

FROM THE ECCENTRIC COLUMNS of Long Ago

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. E. S. Wooster and son Ernest, visited Levi Wooster and wife, Clyde last week. They found Levi nailing on shoes at his usual rapid rate, and alive and well. They also visited friends at Highland and had a delightful time and visit all around.

Mrs. C. W. Bruce desires to go out of the bird business and notices us that she will sell all her canary birds at a very reasonable rate. Those desiring a good singer will do well to avail themselves of this opportunity.

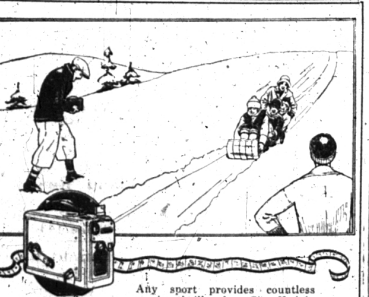
The school in District No. 3 of Southfield closed on Friday last after a successful term of four months, and the kind scholars of said school, wishing to show their teacher, Miss Mattie Wooster, a token of their regard for her, pre-

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SHAIN'S West Maple Avenue The Rexall Drug Store Birmingham, Mich. FOUR REGISTERED PHARMACISTS Miss E. J. Bassett Mr. C. J. Shain Mr. Frank Willey Mr. G. E. Cook

JUST TO LAUGH

Just to laugh when grim old Trouble Comes a sprinting down our way, Just to laugh and then shout boldly "There is no one home today." We are not at home with Trouble. Come along with sombre face, Though bright Smiles and golden Laughter We receive with finest grace.

Just to laugh when Greed and Hatred Come a tapping at our door, Just to laugh and call "We haven't Space inside for any more. We are entertaining Friendship, Fine Good-Will and Charity, But they would not tarry longer If your face they should see."

Just to laugh at Lust and Envy, Bid them travel on the run, Just to laugh, while at our fireside Sit gay joy and wholesome Fun. Loving Kindness, Truth and Beauty Dwell within at our behest. Fill our portals, leaving room for No unwelcome hostile guest. —Beatrice McDonald.

North Hill, spent Sunday with J. D. Van Ever, and family. Are you ready for a choice of new village officers? The time is soon coming, and let us make a wise choice, selecting the best man for the place regardless of politics.

There is a light seen awful late 'nights nowadays in the wonder E. C. is up at such hours filling the coal stove again or doctoring his corals.

"See my chops" is the expressive salutation of the younger population of Birmingham.

We understand that S. Groves, Sr., of the first community which has had to face this problem, usually the movie interests have won, but in at least one instance, a satisfactory and workable solution was reached, which satisfied both sides.

The party given by Mrs. Fish last Friday evening for the Macabees was in every way a success. The evening was passed with cards and dancing. Music was furnished by Mr. and Mrs. Jarner Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Noble Grovelin, and Messrs. Norton and Burt McHenry.

Ralph Beddow, of Southfield, is sick with pneumonia. A. A. Gibbs, of Big Beaver, attended the Lincoln banquet at Pontiac last week.

Miss Martha Baldwin organized a village improvement society at Clawson one day last week.

The little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Percy Parmenter has been pilled with congestion of the lungs, but is better at this writing.

Mrs. H. J. Bowers and Mrs. Laura Pearsall, of Clawson, spent a few days last week at Mt. Clemens, taking baths.

An exchange tells of a clergyman who made a very bad break at a funeral and caused dire consideration among the friends of the deceased. The reverend gentleman had grown very tired of the regulation expressions and he same form of announcements. He decided to try his new departure in announcements, and accordingly finished preaching the funeral sermon, said, "An opportunity will now be given to pass around the beer."

Walled Lake has produced the fish story for Oakland county. Last summer Jerome Compton, of that place, while fishing, accidentally lost a gold watch and chain in Walled Lake. A few weeks ago his son James was fishing through the ice and caught a pike, weighing over 10 pounds. He proposed to dispose of the fish by shaking dice at five cents a piece and A. Hantley, of Detroit, won the pike, which he carried over to Frank Angel of the Great Lakes. On returning home, Frank Angel was astonished to find a watch and chain, on the chain of which were engraved the letters "J. C. Walled Lake."

DOEMST I LOVE BY CHARLES HANSON TOWNE By Charles Hanson Towne "Departure," by Emily Dickinson. Once more I must quote a remarkable poem of Miss Dickinson's. If I can succeed in widening this really great American poet's audience, I will feel richly repaid. A complete edition of her poems was edited by Mabel Loomis Todd and Thomas Wentworth Higginson in 1890, and may be obtained at any library. Those interested in the progress of poetry in this country cannot neglect so important a figure of that period of the past century which was rich in lyrical manifestations. Miss Dickinson stands supreme and almost alone amid the magic of the conventional poets. Her work bears the imprint of an original genius. Departed to the judgment. A mighty afternoon: Great clouds like ushers leaning, Creation looking on. The flash surrendered, cancelled, The bodiless began, Two worlds, like audiences, disperse And leave the soul alone. Time is the jokesmith's greatest enemy. Whence about the border-line, the postage paid, and the income tax blank are almost played out.

WE HEARD IT SAID BY—

(Little Editorials picked up by the Staff in and around Birmingham)

Edith McKinney, secretary of the Hill School Parent-Teachers' association: "We wish to congratulate the school board on the employment of Mr. Lake as temporary traffic officer at Chester and west Maple avenues to direct the school children across the street. He is always smiling and cheerful, and takes care of the children in a manner that leaves us nothing to ask. The children all love him and we appreciate him. Long may he be employed by the school board."

Joseph Warren Tatham, Birmingham manager, Michigan Bell telephone company: "It would be a help to us if our subscribers would call directly to the repair clerk, when repairs are necessary, instead of to the manager's office. All I can do is to refer them to the repair clerk, who takes care of the directions for reporting line or instrument trouble are on the covers of the telephone books."

Robert Y. Moore, township supervisor: "Bloomfield Township roads are in splendid condition today. Considering the weather we have been having, they are something to be amazed at. They are well hardened and with the exception of a little water on some of them, which will dry off quickly with good weather, they are in fine condition for driving."

The Other Chap Says Something

THE EFFETE EAST

These jokes about the prevalence of dumbbell ideas or the absence of the smart folks down east which the smart folks down east like to pronounce Lowry will have to stop. The people of Danport read almost four times as many library books, in proportion to population, as those of New York, or twice as many as those of Boston, and nearly five times as many as Baltimore. Library circulation per capita out in this corn-belt town is 10 books per person per year. That is the largest of any city of 50,000 population or upwards in the country. New York reads only 2.7 books a head, which is not so strange when you stop to consider that they have all those dirty little tabloid newspapers to peruse if you call it perusing to look at the captions under a few dozen pages of scurry halftones over-waded through the headlines over-bulletined reports of a few crimes and scandalous scenes.

The library figures are really quite interesting. We note that Fort Worth, Tex., where the pistol-parking parson, Frank Norris, holds forth, reads only .86 of one book per head per annum. That is pretty near the water mark for these United States—and you don't wonder at it when you remember that a regular section of the Fourth population considers Mr. Norris a great man. — (Detroit Saturday Night).

PEOPLE'S COLUMN

The Eccentric is pleased to receive communications for this column. All communications must be kept confidential upon request.

SUNDAY MOVIES

May I offer a suggestion for a possible solution of the present conflict between the movie interests and those who are interested in maintaining a high standard of Sunday observance. Birmingham is the first community which has had to face this problem. Usually the movie interests have won, but in at least one instance, a satisfactory and workable solution was reached, which satisfied both sides. Some years ago one of the smaller cities in the east solved the question by concerted action on the part of the churches. Most of them had found that dwindling congregations at their evening services had made these services difficult to maintain, and they joined in renting the theater from the movie interests for Sundays and held a union service Sunday evenings in the theater. They made these services more or less popular in character and attracted not only the regular Sunday evening church-goers but many who would not have gone to a regular church service. I have been out of touch with the situation for several years, but I know that for a number of years it proved a very satisfactory arrangement.

Yours very truly, Harriet E. Harry, Lone Pine Road.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

There is absolutely no sense in people trying to kid themselves into thinking that capital punishment will stop our crime wave. Criminals are like the poor, in this sense: we seem destined to help them, and always we fail. The problems of those two classes will probably never be solved, because of our own selfish attitude toward them. When we do anything for the poor it is generally because we want to stop them from bothering us. When we do anything about our criminals, it is in a spirit of discipline in self-defense. We never think of doing anything for either class just simply to help them. We do not know whether a brotherhood of man would work or not. We have never tried it. Instead we are content to be absorbed in our own little self-centered lives. We allow conditions to go from bad to worse. Then all of a sudden, we become alarmed, and we start to take a hue and cry for capital punishment.

Now, it is eternally true that "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." It is likewise true that the best way to cure a disease is to remove its cause. Surface remedies do not accomplish much or last long. Capital punishment is only a surface remedy. It never has, and never can remove the cause of crime. It deals with the tree, only after it is full grown, by chopping off the top limb. Therefore, it can never lessen crime. One reason is because it never reaches those who are most guilty. For instance, here a nit-wit governor who pardons 3000 hardened criminals; here is a judge who makes his court a mockery of justice; here is a politician who derives a revenue from a brothe. Yet capital punishment would ignore them, and light on some unfortunate 100 times less guilty.

We have enough laws now to deal adequately with this matter. But simply having laws will never improve conditions. Why not try something like this: 1. Teach our children the great fundamental principles of right and wrong just like we teach them to read.

2. Demand full justice in our courts. 3. Punish, not only those who commit crime, but also those who encourage it and profit by it. 4. Tackle the solution of our social problems in a spirit of love, instead of selfishness. Henry S. Evans, United Presbyterian Church.

Natives of Alaska are turning to civilized practices, including the awarding of alimony. For deserting his squaw, Charlie Big Eyes of Nullichik was made to pay \$1000 in all mink, butchered; 10 mink skins, dressed; 6 fox pelts, and 100 full grown salmon.

Advertisement for Peter Pan Fabrics. Includes text: 'An Exhibit of Charming MODEL FROCKS for Every-Day Wear—Easy and Inexpensive to Make'. 'Coming Soon' banner. 'Genuine Peter Pan Fabrics'. 'These lovely frocks will show you just how "Peter Pan" Fabrics make up into the most attractive kind of wash frocks—long-wearing, sparkling in color, and proof against weather, wear, and wash. They will give you just the bias you want for making up your own Spring and Summer wardrobe.' 'Genuine "Peter Pan" Fabrics come in a wide variety of modish colors and fascinating Parisian-created designs, and all carry this ironclad guarantee. "We will replace any garment made of Genuine Peter Pan if it fades." On Sale at F. J. Mulholland Co. 119 N. WOODWARD PHONE 425. Tell Your Merchant You Saw His Advertisement in THE ECCENTRIC.

Advertisement for Goodyear tires. 'THE WORLD'S GREATEST TIRE'. 'GOODYEAR New Type All-Weather Tread Specially designed for Balloon Tires'. 'The first big advantage you will get from this new tread is traction—safe, sure-footed, skidless travel under all conditions. The sharp-edged, diamond-shaped Goodyear blocks in the tread's center, seize, grip and hang-on. The second big advantage is long, slow, even tread wear, as opposed to the "cupping" and "pot holes" until now characteristic of wear in balloons. This is accomplished by heavy circumferential ribs at the point of greatest bearing, and by a flatter tread profile giving broader road contact. Goodyear tested this tread under the harshest kind of service—picked it finally from eighty separate and individual designs as outranking them all. It compliments perfectly the celebrated Goodyear cord fabric, SUPER-TWIST, now used in all Goodyear tires. F. E. STERNAL Woodward and Daines PHONE 9 FOR ROAD SERVICE 8-Hour Recharging Service'. Includes images of Goodyear tires.