

BIRMINGHAM, ECCENTRIC

(Founded in 1978 by Whitehead & Mitchell)
 Published every Friday at Birmingham, Michigan, in The Eccentric Building,
 122-123 North Woodward Avenue. Telephone 11 and 12.
GEORGE ROGERS AVERILL
 Editor and Publisher

Entered as Second-Class matter in the U. S. Postoffice at Birmingham, Mich.
 Subscription Rates (In Calendar Year)
 One Year \$1.50
 Six Months .75
 Three Months .35
 Single Copies 10c
 Outside Calendar Year
 One Year \$2.00
 Six Months 1.00
 Three Months .50

THURSDAY, MAY 27, 1926

MEMORIAL DAY

In Flanders fields the poppies grow between the crosses, row on row—
 And in countless green hillsides of America today,
 roses and peonies, hawthorn and lily, are wind blown as they mantle the graves of our dead—the graves of our soldier dead and the graves of our civilian dead—just those we loved a little while and lost.
 "In Flanders fields the poppies grow.
 Between the crosses, row on row,
 That mark our place, and in the sky
 The larks, still bravely singing, fly,
 Scarce heard amid the guns below."
 Strangely enough, the least known of any line in this best known of all Memorial Day poems, is the line of hope buried therein—
 "The larks, still bravely singing, fly—"
 Not Death itself can still life, says the poem.
 Not even green graves where sleep those loved by us who bear them blossoms of memory, can choke the singing something within each and every one of us, which reaches out for life and more life abundant.
 The dead would wish it so. Memories and love for them, yes. Blossoms abound in the heart for them each day, even as they bloom upon their graves this Memorial Day. But no dirge. No cloud upon the days.
 Just "a carrying on" they ask of us. Our home dead ask for a "carrying on" of living, even though living without the beacon light of love, seems an empty thing.
 Our soldier dead—those brave, gallant, laughing soldier dead of '61, of '98 and of '18, ask for a "carrying on," of no compromise with the foe when right is right—
 "Take up our quarrel with the foe:
 To you from falling hands we throw
 The torch; be yours to hold it high!"
 Memorial Day is a day for the living as well as the dead. A day of challenge to "take up the torch and hold it high"—the torch of peace and eternal peace if these, our soldier dead, shall sleep where poppies grow in Flanders fields.

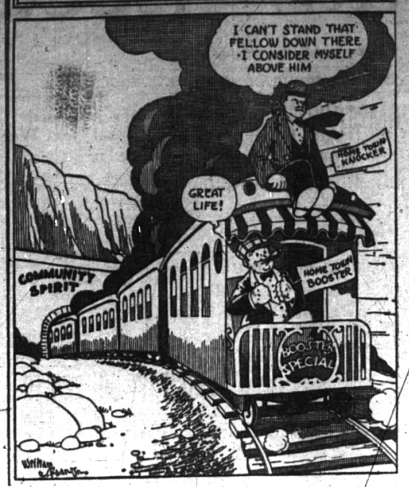
A VIEW OF PROHIBITION

Today the boozier gets his boozie and will always. But the man who is not a boozier does not have boozie poked under his nose by legalized institutions. There is the gain. In modern society where men find their level somewhat because of their specific spiritual gravity, it happens that those who have least self-control are at the bottom of the economic scale.
 Poor folks have poor ways, says the proverb, and poor ways make poor folks. So the open saloon was the constant byword of poverty because those along the lower economic levels could not control their appetites. Take away the saloon and the men along the fringe gain in economic status. Today under prohibition they are putting money in the bank and buying cars and living in better homes. The rich who are rich because they have self-control somewhat, and are greedy and grasping, but nevertheless self-controlled where self-control is a vice rather than a virtue can handle their liquor.
 So today the abolition of the saloon and the high price of boozie keeps temptation from the poor, and they save their money for better things.
 The rich get boozie, and it either damns them or doesn't, and no one cares, for it does not create an economic disturbance. Society does not have to pay for the wreck of the rich, however rotten their wreckage may be. So prohibition has accomplished its end. It has removed the temptation to drink too much from the poor who could not afford their extravagance and who passed their burden on to society.
 And prohibition has left the rich man his boozie, and if it sends him to hell, that's his lookout, and the quicker the better.
 The rich boozier is a rebel—a militant, insistent law-breaker. And that is bad for the morale of government, terribly bad. For the rich make customs by their examples for the human apes and monkey people.
 But from the purely economic standpoint, the present status is satisfactory, however deplorable may be the political and social consequences of that status.
 This is the cold-blooded reason why the wets never get anywhere politically, and never will. The heart of the country is convinced that prohibition pays in a cold-blooded economic way, that its ends have been accomplished and the heart of the country is willing to accept the present status without legalizing it in spite of the terrible moral and political menace which comes from a rebellious and indignant leadership among the rich.—William Allen White, in the Emporia (Kan.) Gazette.

FEWER SCHOOLHOUSES

Once America's pride, the "little red schoolhouse," with its barn-like single room and primitive equipment, is slowly but surely passing. More than 10,000 of these small district school buildings were abandoned in the past five years, their places being taken by the modern consolidated school.
 With the rapid extension of good roads and the employment of motor busses for the transportation of children to these larger institutions, it seems inevitable that the one-room school, with its many handicaps, will more and more rapidly disappear.
 While the district school must thus give place to a new and better system, it has filled, and is still filling a paramount role in the advancement of the nation. To the self-sacrificing labors of faithful teachers in these

DUE FOR A BUMP



The man who considers himself too big or too important to take an interest in local affairs is seldom missed. He may imagine he is traveling along above the rest of his townsmen, but no one envies him or seeks the perch upon which he rests.
 It is poor policy to run contrary to the community spirit of the home town. This is something for our mutual protection and benefit, so all effort should be devoted to building it up, not tearing it down or ignoring it.
 By setting himself up as better and above the town, the knocker imperils his own fortunes and opportunities. So long as he lives here, he must go along with Birmingham, and if he does not come down a bit and be sensible, he is apt to regret it.
 Besides, the booster is ready to testify that one can enjoy life immensely by holding the right attitude toward the community in which he lives.

ON MEMORIAL DAY

What peace and beauty mark these morning hours.
 We gently tread across the soft green sod
 To place our gifts of freshly gathered flowers
 And spend a while with those who live with God.
 We grieved for those dear ones who went away.
 Too heavy for our shoulders seemed the rod,
 And yet we would not wish them back today,
 Our dear loved ones who spend the hours with God.
 Kneeling beside the grassy flow'r strewn mound,
 We find a strength anew, then onward plod
 Upon our daily cares and pleasures bound,
 Yet close to those dear ones who are with God.
 —Beatrice McDonald.

rural schools many famous men and women owe their early education and inspiration.
 But the demands of progress must be met in education, as well as in all other phases of our increasingly complex civilization. The new and larger consolidated school, with its staff of better prepared teachers, its improved organization and its modern equipment, will mark an advance over the "little red school house" which must make for a more enlightened and efficient citizenship.

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
 Mrs. John Baldwin has visited relatives for several days at Fowler, Mich.
 Will Swan is home for a visit. He is now located at Kalamazoo.
 Volney Nixon with A. M. Knight, the "Pontiac drygoods man," was in town on Sunday.
 Miss Mattie Irving returned last week from a brief visit to friends and relatives in St. Louis, Mo.
 Miss Ella Beard of Detroit was the guest of Miss Allie Peabody last week and part of this, returning home on Friday last.
 Mrs. A. Whitehead, Jr., was the guest of Miss Nannie Hubbard of Detroit last week and was most hospitably entertained.
 C. A. Bigelow our Derby pitcher, is studying the piano, not to become a professional player but merely for his own "devotion."
 Mr. James VanEvery has surrounded his new dwelling with a very handsome fence painted in a very artistic manner by Nathan Fall.
 Miss Nettie Blumberg of Au Sable who has been making a delightful visit among friends and relatives in town for the past two weeks returned home on Monday last, taking the steamer, City of Cleveland, from Detroit.
 Mitchell was burning a pretty girl in the street the other day when someone informed him that his wife was just behind him, and he actually jumped so high that his clothes were all out of fashion when he came down again. Fact!
 More Commercial Advertiser fortunes: Master James VanEvery and his mother, Mrs. James VanEvery, both of this place, each drew \$10 in the late drawing of that periodical.
 Mrs. George H. Mitchell and Miss Maggie Craig visited relatives at Sashabaw Plains last week.

25 YEARS AGO
 Miss Grace Johnson of Southfield is the happy owner of a new wheel.
 Miss Almida Blunt entertained her niece from Detroit last week.
 Mrs. Margaret McKinney is home from a very pleasant visit at Philadelphia.
 If you want to sell your tobacco tin, Standard Navy, Old Honesty, Spear Head, Knobby Span Roll, etc., see Raynale Whiteland. He pays 60c a hundred for them and gives you the cash.
 Mrs. J. B. Craft of Dawn Mills, Ont., is visiting her daughter, Mrs. N. T. Shaw.
 Born to Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Thurlby of Bates street a 7-pound baby boy. All doing nicely.
 Mrs. Anna Howey of Detroit was a guest at the home of A. Bunyan one day last week.
 Louie Gravin fell from a tree Monday last breaking his leg. The lad is doing as well as could be expected under the circumstances.
 Miss Stella Conroy, a former teacher in the Birmingham High School, and now in the high school at Owosso, and Miss Grace Conroy of Ionia, who is a student at Ann Arbor, were entertained by their aunt, Mrs. Nellie Camp last week.
 "Born to Mr. and Mrs. Philip Schlaack, Tuesday, June 4, 1901, a fine baby boy. Everyone doing nicely.
 The Bloomfield Farmers' club met at Andrew Perry's Saturday last and most enjoyable time was had by all. A fine program was rendered and 75 cents set down to a most bounteous repast. The affairs of the club are reported to be in a very flourishing condition.
 Halsey Stephens and Rue VanEvery of Southfield made a flying trip to Detroit Friday.

WE HEARD IT SAID BY—

(Little Editorials picked up by the Staff in and around Birmingham.)
 Mrs. Ernest Abbott of Lincoln avenue: "To us, our residents of Birmingham, the present growth here is almost unbelievable. To watch the gradual influx of new residents into this community, and then see the rise in prices for real estate that are asked and really paid, makes us wonder if we are not in a kind of fairyland. Thirty and forty years ago I could have bought many acres of land here for the price that some individual lots now bring."
 Simon C. Mills of Hamilton avenue: "Trout—did you say? Why say I remember when I used to catch all the speckled brook trout that I wanted in the River Rouge right in Birmingham. In those days—forty years ago—the little streams around Birmingham were as filled with trout as any of our northern streams are today."
 Miss Martie Sly, of East Maple avenue: "Birmingham certainly is growing rapidly these days. Until recently Birmingham was really a part of the country; now the 'country' is situated miles north of us. Such is the progress of a pretty suburb to a large city like Detroit."
 Charles J. Shain, village president: "People who are liable to special assessments for such village improvements as sanitary sewers, pavement and other road improvements, may escape the payment of interest on their share of the cost if they pay their assessment before we sell the bonds. Of course, five years are allowed to pay for any improvement, but paying this way carries a six per cent interest charge. After the bonds are sold, however, full interest is charged even though the property owners are willing to pay the entire remaining installments."
 Dr. Warren P. Gibson, Beverly Hills, recently moved from Detroit: "My clientele includes mostly Detroiters but since moving out here I have felt the urge to include mostly, if not entirely, local residents in my clientele. The country and everything out here is so inviting and when contrasted with Detroit it would seem that nothing is left to be wished for."
 Mrs. Myra Bassett, of Martin street: "It isn't very agreeable to have a line of autos and wagons parked in front of one's house all day long. The ground in back of the Methodist Church isn't used for anything at present. Why not give that over to parking?"

TO BUY MUNICIPAL SITE
 At a meeting of the village commission Wednesday night of last week property owners of land in the block bounded by Martin, Merrill, Pierce and Henrietta streets, which the village seeks to acquire for municipal purposes, were asked to submit sealed proposals of price they expect for their holdings. The proposals will be opened next Tuesday evening, June 1.

MUNICIPAL FIRE WORKS
 The village commission Monday night, in response to a request from the local American Legion Post, agreed to contribute \$100 for the purchase of fireworks to be set off Fourth of July evening. This Fourth commemorates the 130th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

DIRECTORY
FIRE COMPENSATION BURGLARY AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE AND BONDS
Oakland Realty Co.
 T. D. LYNCH - Manager
 LEVINSON BLDG.
 Phone 143-W

Shock & Ogden
 General Practice of Law
 Suite 4, First Nat'l Bk. Bldg.
 Phone Birmingham 1055

Dr. Mabel Campbell
 OSTEOPATHIC PHYSICIAN
 312 First National Bank Bldg
 PONTIAC
 Phone Pontiac 3147
 Hours: 9-12, 1-5—and by appointment

Wormer & Moore
 REAL ESTATE
 —BIRMINGHAM
 —ROCHESTER
 —BLOOMFIELD HILLS
 —SOUTHFIELD
 Main Office:
 2231 PARK AVE., DETROIT
 Phone 4885
 Birmingham Office:
 520 S. Woodward Ave.
 PHONE 930

W. S. McAlpine
 Engineering Co.
 SURVEYING
 Farm and Lot Surveys Made Quickly and Accurately
 REGISTERED SURVEYOR
 Telephone 805
 508 S. Woodward - Birmingham

Maurice E. Baldwin
 COUNTY SURVEYOR
 103 1/2 N. Saginaw St., Pontiac, Mich.
 Municipal Engineering - Subdivisions
 Topographical and Drainage Surveys
 Room 1012 B. B. Bldg.
 Res. Phone 2805—Office Phone 2313

Allen Engineering Co.
 ENGINEERING AND SURVEYING OF ANY DESCRIPTION
 "Rush" Farm Surveys
 a Specialty
 Telephone 1383M
 Office: Room 3, First State Bank



Five Fine Homes for your selection.
 All Conveniences and ready to move into.
 Lot bargains in Quarter on Lake Estates Golf View Heights
 Several very desirable acreage parcels in Bloomfield Hills. Good Terms.
 Twenty developments to choose from
Walsh, James & Wasey Co.
 1530 Penobscot Bldg.
 Office Also in Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills
 Jay A. Walsh Donald D. James Carl L. Bradt
 Albert W. Wasey W. Whiting Raymond

PRICES DO NOT INCLUDE LAMPS
Have artistic lighting—Save 25%
 Trade in your old fixtures for
Riddle
 DECORATIVE LIGHTING FITMENTS
 The standard of home lighting
HAWTHORNE ELECTRIC CO.
 124 West Maple Phone 299
 Authorized Riddle Dealer

Have Perfect Floors
 Old Floors Made Like New - New Floors Made Perfect
Pullin & Tilden
 SANDING AND LAYING
 Birmingham 549

Painting Decorating Paperhanging
 Paperhanging a Specialty
 ESTIMATES FREE
A. E. FUHRMAN & SON
 1112 Lincoln Ave.
 Phone 1016