

Good printing done quickly at a reasonable price—
That's the Birmingham Eccentric
"Your Printers"
Telephones 11 or 12

Birmingham Eccentric

PART TWO

Oakland County's Greatest Weekly Newspaper

FIFTIETH YEAR—NO. 24

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1927

\$1.50 PER YEAR—SINGLE COPIES 5c

BRAUN OPENS NEW BRANCH

Lumber Company Now Is Largest In Country; Steel Mill In Charge

The opening of its eighteenth yard in Pontiac this week was announced by officials of the Greater Braun Lumber corporation, thus making it the largest lumber service company in the United States, according to officials. George C. Steelman, of Riverdale avenue, former manager of the Birmingham yard, is in charge of the new Pontiac yard, located at 735 south Faddock street, on the west side of the Grand Trunk railway tracks between the newly extended portion of south Faddock street and south Boulevard. The site and buildings were purchased from Harding & Dull.

The new yard covers three acres and the Grand Trunk will start work shortly on a siding between 600 and 700 feet in length to serve the yard. A temporary stock of lumber has been provided to serve the firm's needs until the siding can be completed and the yard completely stocked.

The Pontiac yard contains one hundred 50 by 125 feet and 50 by 150 feet. Besides its many Detroit yards and mills, the Braun corporation maintains yards at Reelford, Ferndale, Royal Oak and Birmingham. It will carry a complete stock of rough and finished lumber at the Pontiac yard.

Joseph A. Braun is president and general manager of the corporation. William H. Kittle is vice-president and assistant general manager. William J. Braun, vice-president and director of purchases; L. A. Braun, vice-president and director of production; and Loren D. MacIntyre, secretary and treasurer.

The corporation maintains a fleet of 62 motor trucks, 117 trailers, several light roadsters for quick deliveries with 35 light trailers, 157 wagons for short hauls and 86 horses.

The corporation maintains a service department at each yard where assistance is given home builders in choosing house plans and with all details of the building.

Mr. Steelman has been in the lumber business all his life. He is a former manager of the John R. yard and for four years previous to 1918 was manager of the Fairview yard of J. Calvert's Sons in Detroit. From 1918 to 1925 he was lumber and supply buyer for the Hudson Motor Car company and then the Maxwell Motor corporation. He joined the Hanky Lumber company in 1925 as manager of the Birmingham yard, and in 1926 was promoted to the John R. yard of the Braun corporation.

Mr. Steelman's experience as a buyer took him through the southern pine districts where he gained a wide knowledge of lumber. In

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. A. Randall has returned from her western visit, on which she visited southern California, Colorado and other states and had a most enjoyable time.

25 YEARS AGO
One day last week Mrs. Fannie Shain and Miss Baldwin entertained a meeting of the Eastern Michigan Association at Trenton. The association is being entertained by the citizens of Trenton and the Detroit answers Mr. Snow of the Detroit Journal in the "Relation of the City Press" to the "Country Press." We already know what that is; it is a might poor relation and a weakly one. Next.

The oyster supper given at Mrs. Theron Smith's last Friday evening was well attended and a pleasant time is reported by all.

Messrs. Monroe and Gravin have just finished the home of A. W. Campbell with a coat of Detroit White Lead Works ready mixed paint and a pretty effect. It was secured by a harmonious blending of the colors.

Mr. Frank Deer has recovered sufficiently from his recent severe illness to return to his work in Grace hospital.

Mrs. G. Race and daughter of Detroit were guests of Mrs. Barr one day last week.

Mrs. C. V. Van Every was called to Port Huron Saturday by the death of a niece.

Earl Jenks is enjoying a week's vacation.

Mrs. F. Hagerman was in Detroit Friday.

T. Ward visited relatives and friends in Cleveland the past week.

Mrs. Robert Hanna of Southfield was calling on friends in town last Friday.

Mrs. Ellen Peabody visited friends in town one day last week.

Miss Edna Ford and Miss Wolfe of Troy visited friends in town one day last week.

The vestry of St. James church will be pleased to have one of their long dining tables returned to the parsonage of the church or advise them where it can be found and they will get it themselves. Also the Memorial association would like their flag and staff with brass spear head, returned to Harry Benedict or H. A. Hamlin.

Mrs. W. I. Deer and Miss Grace Blakeley visited Frank Deer at Grace Hospital last week.

MITCHELL SEES MORE GROWTH FOR ONE QUIET BIRMINGHAM

By GEORGE H. MITCHELL CHAPTER VIII

Rev. Thos. Middlems was at one time the leading Presbyterian minister and after him came Elder Hastings, and quite recently Elder Marsh. I can remember that Mr. Irving was my S. S. teacher in the Presbyterian Sunday School and also John Adams. That was many years ago and is somewhat dim.

Among other old timers, I can recall Henry W. Randall, father of George and Ellsworth; Daniel Bassett; George W. Durkes; Robert Beattie, whom every one called "Bob" and who was the father of James O. Beattie, John and Whitey; all gone now, and John D. Evans, Phil Lamber, and Bert Nixon, famed for his maple sugar and five cents per cake.

I am like Tompkins' book, of all this "I" stuff and for ever being charged with egotism will submit. But I will say this and fully believe it: That Birmingham will increase in size and stature more than double in the next 50 years. What do you think? And that makes me recall what my old friend Partridge used to say very earnestly: "George, I was born 50 years too soon; seeing the wonderful things that I have in my mind, I would like to have the same thing happen to me, but alack! that it did not. I would like to see what will come in the next 50 years." I would like to have the same thing happen to me, but alack! that it did not.

My last real work was as postmaster under President Wilson, in 1915, and in a year or so, I sold The Eccentric to Mr. VanBlick, of Highland Park. It brought me \$5,000, and later on it was sold to its present progressive owner, George E. Averill. After eight years of wonderful growth I handed the P. O. over to its present manager, James W. Cobb, with a salary of \$2,500. Under President Grover Cleveland in 1895, I was made postmaster. The post office then paid the post master a commission on the amount of stamps cancelled, and the office then was in the third class. McAllister Randall, the postmaster, who had been one of the original Eccentric Club, handed me the office. I held it for five years and then Samuel W. Smith, M. C., appointed John Hanna, my successor. The office had grown so that now it paid \$1,000 per year, and at the time I turned the office over to John J. Jokingly said, "Now, John, keep this office in good shape for some day, I'll take it back. I never dreamed it possible."

But Ed Lamb, another old timer, only recently deceased, started me out for it the last time, and in due time it was made post master again. When I handed the office over to John

Hanna, it paid \$1,800 a year, and when I handed it over to James W. Cobb, the salary was \$2,500 and the office was in the second class, and now it is much more, and growth of salary proves more than anything else the steady healthy growth of Birmingham and all of its businesses.

I might say that I am a member of the court of the wind, and it cools the hot, green leaves of the trees on a summer day. Come on, you word throwers, no fair about it. You spend all your time telling of moonlight, that never does more to a fellow than get him married. You spend all your time handing praise to a rose that means nothing to the millions of devils hurried up in the city's temples. Hell, it's no wonder people call you crazy. Why don't you do something decent? Why don't you tell about that wind, coming from God knows where, and the sound it makes pushing its way through the trees in the country, in its soothing determination to get into one of those dried up tennents and give some poor devil the strength to stand on his feet.

After the P. O. business, I presided for a few years, and today in its soothing determination to get into one of those dried up tennents and give some poor devil the strength to stand on his feet, gets a new straw hat.

The End

What is the peculiar marching step of the German army called?

Hendryk Hudson, colonial explorer, pushed up the Hudson river in his ship in the last days of the passage early in the seventeenth century. What was the name of his ship?

An Italian noble family, patrons of the arts, ruled the city state of Florence during Renaissance times. Can you name them?

"Neither shalt thou swear by thy head, because thou canst not make one hair white or black." Where does this passage appear in the Bible?

Today's Horoscope
Persons born under this sign can be a tremendous power for good in the world. They are endowed with sympathy and are kindness itself toward people in trouble.

Answers to above questions will be found on Page 3, this section.

OLD FRANKLIN HOME SOON TO BE REMOVED

The old Samuel Green homestead is being made ready for moving to the hill on Irving road in Franklin Village subdivision. The house which has long been owned by Charles A. Berger for 20 years, is to be completely remodelled. Nothing costs more than a house with pool and gardens, plans of which are now under way in the office of Muchman & Farrar, Detroit.

In the renovation of the old homestead many relics of by-gone days were found, one of which is a curfew bell. This bell has now been installed in the new house of the residence of George Wellington Smith in Franklin.

Leland Johnston of Birmingham has started the excavation for his new home in Franklin. The George W. Smith company is doing the work.

BLAZE IN BASEMENT BRINGS DEPARTMENT
A small fire in the basement of the two-story building at 116 Smith avenue brought firemen to the scene Sunday morning. No damage was done, the flames being confined to a bunch of papers.

Glimpses

at and about BIRMINGHAM
By RAYMOND GIRARDIN

Come on, you poets, dig into your vocabularies and find words to paint the court of the wind, and it cools the hot, green leaves of the trees on a summer day. Come on, you word throwers, no fair about it. You spend all your time telling of moonlight, that never does more to a fellow than get him married. You spend all your time handing praise to a rose that means nothing to the millions of devils hurried up in the city's temples. Hell, it's no wonder people call you crazy. Why don't you do something decent? Why don't you tell about that wind, coming from God knows where, and the sound it makes pushing its way through the trees in the country, in its soothing determination to get into one of those dried up tennents and give some poor devil the strength to stand on his feet.

After writing that I am informed by one of my spies that an organized movement against this column is to be made. Professor H. T. Ellery, who also serves as the editor of this column, is an old planning revolutionary member to see what can be done. I had a hint of it from him, during a guarded moment, the other day. "Do you plan," he asked, "to continue this sort of thing?" And I who am I to defend myself against Good Government and an onslaught of the Goodreads?

From the darker streets of Detroit comes a laugh, ribald and weird, at the intelligence tests by which the law expected to pronounce those with long police records insane and have them committed to an asylum. There is mockery in the laughter, but even the "smart" ones, this mockery is shaded with fear and suspicion. They are always on guard against trickery and they do not quite understand this new move.

Street Car Inspector Jack Hartford reports his new pastime detected on an interurban. A Negro matching pennies with himself and plainly showing his disappointment when the left hand won over the right.

Daily he pushes a handcart, loaded with peanuts and popcorn, up to a gasoline station on Woodward avenue. A small gas tank is cut out of the car, and he is cut out of the tank. His money is deposited and back he goes to his curb to vend the collections. His trade comes mostly from students at the high school and passing motorists on Woodward avenue in the evenings. Nothing costs more than a dime nor less than a nickel. Certainly his volume of business, adjacent buildings.

ESTIMATES ASKED ON 8-MILE PAVING
Bids were to be received today by the State Highway Commission for the paving of the Eight Mile road from the Wayne County line to a point south of South Lyon in Oakland county. The pavement is to be of concrete 20 feet wide and will be done under the Covert Act.

GRASS FIRE ORIGIN REMAINS A MYSTERY
Origin of a grass fire at Chestnut and Oak streets at noon Sunday is undetermined today by firemen who were called to the scene. No damage was done to adjacent buildings.

BURGLAR'S TRY IS FRUSTRATED

Prowlers At Consumers Power Offices Obtain Small Loot

Police believe today that burglars who forced their way into the office of the Consumers Power company last week at 132 east Maple avenue were frightened away before they could complete their plunder.

Both doors of the building were propped open when the burglary was discovered and police hold the theory that the thieves intended to move the safe or some of the office furniture to an automobile outside when the attempts were frustrated. Office employees say, however, that there was little of value in the safe.

An adding machine taken from an alley at the rear of the Bell Brothers garage, a small clock was the only thing of value the thieves took.

Entrance was gained by forcing a rear window. The doors were unlocked from the inside. No clues were left by the marauders.

THREE SPEEDERS PAY COURT FINES

Justice Buck Assesses Drivers \$25 For Traffic Violations In Village

Three speeding cases in Judge Floyd S. Buck's court Monday brought a total of \$25 in fines. Harold Skarkey, 2412 Bombricht street, Flint, paid \$10. He was arrested Sunday by Patrolman Edward Myers.

Paul Mercer, 122 Parent street, Royal Oak, also paid \$10 for speeding. He was arrested Saturday by Patrolman William Green on west Maple avenue, where he was said by Green to have been driving 35 miles an hour.

Paul Bolvin, 2240 Seminoles, Detroit, was fined \$5 when he was arrested by Judge Buck Friday. He was arrested Thursday by Patrolman Green who said Bolvin was driving 35 miles an hour on north Woodward avenue.

PREDICT SMALLER POTATO CROP HERE
A smaller potato crop for Oakland County this year is predicted by Harold M. Vaughn, agricultural agent, who with C. M. McCrary, specialist of the Michigan State College, has completed today a tour of the fields in the county. Weather conditions and improper care are reasons for the decrease as given by the inspectors. Other eastern fields also show a smaller crop, the men say.

First Church of Christ, Scientist Birmingham, Michigan

ANNOUNCES A
Free Lecture
on
Christian Science

BY JAMES G. ROWELL, C. S. OF KANSAS CITY, MO.

Member of the Board of Lectureship of the Mother Church, The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Mass.

Baldwin High School Auditorium
BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN

Sunday Afternoon, Oct. 2, 1927
At Four o'Clock

THE PUBLIC IS CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND



We are Specialists in Automobile Insurance

Immediate Settlements except—
30 Days on Theft Losses

The Wolverine Mutual Motor Insurance Company
Detroit, Michigan

BINGHAM SPARKS BINGHAM

Real Estate Insurance
Phone 985

