

BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC

(Founded in 1913)
Published every Wednesday in Birmingham, Mich., in The Eccentric Building, 124-125 North Woodward Avenue.
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Editor and Publisher
Entered in Second Class Matter in the U. S. Postoffice at Birmingham, Michigan.
The Eccentric is a member of National Editorial Association, Michigan Press Association, and University Press Club.
Wednesday, November 16, 1927

THEY DESERVE CREDIT

Three thousand persons were assembled at a fire where everything was hazy and confusion while the members of the fire department gave their exhibition Monday night in connection with the Prosperity Week, and not a single accident was reported among spectators.

The result of the excellent work of the Birmingham police assigned to duty at the field and to the care the firemen took with their cumbersome apparatus.
In a village the size of Birmingham, a police department does not have a great deal to do. There are speeders and a few drunken drivers to arrest. These, with an occasional burglary, are about the biggest "crimes" that appear on the police blotter.

There are many persons in Birmingham today who are appreciative of the work done Monday night of the department. Many of the mothers of the village have the children home safely because of the vigilance that night on the part of the officers.
And there is satisfaction in knowing that the best offered by the police, as with the firemen, is productive of such favorable results.

VISIT LOCAL STORES

Have you seen the stores of Birmingham during Prosperity Week? They are more attractive than ever before, and the merchants are offering bargains and specials that have not been equaled very often in the history of Birmingham.

Being progressive, they are taking advantage of the opportunity the displays offer to introduce themselves to the new residents of Birmingham. They believe that their wares are equal to those offered by merchants in any other city and they base their claims on a study of the matter.

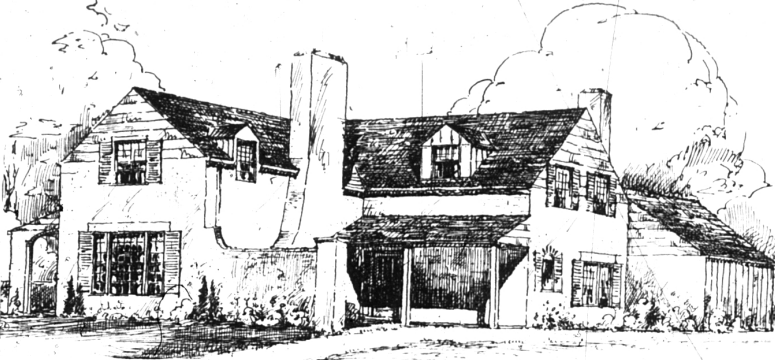
PRICE OF PROGRESS

Village President H. T. Ellerby, in his address last night at the Baldwin-High School auditorium, referring to the growth and prosperity of this community, said: "Many of us regret this rapid growth in population. We came out to Birmingham to get away from the crowded city, with its grit and its grind; we came so many and so fast that it appears we are making another big center of population, and we are losing the fascination that originally brought us here. But such is the penalty of growth and progress and we must make the best of it, trying, while we grow, to retain as much of the village quality as we can."

The Other Chap Says Something

AND WE DON'T CARE
Thomas H. Adams, editor of Vincennes who has fought so courageously against corruption in Indiana, as depressed by public indifference. If corruption does not worry us now, what kind of thing must come when it does worry us? He says:
I have not yet come to the conclusion that the public cares much about what kind of government it has. Of course, there will come a time when the situation, unless there is a change, will be so notorious that there will be a revolt against the government. I am rather pessimistic about it, but we can hope that the change will come before that happens.
A man who has not knuckled under, who hasn't cared what risk he ran of his personal fortunes, can say that. And the rest of us can't say much against it. The list grows long. Teapot Dome and Elk Hills, and 'no one punished. On the matter of Detroit and Pontiac, as has attracted, and will continue to attract, thousands of new people as residents. Would you stop

NEW FRANKLIN VILLAGE RESIDENCE



"This new home under construction is 'brim,' the forerunner of the type of development taking place in Franklin Village," said George Wellington Smith yesterday.
This home, designed by Muehlen & Farrar of Detroit, built by residents of Birmingham, is laid out in a rambling manner and affords an abundance of natural light in each room. It takes particular advantage of the surrounding topography in that it affords a clear view in all four directions. From every room a beautiful view is to be had.
The entrance to this American farm house style home is made through a small courtyard garden in front, thence through a spacious porch into a reception hall, paved with stone. The stairs and alcove lead off of this hall and the living room and dining room are directly off the alcove.
The well and pump house located conveniently near, furnish a supply of pure well water.
"Franklin Village is rapidly developing," said Mr. Smith, "as indicated by a volume sale of approximately \$100,000 worth of property during the last summer."
Mr. Smith pointed out at the same time that more homes are being planned for Franklin Village construction to start soon.

new residents from coming? You might like to—you who now live here—but you know that you can't. That is the price that any fine community pays for a population increase.

Yet, as we continue to grow, we must want a population figure higher and higher, there comes the increasing problem of administering government and public utilities to our citizens. To carry on our local government, to provide streets, water mains, sewers, police and fire protection, costs money. This money is raised through taxes.

There isn't much that we can do within the village except to conduct our own affairs as economically as possible. But what about the contribution which Birmingham, as a village, now makes to the township government? This coming Winter tax shows that the people of Birmingham will pay approximately \$64,000.00 to the Township treasurer, none of which would be paid if Birmingham were a city.

There is a very natural sentiment in favor of the quaintness and the quietness of a small village, such as Birmingham was a few years ago. There ought to be by the same token—in our estimation, a comparable attitude of mind toward the township government. Birmingham in politics and economic affairs by divorcing itself from the remaining 52 square miles of Bloomfield Township through the medium of adopting the city form of government.

From the point of sentimental value, everything is in favor of the village form of government providing of course, that Birmingham was (as it is not) the small community that it was even three years ago. From the point of economy and politics, there is everything in favor of the change to a city. As we see it, we who live in Birmingham can exemplify our ideals and our dreams under the city form of administration just as well as we can under the present village form—only the city form is the more economical method of doing it.

OFF TO NORTH

(Special to The Eccentric)
Clawson, Nov 15—Village Clerk Lynn Richards is one of a party of Clawson men on their way to the upper peninsula, hoping to bag a deer or two.
The first complete English dictionary, published in 1747, contained only about 50,000 words, while unabridged dictionaries today have nearly 600,000 words.

PEOPLE'S COLUMN

The Eccentric is pleased to receive communications for this column. All communications must be signed, but names will be kept confidential upon request.

WHY I AM OPPOSED TO CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

Hazel Park, Mich. November 15, 1927
Editor, The Eccentric:
I am proud to be a native son of the State of Michigan, because with one exception, the law of the state does not include capital punishment.
Capital punishment is repugnant to the ideals of American democracy, and to civilization. Murder is generally committed in the heat of anger or for gain, but the state commits cold blooded murder when it uses capital punishment.
Capital punishment does not deter.
Capital punishment, when used, cannot give back the lives of innocent victims. The poor advocate of labor rights like Sacco and Vanzetti suffer death while the rich Loeb and Leopold, or Harry K. Thaw get life or freedom. Across the sea in the new republic of Germany, the Berlin jurists and lawyers protest against capital punishment. It is the spirit of the Monarchy.

Stress Prosperity In Civic Talks

(Continued From Page 1)
perity that makes it distinct from other communities."
Oakland County, he said, in the last six years, has spent \$1,500,000 on improvements in the nature of public buildings. Among these are the new infirmary, the tuberculosis hospital and similar institutions. All this is free from debt, he said.
"I believe Oakland is the best financed county in the state," he declared.
Concerning his recent trip to Europe where he was a delegate from the American Legion of Michigan, he declared he found a relationship between the German and American people friendly. "We were treated splendidly everywhere," he declared.
He said he believed the Michigan unit was better known than others because it is the home state of Henry Ford, and everyone in Europe seemed to know it.

Know Birmingham

President Ellerby, in urging Birmingham people to take advantage of the opportunities to know Birmingham, pointed out many advantages of the week.
"Birmingham is growing whether we like it or not," he said. "Therefore it is our job to make it the best possible community of its kind. We must keep pace with the growth as well as we possibly can."
"Prosperity Week is designed to create an interest in Birmingham by Birmingham people. It is a project fostered by Birmingham people for the benefit of the village."

THE OTHER CHAP SAYS SOMETHING

AND WE DON'T CARE
Thomas H. Adams, editor of Vincennes who has fought so courageously against corruption in Indiana, as depressed by public indifference. If corruption does not worry us now, what kind of thing must come when it does worry us? He says:
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WE HEARD IT SAID BY—

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

Mrs. Marie Schlieske, 608 Worth street: "People were waiting for Prosperity Week to shop for business was slow last week."

Mrs. Ruth Shomin, principal of Pierce School: "We need more people are becoming interested in Parent-Teacher work each year. The people we need to reach most do not come, but each year we are learning more how to appeal and interest the people."

J. H. McBride, village commissioner: "From the standpoint of strict village economy, it would be cheaper for the village to extend Merrill street from Paces to Woodward avenue, thus requiring present owners of lots on Merrill street to help pay for the improvement. After the village acquires the property, if it does not through the Merrill street extension, the village will have to pay more of the project's cost."

Joseph Pope, realtor: "Experts in real estate analysis claim that Birmingham will continue to grow even though Detroit should not continue to grow. But cities like Detroit continue growing, however."

F. F. Smith, sales department, Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea company, Detroit: "We hope that prosperity week will be a success to you as well as to all the other merchants in your city. I am sure that this week with the boosting through your newspaper, will go over in a big way."

Mrs. Hope Halgren, village commissioner: "I am pleasantly surprised at the fine showing of our people at Monday night's entertainment. They are deserving of the best that we can give them. The spirit in which the village takes Prosperity Week is a fine thing for our community."

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TOTEM POLE IS ON DISPLAY AT BANK

A Shimpshian Indian pole, purchased by Hartwell Ladd, son of David Ladd, realtor, while visiting in the northwest this fall, is on display in the First State Savings Bank this week.

The totem poles are used by the Alaskan Indians to represent the history of the family, and of the tribe. Each Indian carries a small pole with him when going in the vicinity of another tribe as a means of identification. In front of each Indian home is a large pole telling the story of the family.

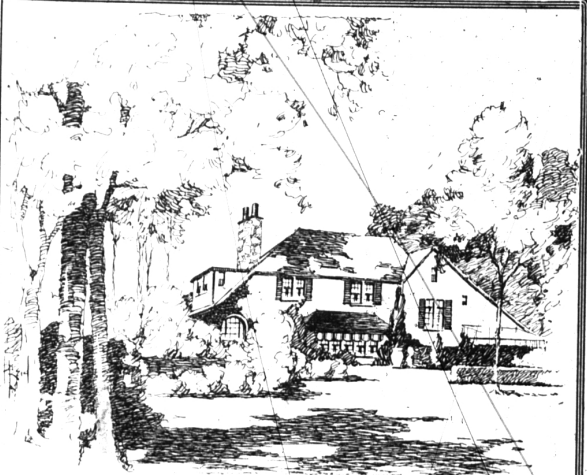
The totem pole being shown in the bank was made by an Indian of the Eastern Inland, the Passage, British Columbia. The top figure represents the totem of the great Gray Owl. The next figure is the totem of the Black Bear chief who is holding a young beaver. The second represents great wealth and prosperity. The third and bottom figure of the pole is the Indian Goliath, or the strong man who watches and guards the Black Bears treasure. This brave man is allied with the owl who watches at night and warns the giant of the approach of the enemy.

The Indians understand the carvings and symbol used are very proud of their totem poles. Mr. Ladd was told by an Indian authority that his pole was a representative one.

Miss Josephine Cravner and Miss Ruth Crawford of Indiana are making a tour of South America, writing articles concerning their experiences for a number of American newspapers.

Franklin Village
For the man who wants to build his home away from crowded thoroughfares, out where there are hills and clear air—Franklin Village is an ideal spot. It is in the heart of the country club district, yet convenient to the city. Building sites range from a third of an acre to two acres in size. Careful restrictions have made certain that development will be in harmony with the character of the neighboring territory. Yet just now the prices are surprisingly moderate.
George Wellington Smith
Franklin Properties
Address: Franklin, Mich. Telephone: Birmingham 1770

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Homesite Values Grow In Walsh, James & Wasey Developments
Restful, inspiring surroundings are among the essentials that guide home builders in selecting sites for their modern homes. Accessibility of social institutions which shape the ideals of children is important too. Recreation facilities should never be overlooked; outdoor brings buoyant health and happiness. Transportation to and from the larger center of population is paramount and guarantees the resale value of property. You can obtain all these salient requirements in the Birmingham properties of the Walsh, James & Wasey Company.

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