

BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC

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NOTE: The Eccentric is pleased to publish stories of events which have news value and which are written by persons not connected with the editorial staff.

Each Day A Glorious New Year

Next Tuesday morning your new calendar will inform you that the first of January has arrived upon the scene of your activities.

However, there is much sentiment connected with January 1; for one thing, it is the beginning of a time when New Year's resolutions are sought to be put into successful effect.

Yet there is a certain glory about New Year's eve when, gathered at many points of the compass, people wait for the clock to strike twelve.

Fascinating Topics For You Here

Had you been present at the Baldwin high school last Friday night when Prof. Preston Slosson, of the History Dept. of the University of Michigan, gave a fine talk on "Nations in the Making," afterwards answering many impromptu questions, you would have come away with a clearer understanding of your individual place in the ranks of mankind.

Sponsored by the Michigan branch of the League of Nations Non-Partisan Association, this series of lectures is bringing a wealth of very pertinent information, and as well worth one's time to attend them.

The first lecture was given a month ago in Royal Oak by Prof. James, of the Geography Dept. of the U. of M.; Prof. Slosson's lecture was the second one on the program. The evening of January 24 the third lecture will be given when a noted Frenchman will appear on the program, his topic touching on world affairs, with a probable special emphasis on our future wars.

An Important Local Question

A few days ago we were discussing with one of our citizens the subject of Birmingham property paying taxes into the Bloomfield Hills Township coffers, with no chance of having any of the taxes returned to them in the shape of local improvements; that is to say, none of this money will be expended within the corporate limits of Birmingham for streets, lighting, police or fire protection, etc.

All of which raised a legal question between us, which is: can any of this money lawfully be expended within Birmingham or Bloomfield Hills Village, the two incorporated areas within the Township which are supposed to raise their own money for public improvements and local government?

BIRMINGHAM'S NEW postoffice is a good block farther north than it ever was—where it used to be. It is now on the corner of 12th and 13th streets, near the intersection of 12th and 13th streets.

A Good Appointee

The Baldwin Public Library is fortunate in obtaining as a successor to Earl Potter, recently resigned, the very able and energetic Mr. M. G. Gore, a special writer for the Detroit News, brings with him to the library board a fine scholastic and empirical training, one that will undoubtedly assist in continuing the Baldwin Public Library as a sturdy spoke in the wheel of this community's life.

The Difference Is Thin

Take eating, for instance. In the primitive tribes of the world today the natives know nothing of the complexity of the modern silvermith's tools that adorn dining room tables, yet the tribes go on, generation after generation, their stomachs receiving the contents of stew pots via the hands. In these same tribes, warfare still continues, many of them using very primitive instruments of death—yet attaining the same results that come from the maws of the United States.

Extremes In Thinking

There are extremes in life—always. Light and darkness; love and hate, prosperity and poverty, morality and licentiousness. In every country upon the face of the earth you will find opposites in human activity—which means that there are opposites in people's thinking.

Man's Mind Is A Real Giant

Twenty-five years ago, down at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, two Ohio boys flew a heavier-than-air machine for 12 seconds. The other day one of the boys—now a grown man—visited the spot, an international hero; his name is Orville Wright. Wilbur, his brother, took a Greater Flight 16 years ago, but his work lives on.

Idealism In Real Estate

Ever and anon the conflict between Mammon and idealism is going on within the thinking of men and women. The more idealistic we become, the more real help we extend to our brother and sister earth-beings—few will deny this statement. In the development of a community in these modern days, real estate men and women play a vital part in their activities during the past ten years they have elevated their business concepts to a high degree of service, and have prospered. Properly accompanied a proper service—and service is rightly improved when based upon idealism. Why not idealistic real estate men and women? Nothing could be easier, for do not we all have the traditions of the home upon which to perfect their idealism?

We Know You, Al!

Al Webber, our good editor friend of the Cheboygan, Mich., Observer, must have written at least a portion of the following comment during a heated meeting of the Town Dads, for a portion of it reads: "I proved to him why it is unworthy of a good man to suggest that the killers be killed, why they should be turned out from time to time to take other lives if it interferes with their plan of gaining a livelihood."

Editor Al Webber, and generally handles his comment with fairness to all; but in his cautious reference to us he slipped a cog. Here's what the Cheboygan said in his last issue:

"Editor J. E. McMullen, formerly editing a paper at Onaway and well known and liked here, is now editing a paper at Linden, has been printing things in his paper about capital punishment that didn't harmonize with editorials printed by George Averill, editor of the Birmingham Eccentric."

"DAM POWER BATTLE ENDS" read a caption in last Friday's Detroit Free Press. That's what we say, too.

SPEAKING OF HEAD WORK



GAMBLING AT CAPITAL DECRIED BY SENATOR

By CHARLES P. STEWART Washington Correspondent of Central Press and the Eccentric Washington.—Senator Arthur Capper is worried about gambling in Washington. He says the national capital is the last place where vice ought to be tolerated, on account of the bad example to the rest of the land.

thing they want to sidestep, our national lawmakers are very finicky about states' rights. Other times, when they want to accomplish something in a big way, they cannot see a state line with a microscope.

Another thing— When Senator Capper objects to penny-matching in Washington, what does he think of the recent matching of millions on the stock exchange? The senator said he considered it no very fair parallel.

As between shooting craps for dimes and playing the market for millions—

FROM THE ECCENTRIC COLUMNS —of Long Ago

Bits of News Gleaned From Old Files Of The Eccentric—The Items That Made The Historical Background Of The Birmingham Of Today.

FIFTY YEARS AGO Whitehead, of the Birmingham Eccentric was in town a few days since, and while standing in front of the First National Bank, was run against by a half blind old lady, who was "shortly after heard to exclaim: 'Well, I dew declare if these Pontiac foles haint got so they put telegraph poles and horse blocks right in the middle of the sidewalk.'"

too small and his hair too black, but his face is just cute.

Did St. Nick do the square thing by you? Frank Satterlee is home from Ann Arbor, for the holidays.

Nearly all the trains going east last Monday, were snow-bound and our drivers had to "sow" what of a pickle about their stock.

The Other Chap Says Something

THE MANAGER PLAN The recent election outcome in several cities where the manager plan was an issue suggests a popular confidence in the desirability of maintaining and extending this modern form of city government.

At any rate, the howl is raised that the recent delirium of stock traders—or gambling, or whatever it is, has tied up such vast sums, however—that was a new evil for everyday business, which finds itself cramped.

As between shooting craps for dimes and playing the market for millions—

AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL

Forty-one years ago tonight, Dec. 7, 1887, I was born in Birmingham, Ala. My father was a brick maker and my mother was a seamstress.

Iron River, however, did not remain long as the county seat. The big safe, and what few records of the county government were housed in the Campbell block, which was an imposing structure present in the county house since 1867, but is now recognized as an old landmark.

Larger Stores Demanded

ANOTHER illustration of the growth of Birmingham's business market is the new A. & P. store on West Maple, just east of the fashionable Wabek Building.



outfit was soon out of sight and the court house, so far as being the county seat, was concerned, was lost without any apparent effort.

About a year later, after much wrangling, the question as to where the county seat should be located, was submitted to a vote of the people.

Of course all sorts of stories were broadcast as to how Crystal Falls captured the location of the court house. It was captured simply because, even in that early day, the people buried their differences if they had any, and worked with one purpose in view—and that was to secure the largest vote possible to make Crystal Falls the county seat.

G. DEWEY KIMBALL FUNERAL DIRECTOR 300 N. WOODWARD AVE. 283 AMBULANCE SERVICE

BAD BUSINESS One, the night porter, was testifying before the jury after the big bank robbery.

Are you guilty or not guilty? "Guilty, yer Honor, and I've got witnesses to prove it," replied the defendant.—Weekly Telegraph (Sheffield).

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