

BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC

Published every Thursday at Birmingham, Mich. in The Eccentric Building, 129-133 North Woodward Avenue, Birmingham 1, Michigan U. S. A.

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THURSDAY, FEB. 17, 1927. Note: During the absence from Birmingham for six weeks of George R. Averill, publisher of the Eccentric, the editorials are being written by Raymond Girardin, managing editor.

AND THE NEXT MOVE?

A horrible looking scar on Woodward avenue south of Maple avenue is a regrettable commentary on the way a world of people has done things. The excavation was made some time ago with the idea of building a large theater, something Birmingham citizens have wanted.

Approximately two weeks ago the thing was set-aside, apparently. The State Administrative Board had away with the mosaic for all time, also apparently, and declared that Woodward avenue would be 100 feet wide and those interested could act accordingly.

But the applause of those who were at all interested in the scar on Woodward avenue and the game of checkers was stifled as soon as it resumed, almost as though the men in which they were interested had fallen upon them. This time it was because of a proposed law against showing moving pictures in Birmingham on Sundays.

Things are about like that today; the scar on Woodward, people laughing, others angry. Things will remain like that until March 14 when the audience vote on the issue.

The part of the audience which is the more "angry" than the part which is laughing, should not grow too upset, as we see it. They have the opportunity to exercise a little will power until March 14 when they can flock to the voting booths and make enough "x's" in the proper squares.

LINCOLN'S WAR AIM

The recurrence of Abraham Lincoln's birthday on President 32 revives memories of our first martyr, never revered in the South as well as in the North.

His real aim during the war was the preservation of the nation as one union, with the abolition of slavery as a secondary consideration. This is best illustrated by his famous letter to Horace Greely on August 22, 1862, in which he said:

Here's a bit of refreshing news. The United States has almost \$300,000,000 worth of ice cream every year.

There is no sign that anyone is ever going to be able to invent a tire patch that will keep air in over-inflation.

Gold is one of the few things in the world that can be either a disease or a remedy.

Now and then you see a fellow who expects to become a howling success by nothing but howling.

LOGIC AND THE DEATH PENALTY

Logic employed in every controversy is found of many grave smiles. This is as true in an eighth grade debate over the relative qualities of the Messrs. Lincoln and Washington as of the more gruesome, state-wide controversy, now being waged in Michigan, over capital punishment.

Thus it is difficult to force back a smile, a tolerant smile to be sure, but a smile none the less, at the childish arguments advanced by those who would butcher society's criminals.

Those favoring the law assume that society will be bettered by quickly dispatching the murderer from this life. This assumption, forced down the throats of citizens, who, rightly enough, are anxious to see the day when a better society will be in evidence, the murder-by-state propagandists proceed to quote relatives of a gunman's victim who speak through an emotion choked throat; relatives who, alas, have suffered to such an extent that their intelligence is submerged by their emotions.

The nature of a newspaper editor who ballyhooes for capital punishment is indeed enigmatic. It is something at which one may smile in the same way as he smiles at the spectacle of a civilization which has reached its present state of development after thousands of years of effort, crashing back to the days when the guillotine was a national monument to judicial infamy.

A PAYING POLICY

While the program for national thrift week set apart only one day for the observance of "Pay Your Bills Promptly," business interests in one city considered this phase of thrift so important that they turned over the entire week to preaching this creed.

This campaign was not conceived and engineered as a collection scheme. The business men sponsoring it expected to benefit from it, but they also saw in the plan profit for their customers.

Credit statistics indicate that the great majority of people pay their bills promptly, but the "good pay" must pay the same prices as the "slow pay."

THE FULL PAGE AD

As the newspaper man looks over exchanges coming from various parts of the country, he is impressed with the great use that is being made of advertising.

It is interesting also to see how many concerns and interests there are that are taking big ads of a half page or full page, or two pages.

One fact stands out in bold relief in the history of men's attempts for betterment. That is when compulsion is used, only resentment is aroused, and the end is not gained.

APPEAL TO REASON

Only a short time now until we will be too sick to work and too well to stay home from fishing.

With eighteen hours a day to worry about everything, some people spend it all worrying about how they look.

Here's a bit of refreshing news. The United States has almost \$300,000,000 worth of ice cream every year.

There is no sign that anyone is ever going to be able to invent a tire patch that will keep air in over-inflation.

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ASPIRATIONS

I read so many poems with delight, All bound in lovely books of gold and blue. How many things there are to write about—I love the happy ones, the sad ones too.

What matter if an artist I should be, A teacher, or a poet, or a king; Or what my task, but that I do it well, And as I work, find time to laugh and sing?

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. Wm. Robinson claims the belt as the best of the city. He has a fine understanding of Birmingham. He sawed recently the cord and a half hard four-foot wood in two hours.

25 YEARS-AGO. Daniel Elliott and family of South Bend, Ind., were the guests of George H. Mitchell and family over Sunday last.

Next Monday evening's program at the Ladies' Literary club reads: "Rings away, ladies, by that sin the angels fell"; election of officers; Russian text. The club will meet with Mrs. Crawford.

The card party given at the home of Mrs. Ellen Pebody last evening for the benefit of the Village Improvement Society was a very pleasant occasion.

In the evening at 7:30 o'clock, there will be a Praise service at the First Baptist Church. The Power of God in Christ and the Human Soul. Young People's meeting at 8:00 o'clock.

Maple Avenue W. at Henrietta Robert Marens Atkins, Minister Sunday services—10:00 a. m. Sunday School at 11:00 a. m.

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BLOOMFIELD HILLS COMMISSION. Bloomfield Hills, Oakland County, Michigan. The first regular meeting of the Village Commission was held on Monday, February 14, 1927, at 7:30 p. m. in the room of the Village Commission, 129-133 North Woodward Avenue, Birmingham, Michigan.

Motion was made by Commissioner Borch and supported by Commissioner Talafiero that the following be appointed as members of the Commission: Borch, Talafiero, Whitley, and Moton.

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BLOOMFIELD BIRMINGHAM

Your New Office Building Is Ready

The remodeling of the Field Building on West Maple Avenue is complete and you are invited to inspect what we consider the most attractive office building in the Village of Birmingham.

Situated in the heart of our smartest shopping district, these offices make an ideal location for either professional or business purposes.

Here you will find single or double offices—or suite if you desire them—all well lighted and heated—fresh from the decorator's hands.

We urge you to inspect these offices today, because like the shops below, we think they are destined to become the business and professional center of Birmingham.

Already you will find several occupied, and after seeing them and considering the location, we believe you will agree with us that the remainder will not stay vacant long.

Saunders Colgrove Buck. Phone 830 of 185. FIRST STATE BANK BLDG. Birmingham.

Eventually—Why Not Now?

CONSULTANT IN INCOME TAX MATTERS. E. W. LACKIE. Suite 4, First National Bank Building. PHONE 95.

Dr. Mabel Campbell. OSTEOPATHIC PHYSICIAN. 312 First National Bank Building. Phone Pontiac 3147.

Dr. George W. Corns. DENTIST. Gas Administered for Extracting by Appointment. PHONE Royal Oak 1452.

DR. A. D. GRAHAM. Dentist. Post Office Building. Birmingham, Mich. Phone 1360.

Maurice E. Baldwin. Office: Room 3, First State Bank County Surveyor. 185 1/2 W. Sagadahoc St., Pontiac, Mich.

WILLIAM HENRY STONE, JR. ARCHITECT. 955 East Maple Ave. Phone 693 B'ham, Mich.