

BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1927

NOTE: The Eccentric is pleased to publish stories of events which have news value and which are written by persons not connected with the office of the paper. All copy should be prepared before noon on Wednesday. The right to reschedule or to make such editorial changes as may be deemed advisable as to the style of the paper and to the length of the copy must be in the Eccentric office by Wednesday noon to obtain insertion for that week.

THE PROMISE OF YOUTH

Today we hear the cry of "youth" for its thrilling taste of life. Over the length and breadth of our land is seen the entry of the coming generation into the bright days and nights (especially the bright days) of life. The sun rises each morning in all its aged majesty and some of youth, bleary eyed and faltering, trek themselves from parental home and spend the day as best they can, finding solace in the night that is to come.

The sun sinks into the west and youth, with their torches lit from the moonday sun, saunters forth into the open places of Bacchus that is elders have provided as the background for a lighted Broadway. Whisky, gin, and poor beer gain tribute from the lot or meager purses of some of our boys and girls. Blessed youthful ideals are soured in the cup and youth bubbles upward as characterless as a diamond square of clammy skin.

The flesh of youth calls for sustenance, and Pan capers through the maze of champagne crystalline drops. The biological processes of Nature are stifled and normal physical growth is stunted as the guts of youth become a pickling vat for the bootlegger.

And back of it all there is heard the clear, clarion call of youthful dreams which seem to cry: "Oh, Youth, give me a chance to reveal to you shattered vision the life of Reality that attends only a career of Character. Stop your frivolous detours from the Street Called Straight and let me show you the romance and adventure of spiritual vertebrae. Give me a chance in your scheme of living, and I will reveal to you joys unimagined in other realms. Oh, Youth, hesitate for a moment in your wild outburst of yearnings and let me, who am the personification of The Promise of Youth, save youth from a living death."

And thus, so history records, is the picture of part of a generation of human life. Some charge that they heard the voice of The Promise of Youth, and they stand guard over an ever-widening field, faithful to the end; and the others? . . . many of them die while still in youth; some of them become the cadavers upon which the student doctors experiment; countless thousands fill our public institutions; a few of them live in the city's "red" district; and all of them are unhappy. They are like unto limp fat birds, but are never lighted. They remain dull to both themselves and a world that is sadly in need of illumination. They simply evaporate into nothingness, swallowed up by the chemical action of Nature's course, but luckily not all of them. Being earthy, they never rise above the stench of rotting, decaying physical life.

There is a difference between life that merely lives and life that greatly loves. The former could fulfill its span without even rational consciousness; the latter, completely conscious of a Map of Character, feels upon characterful attributes, and its foundation is faith, and sacrifice, and loyalty to The Promise of Youth!

God does bless the boy and the girl who stands loyal to The Promise of Youth in any generation, and gives happiness to all who tread the Street Called Straight; and for those who forsake their rightful inheritance—what do God do for them? Is the light-house keeper to blame for the wrecked ship whose navigator shunned the warning of the beam that marked the rock-ribbed shoal?

Finally, and for the whimsical moment, youth will be served; but, conclusively and for the eternal moment, God demands His price! The former is purchased with the coin of any realm; the latter is paid for with CHARACTER!

—G. R. A.

PROSPERITY WEEK

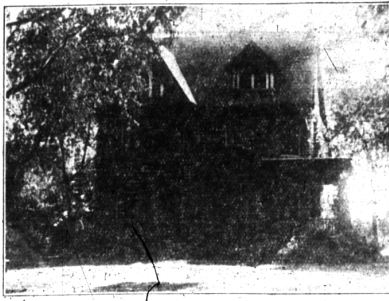
Birmingham has continued its quiet and dignified growth to the point where that growth has gone beyond the comprehension of many of the people who live here. Not only are the newly arrived, unwaried of all the village has to offer, but the old residents, in many instances, look upon the present village as they did upon the Birmingham of ten years ago. They see it, heavy but not changed, but the village that institutions, both commercial and civic, have kept pace with the growth is not presented to them in their daily tasks.

Hence, the plans of Village President H. T. Ellerby for a "Prosperity Week," designed to make residents of Birmingham better acquainted with Birmingham and to inform them of the many splendid institutions here so that they may take advantage of them, should meet with the unanimous approval of the people.

The task undertaken is a great one, and, as we go to press, only the start has been reached. There will be many long days and night work and worry on the part of those selected to make the undertaking a success and certainly it is a duty of every one who lives here to co-operate in the fullest extent possible.

President Ellerby has suggested a plan which will give Birmingham more favorable publicity than perhaps any other endeavor. He has started one of the biggest undertakings in the history of Birmingham. Time and again he has shown himself capable of intelligent administration in village affairs, since he has been village president, and there is no question of his ability to make this project a success. But he needs co-operation—and that is up to you.

SON TO SUCCEED S. O. WYLIE BELL IN BUSINESS HERE



HE'S A REAL BOOSTER

Here's a sample of masculine loyalty to the cause of boys:

Fred W. Johnson, of Adams Road, although not a resident of Birmingham, is highly interested in its Boy Scouts. He was a dinner guest at the Birmingham Golf Club last Friday evening, but excused himself shortly before eight o'clock to attend a meeting of the Scout Council at the Community House. He participated in the meeting and then returned to his social obligations. He was gone about an hour, but what he did for local boys is counted in his favor by the guardian angel, we think. How many men actually stay away from meetings where their presence is needed with less reason than a social obligation? Lots of them, we presume, but few Fred W. Johnsons.

In the name of local Boy Scouts we thank you, Mr. Johnson.

WIDENING MAPLE AVENUE

The beautiful trees that line Maple avenue will remain undisturbed—for some time at least. West Maple avenue, from Woodward to Southfield, will not be widened, nor will East Maple, from Woodward to the railroad tracks. That means that the trees will not be cut down until the inroads of business require it. On these two portions of Maple avenue the curb will be set back at least four feet on each side, thus affording wider pavement. The project from the railroad to Adams avenue, however, will be carried to the end of the boulevard, a distance of 20 feet more than at present, it was decided Monday night following the presentation of a petition to the commission, signed by 66 per cent of the frontage. This means that the village will acquire title to ten feet additional on each side, to be made into a highway when necessary repairs.

The natural man according to this same gospel cannot afford to let his own interests be disposed of the Maple avenue widening project. The village commission carried itself with sympathetic regard for the property owners, and the property owners certainly asserted a fine spirit in the discussions that have taken place regarding the widening. And that is fine for Birmingham.

YOUR NEWSPAPER

It has been said—and truthfully—that one of the most representative institutions in any community is its newspaper; this, of course, is based upon the dual relation between a newspaper and its readers in which the one reflects or mirrors its community life, and the other either rejects or supports the mirror that reflects it. It is, therefore, with much gratitude that The Eccentric received and read the following letter, praising its journalistic policy. We are passing it on to our readers with the feeling that they, too, will accept the compliment as a gesture of applause for the kind of community that they, as citizens, have so carefully guarded and built up in Birmingham, as most of the world knows, stands squarely for the human qualities that enter into the making of CHARACTER. And in the conduct of this newspaper we have tried faithfully to reproduce on printed pages each week these characteristic attributes. In so doing we not only satisfy our own personal desire, but believe we carry out the wishes of every resident of Birmingham and nearby territory. So here is the letter we referred to above: Birmingham, Michigan. Dear Mr. Averill: Well you let a retired newspaper publisher congratulate the people of Birmingham on a really wonderful newspaper. The outstanding fidelity of The Eccentric's editorial policy to the solid interests of the community, along all lines, is to be marked in every issue. And the paper seems to accept its responsibilities without sidestepping facts or issues, and when occasion warrants strikes from the shoulder without stopping to wonder about the possible effect upon the cash register.

And that The Eccentric enjoys the loyalty and co-operation of the people is manifest in the prosperity so apparent in its pages.

The outcome is a newspaper of which a much larger place than Birmingham would have a pardonable pride.

Sincerely,

G. M. DUDLEY, 384 Richton Ave., Detroit, September 30, 1927.

We seldom have reason to feel flattered by an X-ray photograph.

Some husbands never seem able to bring the truth home to their wives.

Keep the piano; the strings will come handy in repairing your aerial.

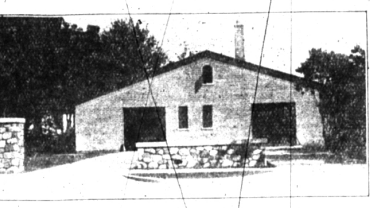
When you take steps to get away from debt, don't let your foot slip.

A hypocrite is one who pretends to believe you when he knows you are lying.

A doctor gets paid according to his knowledge of the patient's physical and financial condition.

Sensick persons seldom need advice as to what they should do; they just naturally do it.

Funeral Director Plans To Move Into Larger Quarters Next Spring



As an evidence of his faith in the Birmingham of the future, based upon nearly 30 years of association locally in the past, an announcement is made this week by S. O. Wylie Bell, funeral director of his new funeral home, Mr. Bell stated his plans include taking into his business his son, Donald, now a student at the University of Michigan.

Mr. Bell, who has spent his entire life in Birmingham, with the exception of the youthful years of his neighboring township of Southfield, is one of the best known funeral directors in the state. The new funeral home, which will take the place of his present parlors on north Woodward avenue, is located at the corner of east Maple avenue and Elm street, the residence in which he and his family have lived many years. Mr. Bell is building a new home on Elm street, and upon its completion, early next spring, he will at once begin extensive remodeling of the residence into a modern, first-class funeral home. The pictures above show the residence that will be remodeled, the large garage which he built this summer to house his funeral and ambulance service, and Mr. Bell and his son, Donald.

"I have watched Birmingham and vicinity grow from a small village into a large suburban community, and my plans for the new funeral home and ambulance service are being made to take care of not only the present but the future, as well," said Mr. Bell today in commenting on the matter. "My son, Donald, has manifested a desire to associate himself with me in business so that it has become necessary to provide more modern quarters for a funeral home. Talking conditions on Woodward avenue also make it necessary to change the location of our business."

Which reminds me of the story of Raymond "Robins" Robinson, who was a subject of millionaires.

Mr. Robins supported Mr. Bryan in 1896, and managed his campaign for him in San Francisco. When the battle was over and the Commover was laid low, the two had dinner together. As they were about to part, Mr. Bryan laid his hand on Mr. Robins' knee and said: "Well, Robins, you and I know that no man can make a million dollars after the 1896 defeat. After much talk the Commover unconsciously did what he had done after the 1896 defeat. He had dinner together just as they had done after the 1896 defeat. After much talk the Commover unconsciously did what he had done after the 1896 defeat. He had dinner together just as they had done after the 1896 defeat.

Three days after Mr. John A. Stokes lost her false teeth while swimming, her husband recovered them from the stomach of a fish he had caught.

In little more than a decade his standards of homes with had advanced from seven to eight figures.

With changing standards of wealth, the millionaire in politics has come to stay. The honest farmer who used to follow Mr. Bryan now follows the wealthy Governor Lowden.

A few years ago a lot of simple people were crying out to Henry Ford, who may be a millionaire, and saying "his motor would make them happy except to see him in the White House."

We have never had a millionaire president. But we are going to have one before another decade goes by—Clinton W. Gilbert in the White House.

IS THIS FARM RELIEF? Among the important subjects to engage the next session of Congress is the problem of farm relief, which has been a live issue for a good while. Several proposals are proposed, as heretofore, and the ultimate outcome is a matter of conjecture.

But there is another bill being urged which has important bearing on the present overproduction of farm products—one which appears to be distinctly opposed to the interests of the farmers in the country at large. We refer to the proposal to build a dam in Boulder canyon of the Colorado River at a cost of \$125,000,000 to the government.

Boulder Dam is designed, among other things, to irrigate and bring under cultivation a million or more acres of arid lands in the West. The ally arises: In the face of a present surplus of nearly all basic farm crops, which would be increased by this additional acreage for agricultural purposes be in the interest of the farmers at this time?

In other words, should the whole country, including the farmers, be taxed to finance this enormous project, which would inevitably add to the already burdensome surplus of farm products?

The more widely it is proposed to spend for Boulder Dam would help a great deal toward flood protection for the Mississippi Valley, and other worthy purposes not in conflict with the interests of the farmers at large.

In spite of the objection here noted, as well as others of equal weight, the Boulder Dam, with strong support in Congress, and unless farmers and others interested make known their opposition to its passage, it stands a fair chance of being enacted into law at the first coming session.

Thoughtful citizens should study this indefensible pork-barrel scheme and inform their representatives in Congress of their views without delay.—Florence (Ala.) Herald.

The Other Chap Says Something

DIVINE FAITH

No formula has yet been found that offers a more consoling influence in time of death than Divine Faith. Evidently it is, in this respect, something is the best comforter man has yet discovered or devised. Some sorrow, like for example the tragic circumstances attending the death of ten-year-old Mason Bryington suggests wiping out, at a single gesture, all that is dear to our faith in a supreme Being, regardless of how satisfactorily it has served us in the past. Paul, an ever present help in time of trouble, looks hopefully to persons in doubt through great sorrow when he says:

Your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.

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BLOOMFIELD BIRMINGHAM

We are Handling Wabeek Corporation Properties

It is with pleasure that we announce that the Honorable James Couzens of the Wabeek Corporation, has placed in our hands the rentals and collections on the large holdings of this corporation in and around Birmingham.

Among these properties we have for rent the following attractive houses:

- 117 Willets Street
911 Brown Street
124 Willets Street
302 Brown Street
401 Pierce Street

In addition to these houses we have others for rent in various parts of Birmingham, and several attractive new residences for sale.

A year ago this Company organized a new business department to supervise the properties of its Detroit clients who are investing their money in Fourteen and Birmingham realty.

This department has filled a long-felt want is proved by its growth.

It is a great satisfaction to us to have Senator Couzens lead the handling of his properties to this growing department of our business.

Colgrove Buck & Tilston

Successors to Saunders Colgrove & Buck

Phone 830 or 1185 FIRST STATE BANK BLDG. Birmingham

SERVICES HELD FOR M. A. STOKES

Funeral services were held here at 2:30 p. m. Tuesday for Milton A. Stokes, father of Clayton, D. Greenwood cemetery.

SPECIAL PRICES PREVAIL

At Our

OPENING

of a FRUIT and VEGETABLE MARKET 138 West Maple Avenue

OFFERING A COMPLETE LINE OF FRUITS AND VEGETABLES IN SEASON. FRESH VEGETABLES DAILY FROM DETROIT

Here Are Some Friday and Saturday Specials

Table with 4 columns: Item, Price, Item, Price. Includes No. 1 Michigan Potatoes, Good Eating Pears, Extra Fancy Eating Apples, Good Cooking & Eating Apples, Extra Juicy Grapefruit, Extra Sweet Oranges.

West Maple Fruit and Vegetable Market