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"For a Bigger and Better Birmingham"

PART THREE

OAKLAND COUNTY'S GREATEST  
WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

FIFTIETH YEAR—NO. 4

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 1927

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## COUNTY'S CHAMP READERS PICKED

Winners Eligible For Inter-County Meet At Ypsilanti

Winners in the Oakland County Rural Schools reading contest which was held Saturday morning at Central High School, Pontiac, have been announced. Sixty-six zone champions met at the school for the finals in the contest that has been running for some weeks past in the rural schools. Silent reading tests were given to all students and the winner of first second and third places in each grade in every school was allowed to compete in the zone contest.

The county is divided into four zones, each one being supervised by a helping teacher from the school commissioner's office, under the direction of E. J. Lederle, school commissioner. The zone winner of each grade came to Pontiac Saturday for the contest which was to decide the champion reader in each grade.

The winners, six pupils from Oakland County, will be eligible to compete in the Inter-County reading meet to be held at Ypsilanti on May 14. This contest will decide the champion readers of Oakland, Macomb, Wayne and Washtenaw counties.

The winners were given by Loyal R. Conrad, research director of Pontiac schools, and he was assisted by Mr. Lederle and several teachers. Many parents and friends were present at the contest, which was held in one of the session rooms of the school. The winner and contestants follow:

- Third Grade**  
Lois Hitchcock, Highland, 160.  
Virginia Abernethy, Troy, 135.  
Carol Fox, Leonard, 125.  
Edward Bender, Jackson, 114.  
William Rogers, White Lake, 79.  
Arlene Downey, March, 75.  
David Seeley, German, 70.  
**Fourth Grade**  
Donald Chase, Troy, 207.  
Carol Mott, Black, 201.  
Ivan Downing, Brice, 180.  
Richard Huff, Highland, 150.  
Raymond Whiting, White Lake, 166.  
Eldon Buzzard, Oak Hill, 165.  
James Fennell, Pine Lake, 159.  
Beverly Griffin, Halstead, 142.  
Glenn Smith, Davisburg, 134.  
Virginia Kaunmy, Wixom, 133.  
**Fifth Grade**  
Ted Osborne Kemp, 210, winner.  
Theresa Mackey, Wilson, 205.  
Fern Hood, Leonard, 171.  
Joe Moore, Poppleton, 171.  
Galen Ballard, Shanghai, 170.  
Melva Blasky, Dublin, 156.  
Agnes Shook, Angland Road, 138.  
(Continued on Page 3, Part 3)

## Eccentric Book Awarded Prize

Royal Oak, May 10.—The Royal Oak high school today holds the prize for having the second best high school annual in the state following awards made late last week at Ann Arbor when 67 high schools of Michigan entered their annuals in the Inter-scholastic Press association contest. The book, the Oak, was printed by The Birmingham Eccentric.

High praise was given the book by the judges, made up of officers of the association, according to A. R. Rice, faculty adviser.

This photo of James W. Gerard was snapped in 1916, a year before the United States entered the World War. What position did he occupy at that time?

Today marks the twenty-seventh anniversary of the beginning of a great uprising in China. What was it known as?

Napoleon, France's exiled emperor, passed his last days and died on an island of the Mediterranean. Can you name the place?

Diamonds, mined in South Africa, are taken to Holland for cutting. What city is known as the diamond-cutting center of the world?

"A little one shall become a thousand, and a small one a strong nation." Where does this passage occur in the Bible?

Persons born on this date should marry with those born in January, September, or October. Those of other months are suitable only when the spiritual nature of both is developed and their actions.

**Snappy Saying**  
The old time wife used to wait for her husband. The modern one leaves the key in the mail box.

**Answer to Foregoing Questions**  
1. Ambassador to Germany.  
2. The Boxer uprising.  
3. To degrade.  
4. St. Helena.  
5. Amsterdam.  
6. Isaiah, I, 22.

## FORMER LOVERS DOOMED TO DIE



Sketch in Courtroom. Especially for Central Press Association by Miss Katherine Loner.

Both Mrs. Ruth Snyder, brand-electric chair next Monday, and her jury found them guilty of first degree murder of Mrs. Snyder's husband, Albert. The murder will be sentenced to die in the electric chair.

Birmingham Monday experienced the hottest day so far this year. Four years ago Monday there was a snow storm here. The thermometer soared the day before yesterday to 83 at 4 p. m., the warmest hour of the day.

Rain which threatened to relieve the heat, which at the time of the year, seemed intense, did not come until late at night. It had its effect, however, and Tuesday was considerably cooler. Despite Monday's heat, no straw hats were in evidence any place but in the store windows and in the attitudes of the village.

Hugo Kalish of Vienna, after escaping death in 12 automobile accidents, was killed in the 13th crash.

Captain Alfred May of Grimsby, Eng., stuck to the wheel of his vessel and brought her safely to port after a heavy sea had broken five of his ribs.

## 'Master Ellsworth, Boy Sampson,' Achieves Heights In Theater World

By GEORGE R. WILLIAMS

From "Master Ellsworth, the boy Sampson," in an amateur act in Detroit, to a famous Lyceum entertainer touring the United States, this summarizes the theatrical career of Ellsworth Carlisle Plunstead, a resident of Birmingham and a humorous impersonator who enters his twenty-ninth year as an actor this year.

Mr. Plunstead, honored by mention in "Who's Who in the Lyceum," in recalling 64 years of varied adventures, says, "It has been a wonderful experience, but I'll be 'burned' if I dare to go through with it again."

"My father," explains Mr. Plunstead, "went on the rocks in the panic of 1913 and was forced to leave St. Johns, Mich., my birthplace. In Detroit he found a job as an accountant and started in as a cash boy in the same company. After he got on his feet I was forced to return to school which I did not like as he had a wanderlust. I finally gave it up."

With this step Mr. Plunstead entered into a variety of occupations and interests carrying him all over the country before he gained his present position in 1908. They include cash boy, bookkeeper, bell-ringer, amateur performer in the old Park Theater of Detroit, circus man, street performer, clerk, both hardware and sewing machine salesman, drummer and educationist.

These temporary jobs were interspersed with entertaining of various sorts which started after "Trooper," Frank Stanley, saw his act in Detroit and persuaded him to go on the road. His adventures at this time cover circus engagement in 1910 and working on a showboat on the Mississippi river, a bell-ringer and a show "busted up" and Plunstead worked his way north with two other men by giving street shows.

"I was the only one to get back," he recalled, "with only two bits in my pockets and a cute little trunk which I 'loaned' the conductor of the train to get to Indianapolis."

In Indianapolis he found no shows running as it was summer, and at this point he accepted a job as a dishwasher until he hooked up with a fare. After that played out, Plunstead became a drummer for several companies.

He returned to Detroit when his father, who had become secretary of the Detroit Fire Works, offered him a job at shipping clerk.

He finally achieved the heights, after being on the road and returning to Detroit. Mr. Plunstead describes his start in his characteristic manner. "Then along came Dr. C. W. Blodgett and discovered me, and I was steered towards the Lyceum business. Dr. Blodgett showed me the ropes and after two years of personal book-keeping, the Bureau adopted me. This was in 1925 and I have continued ever since."

"Who's Who in the Lyceum" speaks of him as follows: Plunstead, Ellsworth Carlisle, humorous reader and impersonator; b. St. Johns, Mich., Nov. 11, 1863; ed. St. Johns and Detroit, Mich., 1880-2 with various theatrical co.; then hardware mah and drummer; on Bella McDonald, Detroit, Mich., 1887. While drummer, did much private entertaining; first public appearance, Nov. 4, 1898, self-billed. Since listed with Bry, C. Ch., Col. Lib., Al., G. W. B. and Y. J. Jones, Detroit, Mich. Address: Birmingham, Mich.

Mr. Plunstead is opening an engagement with the "Redcliffe Chautauque System" of Washington, D. C., in June. He started with Redcliffe in 1914. He is engaged with two musicians in western New York and Pennsylvania, on circuits of various length, which are composed of appearances twice a day in different towns. He works alone in the winter on Lyceum circuits with the Universities of Wisconsin and Minnesota. Mr. Plunstead has worked in every state in the union and most of Canada.

**Shitless!**  
"Well, Mrs. Callahan," observed Mr. Casey, "I see by the papers that Danny's been discharged from the penitentiary."

"Yes," sighed Mrs. Callahan, "Danny never could hold any kind of a job."

An American hunter, who has killed 600 lions in Africa, is now looking for some excitement and has come home to get married.

A fellow who tries to straddle an issue is like one in the middle of a highway, subject to being hit by both lines of traffic.

## NEW PRODUCTION MARK IS MADE

Goodyear Establishes Record For Manufacture During April

"When the hundredth-million Goodyear tire was produced in April by the Goodyear Tire & Rubber company at Akron, O., it marked a manufacturing accomplishment without parallel in the rubber industry," according to Frank E. Sternal, Goodyear dealer here.

"This achievement is of particular significance to the tire user and car owner," Mr. Sternal said, "for into every Goodyear tire goes the experience gained in establishing a world's record in tire production, and the skill of the largest development and engineering organization in the tire business."

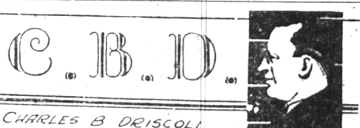
"In addition to one hundred million pneumatic tires, Goodyear has produced more than three million solid and cushion tires and thousands of bicycle and carriage tires in the early years of the company's existence."

"Beginning in 1898 the Goodyear organization started a line of unbroken developments in tire building which included the first practical cord tire, the pneumatic truck tire, and the company's latest product, a scientifically designed balloon tire which was placed on the market in January of this year after two years of development and road service on the Goodyear test car fleet."

"The widespread acceptance of this new tire has been remarkable, more than one million being sold in eighty days in all parts of the world," Mr. Sternal declared. According to the local Goodyear dealer it would require 55,324 freight cars composing a railroad train more than 420 miles long to transport the one hundred million tires built by Goodyear."

One E. E. Green of Tennessee, described in a press dispatch as "co-wrecker" of a bank, got ten years. No doubt a co-wrecker verdict.

Colorado claims to lead the nation in the production of sugar beets. Any claimants to the record for dead beats?



CHARLES B. DRISCOLL

AN OLD SUBJECT

Just about this time of year comes the annual discussion about the subject of Mother's Day.

For many of us whose mothers have passed on, there remain still the great joys which we may make much of. I shall certainly get a great pleasure by handing a flower or a sweetest or some sentimental trifle to the mother of my two children. Yes, and a sentimental telegram to her mother, too. Unless I respect the mother of my wife, how can I make myself believe that I would respect my own mother if she were alive again?

But we must cherish our spirits by nourishing indignation because somebody is going to make some money. There is a high and holy sentiment that prompts each of us to render tender homage to his mother. Let us each in his own heart cherish that sentiment, and give it away for at least one day.

**NOTICE OF HEARING ON BUDGET VILLAGE OF BLOOMFIELD**

Notice is hereby given that the Finance Commission of the Village of Bloomfield, Mich., will hold a public hearing on May 23, 1927, and that a public hearing will be held on May 23, 1927, from 10:00 a. m. to 1:00 p. m. at the Village Office of Incorporating Vill.

It may well be that some folk make a profit out of Mother's Day. They are welcome to their profit. We do not cry because profits are made out of Christmas toys and Thanksgiving football tickets, do we?

For my own part I would willingly give my last coin for a flower, if only the purchase would be it possible for me to hand the blossom to my mother. That being impossible, there is an ache in my heart as Mother's Day approaches.

It is reported that King Alfonso of Spain will visit the United States within a year.

## SPECIALS for Saturday

Salt Rising Bread	13c
Potato Bread	13c
Whole Wheat Bread	12c
Boston Brown Bread	15c
Orange and Angel Food Cake	30c
Fried Cakes	18c

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Birmingham, Michigan

## What is a REALTOR?



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