BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC

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GEORGE RODGERS AMERILL - Editor and Publisher

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FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 1926

OPPORTUNITY IS AT HAND—

We wonder just how many local and nearby people are aware of the tremendous increase that has taken place in property values in this vicinity during the past few years, and of the continued increases that will occur as even the next few years pass; if people only knew that, as far as material wealth is concerned, land is about the best thing they can possess, they would not hesitate to make their investments in real estate.

It has been said that many people always go on the theory that opportunity lies "just around the corner." By that it is meant that people are prone to believe that "the next pasture is better," and they, therefore, overlook opportunities that often lie i ntheir own yards.

If we had money to invest we would look no further than the immediate landscape; we consider that Oakland County, especially the southern part of it, will create greater investment returns than almost any spot on earth —even including Florida.

THIS VERSATILE MONTH

All of the evidence considered, it is agreed that the month of March is the dissenting member, the erratic revolutionary, the most fickle of the fickle and the most irresponsible of the undependable among the 12 major divisions of the calendar year. It is born of both winter and spring by virtue of the calendar and weather tradition. It is nature's sample case. There are weather reasons for the existence of the "crazy March hare" and the prophetic association of March with the lion and the lamb.

Throughout the major portion of the United States the month of March is welcomed because it marks the death of winter and the birth of spring. Among the time honored days of the year none is quite so well-met and joyfully received, as March 21, the first day of spring. Sometimes the first day of spring does not live up to its calendar designation and harsh winds or deadening snows strive for supremacy over the urge of spring, but to no avail.

March was made famous by the first day of spring, but to many was made infamous by the income tax, for March 15 is annually designated as the final day on which the income tax returns may be filed without penalty. Perhaps the coming of spring will bring a ray of hope to those who have six days before penalized their incomes.

The third month of the year brings St. Patrick's Day, observed on March 17. March is also the anniversary month of the introduction of the postage stamp in the United States, of Perry's opening of Japan, of the Alaska purchase and of the battle of the Merrimac and Monitor.

In closing March abdicates in favor of April with her moving day, showers and garden making.

THE "AUTOMOBILE POOR"

A motor mortgage company reports $500,000,000 in automobiles were bought on the installment plan last year and the retail clothiers' association cries "national ruin." Income tax returns show 4,000,000 people with incomes of more than $2,000, yet there are 10,192,000 registered automobiles. More cries of extravagance and ruin. Another report says there are 6,000,000 people earning less than $40 a week who own automobiles. A panic is inevitable, is the reverberating answer. But then upon the top of it all banks announce more and larger savings accounts and the life insurance companies are thriving on a 17 per cent increase in issued insurance.

Solace for the calamity howlers may be found in the statistical report that the bad accounts among the automobile installment plan buyers amounted to less than one per cent of the huge amount involved last year. At least the "extravagant poor" are paying their way.

Many incomes are mortgaged annually for the purchase of automobiles on periodic payments, also for the buying of homes, furniture, musical instruments, clothes and even life insurance. But for this plan of buying many of the joys and needs of modern life would be denied the masses. As long as the payments are paid on time there is no harm done, either personal, economic or social. Men and women have an inalienable right to spend their money where they will.

Should the visioners of an automobile-induced economic disaster acquire legislative control there may eventually be an un-American attempt to deny the poor the joys of the open road and cheap transportation. Thus far no such control has developed and the "calm and collected" feel assured that if the case is as bad as painted it will cure itself where the cure is most needed. The maxim that the law does not concern itself with trifles is more honored in the breach than in the observance, and yet it is applicable to larger and more serious matters than the purchase of automobiles.

As a rule, as you look so are you looked upon.

The modern reformer apparently expects all to follow his "noes."

This rising generation against which you hear so many complaints got many of its faults from associating with its parents.

The hundred-yard dash and broad jump are popular college sports which may be encouraged by auto accident insurance companies.

They have picked out "another" wife for the Prince of Wales. He doesn't have to worry about the matter at all. There are advantages in being a prince.

It is no more than just that railroad travel should be safer, as it has been shown to be. We should have something for the extra cost.

SPRING WILL COME

The ground is white with glist'ning snow, a coverlet so fair
That hides Old Mother Earth awhile and covers up the bare
Brown places where the grass is dead and every shabby thing,
And when the snow is gone we shall be nearer golden spring.

Although the time seems long, we know the days are slipping by,
That winter with his hoary head will surely fade and die.
The happy birds will sing once more, the trees come into bud,
The grass will grow and violets come peeping through the mud.

Perhaps within our hearts there lies a sad and bitter ache.
Careworn and wearily we tread, nor care which path we take.
Yet sunny days are bound to come, e'en now are on the wing
When grief and care shall lose themselves in glorious days of spring.

—Beatrice McDonald.

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

The Silver Grays party at National Hall Friday evening last was a little more successful than the last one, if indeed there was any perceptible difference where they were both so hugely enjoyed by all the participants. Mine host Daines' supper was elegant and bounteous, the music was all that would be desired and the appreciative capacity of the guests was steady, at 150 degrees in the shade. What more can a poor perspiring mortal want?

The whist club meets at Edwin Baldwin's tomorrow evening.

Joe Donaldson and Sam Herbison, two of Birmingham's best young men, have been prospecting in and around Lad Axe, Mich. They report the house of Wm. Hawley & Co., as flourishing are much in love with the country. Joe bought 80 acres of good farm land and Sam has his eye on a paying speculation.

Everybody should attend the play "Esmeralda," given by the B'ham Dramatic Society, Thursday evening, March 20, at National Hall for the benefit of the widow Mrs. Reffenburg. There will be a dance after the play with music donated by the B'ham Orchestra. We hope there will be a general turn out, as it is not only a good purpose but a very good play and we think everybody will have value received for their money in a good hearty laugh. The price of admission to the hall will be 25 cents children 15 cents. "Those who dance must pay pay the fiddler" which will be 25 cents more.

The L. L. A. have added the following works: "Outre Mer", "Wise or Otherwise", "Hoosier School Boy", by Ralph Waldo Emerson.

25 YEARS AGO

Lost—a riding spur somewhere within one mile of Birmingham, Bertha A. Bigelow.

J. D. Corey of Jackson was the guest of his aunt, Mrs. Nellie Camp, one day last week.

G. E. Coe ran of Port Huron was the guest of his sister, Mrs. Seeley Peck, the first of the week.

Miss Sadie Sly left Detroit Tuesday with a party of friends and will spend six weeks visiting points of interest in Cuba and Florida.

Mrs. Ellen F. Peabody is home again after a winter's absence from her home. She is not very well just now, the effects of a hard cold.

J. Allen Bigelow is undergoing all the pleasures of a man buying a piano—he is contemplating putting in a hot water heating plant, and with prices, agents, and everything else, life is more than a dream.

One of the Sunday School classes of the M. E. church surprised their teacher, Fred V. Quarton, on the evening of his birthday, March 12. Everything tended toward a pleasant time. After amusing themselves with various games and indulging in a dainty repast the company adjourned.

As a result of jumping from a two story window at the Olds Motor Works fire Saturday last, Will Van Every lies at Harper Hospital, Detroit, with the instep of his right foot broken and other bruises. The young man had a miraculous escape from death and his freinds are very glad that his injuries are not worse. He was an employe of the Olds Motor Co., and it is expected that he will be brought to his home in this place in a few weeks.

The Other Chap Says Something—

CHRISTIANITY AND PROGRESS

Readers of the The Gazette may recall an item on this page recently setting forth the fact that Merton Rice, a former Emporian, is pastor of a new $1,500,000 church at Detroit, that it took in 500 new members the day it was dedicated, at which service four Methodist bishops presided. The well esteemed Lyons Daily News commenting on this occurrence, sets forth this reservation to the wisdom of building of a million dollar church: "If within its sight widows and orphans never starve, children are warmly clad, men receive for their labor more than enough to keep body and soul together, if its members take to their homes the unfortunate and feed them and give them beds, if it is not forgotten that Christ broke bread with beggars, preached under the trees, slept on the ground and refused purse and scrip, the new church will well be worth what it cost. Otherwise it would have been better to have built a church that cost not to exceed $1,000,000 and given the $1,400,000 to alleviate the suffering of the poor."

All of which sounds reasonable but it is not. The condition of the poor in America is bad, so bad, indeed that it is a shame to call this a Christian nation. But because it is a Christian civilization the condition of the poor in Christendom is so far above the condition of the poor in non-Christian world, that comparisons are impossible. Only contrasts will describe the horrible difference.

Now this vast difference, this unbelievable improvement of the condition of the poor in Christendom is due not directly, but indirectly. It is because church members "take to their homes the unfortunate and feed them," nor is the slow abolishment of poverty due to any humanitarian desire to help any one, but considering widows and orphans around the churches. We are abolishing poverty in Christendom and particularly in America by Christian institutions —by free public schools, by the ballot box, by the Declaration of Independence, by inculcating the dynamic into the humblest man, and so breaking up the age old caste system.

We are making citizens in our democracy who demand for themselves rights, and charity. And every Christian church where the Golden Rule is preached, however, gummed over with foolish theology, is a filling station of economic justice for the poor. It is by preaching "Christ had been crucified" for 2,000 years with all the bigotry, all the hatred, all the weird theology, all the engrafting of pagan myths upon the ecclesiastical creed, and in spite of these terrible handicaps,—it is by preaching the Living Christ that the world has been made over in 2,000 years. What a revolutionary doctrine it is!

Every Christian edifice keeps 10,000 times more than its cost. The mere $1,500,000 which the Detroit church spent, given in charity, would be a bubble soon lost. But invested in a permanent plant for the dissemination of brotherhood no matter what fools come along in the pulpit with distracting theology as the centuries pass, is a wedge biting in the existing social order. The wedge will make way for light finally, heading into the perfect day.—William Allen White in Emporia (Kansas) Gazette.

She's "Queen"

Miss Maria Casper, named "queen" of the junior prom at Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wis., is a "home girl," and likes to bake pies.

Heavy Eaters, Read!

A Moscow scientist claims to have discovered a "hunger center" in the brain, which controls the appetite, and which proves that hunger is not in the stomach but in the head. He states that an injury to this "center" may create an abnormal appetite, or it may kill any desire for food.

Obituary

William Baum.

A life long resident of Oakland County and well known to many of the older people in Birmingham where he lived 15 years ago, William Baum, 71 years old, died after a short illnes at the home of his sister, Mrs. Charles Moore on Auburn avenue, Pontiac, last Thursday. He was buried on Saturday in Crooks Cemetery with the Reverend Decatur Lacy officiating. He is survived by another sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Park, who lives with Mrs. Moore, and two brothers, John in Pontiac, and George living at Clarkston.

Mr. Baum who was born in Troy came to Birmingham as a young man and worked in the livery stable of J. Beatty for several years. Then he built his own stable which is now the Birmingham Dairy on East Maple avenue and ran it for about 30 years. Until taken sick he managed a farm near Rochester.

EXCELLENT ATTRACTIONS AT THE BALDWIN NEXT WEEK

Many excellent attractions are coming to the popular Baldwin theatre next week.

Starting Sunday, March 7th, and for that day only, continuous 2:30 to 10 p. m., Betty Brunson and Neil Hamilton in "The Golden Princess." A flashing melo-romance of the California gold rush.

On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, March 8, 9, 10, Norma Shearer, Lew Cody and an exceptional cast in a human sparkling romance of business life, "His Secretary."

For the final three days of the week "A Woman of the World," a stirring mixture of emotional thrills, spirited drama and rollicking humor, laid against a typical small town back-ground. Pola Negri in a modern American play with Chas. Emmitt, Mack Holmes, Herbert and Guy Oliver.

Attractive bills of vaudeville or acts each will be presented in connection with the above film features. Also the popular Pathe News of current events. The Pathe Review and many other novelties will round out the program.

Thomas Meighan in "Irish Luck" is the film attraction for the last half of this week including Saturday, March 6.

AT B. F. KEITH'S TEMPLE THEATER, DETROIT, MICH.

Margaret Young, vocal characteriste and favorite phonograph artiste headlines the bill at B. F. Keith's Temple Theater starting Sunday matinee, March 7. Miss Young was born in Detroit and made her stage debut at the Temple Theatre, where she will offer a program of exclusive song numbers. No one who comes to B. F. Keith's Temple is any more popular than Margaret Young. Others listed: Odiva, the water queen and her human seals; Walls Sharples and his musical revue; "Smile A While," with Rae Farlow, Jack Hughes, Al Green, Kathryn McLaughlin, Dolly Manners and Eva Knapp; Twelve Jackson Girls in a program of English unity dancing; Margit Ivgesoff, pianier violinist with Josef Berne at the piano; Olivette Haynes and Fred F. Beck in a character comedy offering "Her Guardian;" Jack Hayes, Sally Marsh and Lucille Hayes in a song and dance revue and the usual screen program.

PEN PoINTERS

Sweetheart's letters are something to put away for a rainy day

• • •

A tramp's only visible means of support are his suspenders

• • •

It used to be the small boy who was shingled. Now it's his sister

• • •

Although Henry Ford's great achievement was a flivver it was a success

• • •

The father who used to punish his son with a buggy whip now probably uses the automobile crank

• • •

It took Jack Frost to convince the girls that rolled hose weren't just the proper things

• • •

Some persons can seek shelter on rainy days. Others are traffic cops

Floating Oil Refineries

Whale oil is now being extracted by Norwegian companies in floating oil refineries equipped with machinery for hauling the whales on board in the open sea.

Birmingham People Have A Wonderful Opportunity!

EVERY DAY, Birmingham-Bloomfield Hills property is becoming more valuable—more sought after. Much of the profit in Detroit real estate has been made by people from other cities who saw the Opportunity better than Detroiters themselves. Don't let the fact that YOU are so CLOSE to Detroit's greatest suburban development dim your vision of the OPPORTUNITY you have for profitable investment. NOW is the time to buy. Spring always brings activity—higher prices.

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DETROIT OFFICE: Penobscot Building - - Cherry 6500

BIRMINGHAM REPRESENTATIVES:

T. B. Lunsombe, Jr., L. H. Wilson, Ralph Hoofnagle, L. D. Atherton, James J. Martindale, Joseph Grinsell, W. E. Atkins, Leo R. Lamiman, Mary Manchester, Margaret Crawford

ANNEXATION ELECTION NOTICE

To the qualified electors of the Township of Troy and the Village of Birmingham, County of Oakland, State of Michigan:

Notice is hereby given that at the Spring Election to be held on Monday, April 5, 1926, there will be submitted to the electors of said Township and Village the question of annexation of certain territory to the Village of Birmingham.

By the Board of Supervisors of the County of Oakland, State of Michigan.

Gentlemen:

We, the undersigned, pursuant to the provisions of Act No. 279 of the Public Acts of 1909 entitled "An Act to provide for the incorporation of the Villages and for revising and amending their charters and the Acts amendatory thereof respectfully represent as follows:

1. Each and all of the signers of this petition are qualified electors and reside within the Village of Birmingham or Township of Troy, which said Village of Birmingham and Township of Troy are to be affected by the change proposed in this petition.

2. Your petitioners severally reside within said Village or said Township at the address set opposite their respective names.

3. Not less than 75 of the undersigned petitioners reside in the Village of Birmingham, and not less than 25 of the undersigned petitioners reside in the Township of Troy.

4. According to the last preceding United States Census the population of the Village of Birmingham was 3691; the population of the Township of Troy was 2500. The undersigned petitioners numbering collectively 102 constitute more than one per centum of the population of said territory to be affected by your affirmative action on this petition.

5. Your petitioners pray that all of that part of Troy Township, Oakland County, Michigan, included in the following description, viz:

Beginning at the S. W. corner of Section 31, Town 2 North, Range 11, East, Troy Twp., Oakland County, Mich., thence North along section line 2632 ft. more or less to the E. ¼ corner of Section 36 Bloomfield Twp. thence N. 89° 30' W. along west line of said section 31, 1066.8 ft., thence S. 89° 35' E. 20.118 ft., thence S. 2° 05' 20" W. 902.34 ft. thence N. 89° 01' 30" W. 671.00 ft. thence S. 1° 25' 10" E. 1730.6 ft. thence S. 78° 04" W. 499.51 ft. to East line of Grand Trunk Right of Way; thence S. 33° 25' 40" East along said East right of way 926.53 ft. thence S. 1° 24' 40" E. 120.27 feet to south line of said Section 31, thence West along section line 1350.0 feet more or less to point of beginning, the above description being all of Leibach-Humphrey's Woodward Ave. Subdivision lying in Troy Township

January 16, 1926.

I, Hazel E. Lawler, Clerk of Village of Birmingham, do hereby certify that I have examined the list of voters on the attached petition for the Village, and find that 77 names are registered voters of the Village of Birmingham.

HAZEL E. LAWLER,
Village Clerk.

January 15, 1926.

I, Carrie M. Miller, Clerk of Township of Troy, do hereby certify that I have examined the list of electors on the attached petition for the Township of Troy, and find that twenty-five signers are registered voters of the Township of Troy.

(Signed) GARNER M. MILLER,
Township Clerk.

State of Michigan
County of Oakland

Wm. C. Morrison, being duly sworn, deposes and says as follows that he resides in the Township of Troy, Oakland County, state of Michigan, and is one of the petitioners in the annexation petition directed to the Board of Supervisors of the County of Oakland, State of Michigan and which said petition prays that the territory described therein being part of the Township of Troy, Oakland County, Michigan, be added to the Village of Birmingham. That said petition correctly described the proposed boundaries of the territory to be annexed to the Village of Birmingham; that said petition is signed by more than twenty-five electors that each and all of said petitioners are qualified electors residing within the Village of Birmingham and Township of Troy, which said Village of Birmingham and Township of Troy are to be affected thereby, and respectively said petitioners constitutes a number not less than one per centum of the population of the territory affected according to the last preceding United States Census; that the total number of said petitioners is not less than One Hundred (100) and more than Seventy-five (75) of the signatures to the said petition were obtained from the Village of Birmingham and not more than Twenty-five (25) of the signatures to the said petition were obtained from the Township of Troy.

Deponent furthely states that all of the statements contained in said petition are true to the best of the deponent's knowledge and belief.

And further deponent says not.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 4th day of Dec. A. D. 1925.

ROBERT Y. MOORE,
Notary Public.

My commission expires Aug. 23, 1927.

State of Michigan
County of Oakland
ss.

I, Burton P. Daugherty, Clerk of the Circuit Court for the County of Oakland, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the petition of the residents of Township of Troy and the Village of Birmingham, for the annexation of the territory to the Village of Birmingham from the Township of Troy, as filed with the County Clerk, also of the recommendation and resolution of the Board of Supervisors, as passed at their special session held on February 15, 1926, and now on file in my office, that I have compared the same with the original and is a true and correct transcript therefrom and of the whole thereof.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Court at Pontiac, Michigan, this 15th day of February A. D. 1926.

BURTON P. DAUGHERTY,
Clerk Circuit Court.

The polls of said election will be open at 8:00 o'clock a. m., and will remain open until 9:00 o'clock p. m., (Eastern Standard Time) on said day of election, unless the Board of Election Inspectors shall, in their discretion, adjourn the polls at 12 o'clock noon, for one hour.

(Signed) GARNER MILLER,
Troy Township Clerk.

Dated Feburary 22, 1926. 45-46-47-48.

You will find a harvest of bargains listed in the Eccentric's classified columns on page six. Read and use this Column when you want to buy, sell, rent, or exchange anything. If pays to read the classified advertisements in any newspaper. adv-2217

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Troy Township Clerk.

Dated February 22, 1926. 45-46-47-48.

READ THE WANT ADS