

The Birmingham Eccentric

PART TWO

FIFTY-FIRST YEAR—NO. 2

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 1925

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RECORDS FALL IN OPEN HOUSE

More Than 72,000 Guests in Three-Day Oakland Motor Celebration

With more than 72,000 persons having attended the open house celebration of the Oakland Motor Car company, held at Pontiac last week, all expectations regarding the success of the celebration were surpassed. Gordon Lafrevo, vice president in charge of operations, who conducted and said the number exceeded expectations by 50 percent.

Figures show that Tuesday, 29, 131 persons attended. Wednesday there were 26,059 and Thursday, 17,670.

Hundreds of persons jammed the streets of Pontiac and the roads through Birmingham on their way to the celebration. They arrived in motor buses, street cars and in their own autos.

625 Children in Nursery

During the three days 88,000 packets of ice cream, 85,000 sandwiches, 2,400 gallons of coffee and 550 gallons of punch were served from the lunch tables where visitors were given free refreshments by the company.

Despite this "celebration with continuous flow of spectators moving through the big plants, more than 3,600 Oakland and Pontiac automobiles were completely manufactured during the three days, keeping production up to its scheduled figure for April.

There were 625 babies and children ranging from three months to six years of age cared for in the specially outfitted nursery during the three days while parents made the trip through the plants.

The big celebration was handled by a reception committee of 100 men, an "Ask Me" committee of 100 men and a special girls' committee of 40 hostesses in the dance hall.

15,000 Couples Dance

It was estimated that more than 15,000 couples danced in the big shipping division dance hall during the three evenings and Tuesday afternoon.

To serve the refreshments to visitors 158 waiters were required each evening of the celebration.

Try An Eccentric Classified Ad.

FROM THE ECCENTRIC COLUMNS—of Long Ago

Bits Of News Gleaned From Old Files Of The Eccentric—The Items That Make Up Its Historical Background Of The Birmingham Of Today.

43 YEARS AGO

We are sorry to lose Mr. Converse and family who will take immediate possession of the farm he recently purchased over on the gravel road between Pontiac and Rochester. It is a good farm of 80 acres in good shape and with plenty of small fruit and the general Lewis tells us to come up when melons are ripe.

Lost on Saturday, March 28, 1885, between Arthur Blakelee's store and skating rink, road silver tobacco box full of tobacco. The finder will please leave the same at Whitehead & Mitchell's store and oblige Alexander Solts.

The Ready Helpers gave a very fine and pleasing entertainment at the Presbyterian church last Sunday evening, under the supervision of Mrs. J. A. Bigelow and Mrs. Hemingway. The exercises consisted of dialogues, singing and recitations by the little ones, assisted by older ones, and they pleased a large audience greatly.

A pedro party was given Nov. 25 evening by the Misses Florence and Ruth Blumberg. Twenty-four guests were present. Will Van Ewyk won the first prize. Miss Madie Kuntz first lady's prize and Jackson Bradway consolation prize.

Division Supt. Bedy of the Detroit United Ry. and Motorman Sturm who runs the construction car had a surprise party Monday afternoon. Motorman Sturm was running his car at his usual speed, coming north. "Billy" was on the Wilson switch leaving empty coal cars for the Grand Trunk Ry. Switch was open and Sturm ran in full tilt and a head on collision took place. Both cars were badly jammed, the stove tipped over and the car took fire, but it was promptly extinguished. Supt. Bedy made a flying leap for his life and saved it, much to his joy. No lives lost and the money loss was small.

25 YEARS AGO

Dick Erwin captured a wild goose in his barnyard the other day, and Dick says his goosehip is a trained scrapper.

When the Baptist people do anything they do it right. The next on the program is a concert by the Y. M. C. A. glee club. They should be heard to be appreciated. April 24 is the date.

Doc Paldock, our veterinary surgeon, took into himself a lovely bride in the person of Miss Maude Leet one evening last week. Congratulations are in order.

Big Beaver

Lynn Carper, Fred W. Smith and George Lamb are each taking a course in the International Correspondence School of Scranton, Pennsylvania.

The anything but a pleasant day for the "Easter homies" last Sunday, a well filled church listened to a program called "The Resurrection Glory," as rendered by the Sunday-school of the M. E. church.

Town Line

Town lines keep straight—Clark Beach is constant.

Mr. Odell now on the train, being able to walk with a cane; a cut foot the cause of his lameness.

The voice of the bull-frog is heard in our land.

The Troy Carriers, Brass Band are winning laurels by the music "Resurrection Glory," as rendered by their disfigure at the Utica roller rink lately.

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CIVIC CENTER HISTORY

Paper on Project Traces Development

The following history of the civic center in Birmingham, prepared by Charles J. Shan, former president of the village and George R. Averill, publisher of The Eccentric, was read at the dedication ceremonies Saturday of the new municipal building by Commissioner Scott Hersey.

Birmingham, which for so long years was a small village on the highway between Detroit and Pontiac, has for the past few years developed into a city of industrial suburbs, adjacent to these two industrial cities, has constantly been confronted with the necessity of keeping pace with the great increase in its population. Hundreds of new homes have been erected here since 1922; the village has increased in area during that time from its original square mile (640 acres) to over 2600 acres; population has more than doubled and today it is estimated that approximately 12,000 people live within our corporate boundaries. Such progress has taxed to the utmost the institutions of Birmingham, including its municipal government.

For many years Birmingham's municipal offices were located in the old Bellman building, situated at the corner of East Maple and Woodward avenues. Here, such progress has taxed to the utmost the institutions of Birmingham, including its municipal government.

NURSES' HOME NOW OPENED

Contagious Hospital House Ready For County Workers

A nurses' home, housing 22 graduate nurses who are employed in the Oakland County Contagious Hospital, has been opened on the new Telegraph road south of the city.

The building cost \$34,000 and is of brick and stone, with two stories, built on a basement, providing 11 bedrooms, a spacious living room and kitchen, a bathroom, a large bath, one on each floor.

The plans were made by Fisher Brothers, architects, of Pontiac. It was constructed by the contractor, under the direction of Will M. Brewer, chairman of the building committee, north of Oakland County, Michigan, and Dr. John D. Monroe, Oakland County health director.

The building, broken into by a recreation hall, runs from end to end of the building. Opposite the front entrance is the main living room. This room is furnished with a large, comfortable, downy sofa, a large, comfortable, downy chair, and a large, comfortable, downy chair, and a large, comfortable, downy chair.

On either side of this living room, off the main corridor are two bedrooms. They are furnished with twin beds and equipped with hot and cold running water. There is an underground, providing a scheme of the roof. Some are done in orange, some blue and others in green.

The second floor living room is furnished much the same as the smaller one.

We realize that home surroundings have a decided effect upon our nerves. C. C. O'Connor, superintendent of the Michigan State Hospital, said, "and we have everything in our power to make a better home of this."

The construction of the nurses' home solves the housing question for a large number of nurses who previously had to commute to Pontiac.

According to the report of Mr. Brewer, the hospital has been unable to accommodate all of its patients due to lack of room. Mr. Brewer feels that if conditions reflected whereby the Village Commission acquired, without restriction, the old Library property at the corner of East Maple and Woodward avenues, and the Library Board was given control over the first block of the Civic Center, formerly paid for the renting of quarters for the nurses.

Glimpses

at and about BIRMINGHAM

By RAYMOND GIRARDIN

No person, so far as I have been able to ascertain, has been able to read the most atrocious book I ever read. It was written by Sinclair Lewis on ministers. I have seen it on the shelves of a man who would write like that. When I finished reading it I wrote on the back cover, "This is the most damnable book I have ever read."

WE HEARD IT SAID BY—

Horatio East, former state highway commissioner: "The most atrocious book I ever read was written by Sinclair Lewis on ministers. I have seen it on the shelves of a man who would write like that. When I finished reading it I wrote on the back cover, 'This is the most damnable book I have ever read.'"

Most private detectives I have known are mental freaks of the greatest kind. Burke Montgomery reports a meeting with a woman sleuth who figured in a case which made the headlines most of last week. He and another investigator had been looking for a mysterious woman sought in connection with a shooting near Oxford. They made an appointment to meet the sleuth at her suggestion on a dark corner of the street. They waited for the woman to appear. She came, noting a car circle the block at intervals. Finally the car stopped. From way out in the driver's seat a submarine voice boomed, "Well boys, what's the trouble?"

It was their detective, cautious and solvent as are our brothers in the blue suits solicited.

My underdog agents report that people of other nations, their cantards being based on more sensible foundations, start doing when the madhouse gossip value is turned. On this same score and venture, the guess that Bronson's latest book on Anatole France was in the active list of the author himself. And if the average man in the street were aware that Anatole France ever existed and had heard that one while the book has been given to making a bit of the armchairs in the park, the said would say past that.

But a paradox!

With all his inane greed for \$10.

SPEDERS FINED

Two auto arrested Friday evening by Justice Floyd S. Burk.

Walter Thayer, 605 Stone street, Flint, pleading guilty to driving a car without an operator's license, paid a fine of \$5.

Walter Kinski, driver for the Star Coach, arrested Friday by Patrolman George Townsend on charge of speeding paid a fine of \$10.

YOUNG PEOPLE PLAN MEETING

Conference Of Societies To Be Held In Royal Oak April 28

A conference, to be held by the various young people's societies of Oakland County, will be held at the Royal Oak Methodist Church, Washington and Seventh streets, Royal Oak, according to announcement today.

All young men and women in Birmingham who are in any way connected with the Christian Endeavor, Epworth League, B. Y. P. U., Y. P. L., Y. P. P. association, the Sunday School classes of the young people's department, the H. Y. club and the Girl Reserves are invited.

The early part of the afternoon is given over to registration, which Miss Betty Taylor, recreational director, will put on "get-acquainted" stands.

At 4 p. m. the young people will convene and 12 representatives of the organizations will talk on problems confronting youth. This will be followed by an "open forum" discussion on topics suggested by the remarks.

This discussion is interrupted at 6 p. m. for a banquet. Later the group discussions are again to be resumed.

Fred A. Replugh, state director of Young People's Work, will address the assembly during the evening.

Tickets to the sessions and to the banquet can be obtained from the Y. M. C. A., 123 south Main street, Royal Oak, it is announced.

STATE FAIR TO HAVE NIGHT FIREWORKS

DETOIT, April 23.—A highly artistic display of "Oriental fireworks"—"A Night in Bagdad"—accompanied by a fireworks exhibition said to be the most startling ever shown at a state fair in this country, will be one of the outstanding attractions at the Michigan State Fair here, September 2-8.

J. W. Cawthix, 72, of Fayetteville, W. Va., ate 60 raw eggs in 15 minutes.



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Once you have opened a checking account with this strong bank, you'll find it equally convenient and indispensable. For with a check book in your pocket, you cannot lose your money—yet you always have the entire resources of your account at your immediate disposal.

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JIMSON BRADWAY	WALTER L. MOSELAND	JAMES W. TAYLOR
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