rates: (In Oakland County) One Year \$2.50, Six Months \$1.50, Three Months \$1.00. All newspaper and advertising copy must be in the Eccentric office by Wednesday noon to obtain insertion for that week.

THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 1926.

THE REAL ISSUE IN MICHIGAN

The Eccentric, as you may have noticed, has taken a definite stand in the coming gubernatorial election, for the defeat of autocracy; it stands in violation for the preservation of democracy under constitutional government.

We wish to make it plain that the issue in Michigan today is, as we view it, clear-cut and extremely simple. It has nothing to do with the personal lives of Groesbeck, Green or Comstock; it has nothing to do, however, with the kind of ideas that they represent.

Mr. Groesbeck has assumed the attitude of an autocrat in Michigan's state affairs. He would administer government in much the same method that monarchs and despots did centuries ago. He would remove government from the hands of the governed—a thing that the world struggled through centuries of agony and travail to attain.

If Mr. Groesbeck is re-elected this fall it simply means that Michigan stands for autocracy; it means that those who elected him are willing to submit to a one-man government. It means that Michigan is opposed to real representative government. Theoretically, it means the secession of Michigan from the Union.

Shall Autocracy, Despotism, occupy the Governor's chair in Michigan?

FAREWELL, FOR A FEW WEEKS

Well, folks, by the time the next issue of The Eccentric reaches you Ye Ed and Missus Ed will be more than a day's walk from the 'old home town.' Saturday we are leaving for three weeks in Denver and Yellowstone National Park.

OUT OF POLITICS

The Grand Rapids Herald emits the following chuckle over Governor Groesbeck's announcement that the highway program is "out of politics."

"On the Herald's own state page we read that there seems to be a strong element in Mecosta county in favor of Governor Groesbeck's re-election following his recent announcement that M-13 will be paved to Howard City this summer." Then—down in another corner of the state—we read in the Adrian Telegram: "Praise Alex Groesbeck from whom all blessings flow; now if the governor has announced that M-80 will be built at once; now if the governor can get Adrian a new union station, we're willing to deem him the city hall."

FAILURE AND SUCCESS

Are you discouraged by failure? Then you will fail. Most of the little failures and little successes are unimportant skirmishes in the battle of life. They are the maneuvering, the testing of the opposing lines, the finding of weak spots and strong spots.

In the hour of skirmish lost, or in the zest of skirmish won, it is well to remember that the great battle is yet to be fought. The man who is stricken in heart by the little defeats and the man who is pained in mind by the little victories will be on a par when the real test comes.

Our little failures and little successes are about equally willing to serve us. They will be very useful if we give them the chance. But if we accept either blindly, as the gift of fate and circumstances, we might as well quit the fight.

The man who, in defeat, can put his finger on the cause of his defeat—the where, the why, the how of it—is already well on the road to ultimate victory.

And the man who, in victory, knows how he won, and wherefore, will win again, and more gloriously!

The person who pines over his hard luck needs to spruce up a bit.

Two popular musical instruments are the dinner horn and the horn of plenty.

Love in a cottage isn't what it was when one could be rented for \$10 a month.

WHERE HELP IS NEEDED



The man with the proper civic spirit investigates before he criticizes. He takes the trouble to look into the future of his own home town before he condemns it.

The trouble with most critics, as with the knocker in this picture, is that they do not know enough about the things they criticize. Constructive criticism is valuable because it carries with it a full knowledge of the situation, but just mere knocking is ignorance on a rampage.

There is nothing elevating or enlightening in continually finding fault, yet the small city frequently has this type of citizen with which to contend; a small minority which thinks the town is not good enough for them. But if it depended on their efforts, there would be no town at all.

If you know anyone in Birmingham who cannot see the advantages of making this a bigger and better town, get him to climb the ladder as our booster friend in the picture has done, and maybe he will drop the ax, for he will see fruits galore, enough for him and everybody in the town.

PICKING FLOWERS

There's not a tumbler left upon the shelf. The rooms resemble flower laden bowers. Perhaps a fairy or some sprightly elf Has whispered to the children, "Go pick flowers."

For they are picking blossoms all the day And hate to come indoors 'en when it showers. Their arms are just a mass of colors gay. They never seem to tire of picking flowers.

A bowl of weeds of variegated hue Adorns the window sill. Above them towers Some apple blossom blanches wet with dew. What happiness they find in picking flowers!

The wash bowl shimmers with a mass of gold While dandelions bloom. The daylight hours Speed by since Spring its treasures does unfold Oh joy of happy childhood—picking flowers!

I do not find the chicks shut in their coop, The cat beneath a box no longer cowers, Nor is sand strewn upon my kitchen stoves. The children are too busy picking flowers.

So many tasks, are mine. I cannot be Close by to guard their pranks, nor all the powers— That I possess need keep them mischief free. While Springtime bids them come and pick her flowers.

—Beatrice McDonald

FROM THE ECCENTRIC COLUMNS of Long Ago

Just Bits of News Cleaned From Old Files Of The Eccentric—The Items That Make Up The Historical Background Of The Birmingham Of Today

43 YEARS AGO Priebe, and Miss Martha Klein in Emma Souths the fore part of this week.

Somebody stole a pet mourning dove from Miss Katie Caswell and she wants the thief to bring it back, right away. Dye hear?

We would never have mentioned it but it must be true, for the father said so and it is a fact that the last time Whitehead was seen at the reunion, he was headed for Belle Isle with a red headed 200 lb. Irish girl.

A certain married man in this town gets up in the early hours on Monday morning, pounds out the week's washing, dresses the children, gets the breakfast, and then calls his wife to partake thereof with him. There's a pattern for you.

Hong Kong is to have a Chinese daily newspaper; the first on record.

Kalamazoo has a Tally Ho Coaching Club numbering 28 members. The means are already pledged to purchase coats and horses.

25 YEARS AGO Will Blumberg visited relatives in Flint the latter part of last week.

Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Mudge called on Mrs. D. Allison at Gilbert Lake last Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Campbell are at Ann Arbor this week to attend the graduating exercises of their daughter, Miss Zilpha, after a four years' course at that popular college, the U. of M.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Abelt and daughter, Alma, attended the wedding of Mrs. Abelt's brother, Charles...

Just To Make You Smile The While.

Two Hours Before the Past Scene: Independence Hall, Philadelphia. Time: July 4, 1776. Character: A galaxy of gallants. John Hancock, Chairman: Wal, by gum, I reckon I better sign this pesky thing.

Fountain Pen Maker: Here's a pen, John, it'll last you a lifetime. (Hancock takes pen in hand) Thrifty Ben Franklin: Wait a minute, John, maybe we can sell the movie rights to Yale University. Will Hayes: I forbid; they don't contribute toward my \$100,000 salary.

U. S. Grant: I'm going to sign these papers by gum, I'll fight out until the end if it takes all summer. Woodrow Wilson: Reimburse me, George, there's such a thing as a man's being too proud to fight. Marquis de Lafayette: Foot sweet, we've lost this—this—confound/prohibition. Will anyone go to France with me for one fine drunk?

"To Beat the Band" rather clever story is going the rounds concerning the municipal band of Palm Beach, Fla. Just how true it is we cannot vouch, but we pass it along for what it is worth: "The bell while the band was playing. Hot War while the Hot War in the Old Town Tonight" the Breakers Hotel took fire and burned to the ground.

A few days ago at Orlando the hand struck by "Keep the Home Fires Burning" and a \$20,000 warehouse a block away went up in smoke. Next day at Lake Eola, while the band poured forth the strains of "Red Hot Mama" fire broke out in a private hospital just across the lake. Fire Chief Alfred Soller has warned the leader to refrain from playing any more musical hot stuff.

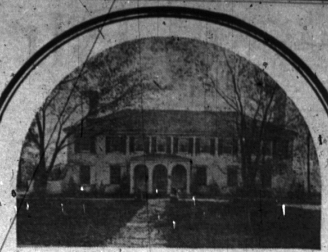
Barber: Your hair is falling out on top, sir. Have you tried our hair restorer? Customer: No, it wasn't that, it was worry.—Boston Beanpot.

"Yes," sighed the steak as it escaped from the office, "I've been working under pressure all morning, and I'm completely exhausted." Drexard.

Ma: Where's the cow, Johnnie? Johnnie: I can't get her home; she's down by the railroad track firing with the tobacco sign.—Arizona Kitty Kat.

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