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The Birmingham Eccentric

PART TWO

FIFTIETH YEAR—NO. 38. BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 1928 $1.50 PER YEAR—SINGLE COPIES 5c

HILL FOLK DISAPPROVE APARTMENT

23 Of 30 Property Owners Vote Against Breaking Zone Measure

FINAL DECISION LOOMS

Announcement is expected to be made at a meeting of the public with the board of appeals of Bloomfield Hills Village Jan. 18 on the granting of a permit to construct an apartment housel in the hills. The meeting is to be held in the village offices at Woodward avenue and the Long Lake road.

When property owners and the board met to discuss the project last Friday night, 23 persons owning property or their representatives opposed the granting of a permit for the construction of the building on property owned by Louis Savage on the west side of Woodward avenue north of the Lone Pine road. A zoning ordinance in the village restricts the construction of multiple dwelling buildings. Thirty property owners are in the affected territory.

Names of those who opposed the granting of the permit follow:

Art Center Realty company, Edward Benedict, Booth Investment company, Judson Bradway, Joseph A. Braun, John H. DeVisser, George Edmunds, L. T. Gillian, Richard H. Glendon, Lynn D. Halstead, W. G. Harry, Norvall A. Hawkins, W. S. Kennedy, G. W. J. Linton, Robert Mantell, Jr., Bert Morley, William E. Mosher, S. V. Norton, F. L. Pierce, Ralph L. Polk, R. R. Sterling, Trowbridge Farms company and Maude Nelson.

Owners who did not vote are: Clara Benedict, Mrs. Ellen Benedict, A. P. Brush, John Endicott, George House, Fred Lamb and Mrs. T. S. Sprague.

Glimpses

at and about BIRMINGHAM

By RAYMOND GIRARDIN

We Americans must be approaching civilization. It is just as difficult for me to make this confecture without blushing as for anyone else, but I have lived through a New Years eve which, for so-called sanity, rivaled an afternoon session of the Ladies Tatting society. I mean if that is, of course, sanity. Maybe I had better make something else clear. It probably is difficult for those in the back of the auditorium to hear me because of this awful cold. I do not necessarily mean that I spent the evening fighting. But I mean that most of the people both in Birmingham and Detroit must have been so engaged.

I was in Detroit and the downtown was a horrible thing. Not only the cold, but the family of the affair. The "civilization." People carried bundles. Actually bundles on New Years eve. I realize there are several kinds of bundles. But the kind I saw being carried contained pictures or hymn books or laundry.

At 2 p. m. I saw the first bum. He was maudlin and he wept. I suppose it was disappointment that made the fellow feel so badly. He probably had tucked his wife in a clothes closet and fled the house in favor of a night of revelry—the kind he was used to. But he could not find anyone who would play with him.

My spies report that saloons—my spies know all about such places—were as spooky as the last part of the first act of Hamlet. They say the sleepy bartenders played solitaire while the wind howled its way through the streets.

Tea-cupabarets were anything but Bacchanalian. Heavens knows that Pussyfoot Johnson himself could not complain about the amount of drinking I saw in brief visits to a couple of places. The suckers who paid the $10 or $15 cover charge actually looked scared. If they were having a good time, then so did the early Christian martyrs have a good time when the lions growled.

Now then, for a guess at the underlying cause for all this ghoullishness. Was it, do you think, because the prohibition enforcement officers in Detroit broadcast warnings that if a person were seen looking at even a bottle of pale ginger ale he would be hauled ignominiously to the Iron House? No?

Was it because of the last minute warnings that a group of German agents had spiked most of the Scotch with ground glass? My old age has not provided me with the credulity to believe this.

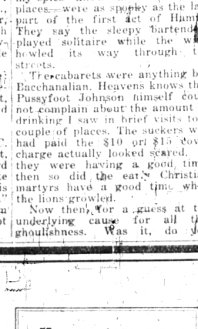
Was it because the Ford factory has not been lighted many months of the year and hence all Detroiters were stricken with poverty? Again I dissent.

Was it because everyone and his butler gave a house party? I do not think so because it seems this year that everyone stayed at the idea.

Nor did the warnings of the righteous against the evils of lushing have a great deal to do with it. Not a thing more than they have to do with the falling off in popularity of the bicycle.

The most serious factor, it seems to me, is the satiety of Americans of 1927-1928 with this roistering (excuse) which, for the past several years, has occupied a great deal of their time. The Americano today is bored, with getting drunk and kissing the girl of the grocery clerk at the next table. He is bored with the talk of the bartender. He is bored with the obsequiousness and empty hand of the head waiter. He is bored with the clicking of the meter on a taxicab. He is bored with the next morning and he is even more bored with the "kick" provided by synthetic gin. Sometimes I believe the exertion of tilting a glass wearies him.

You see, he is in no mood to blow horns as the new year approaches. And news that he is welcome to dance and drink and kiss the grocery clerk's girl in a cabaret if he pays the $10 or $15 cover—which includes a partially clean table cloth and some sort of bowl of cooled soup with a promise of some potatoes later in the morning—he gets just as excited as if he were invited to pay the same price for the privilege of



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The Birmingham Savings Bank

Woodward Avenue, Just South of Maple Avenue

Capital - $200,000 Surplus - $50,000

OFFICERS		DIRECTORS	
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Death Mourned

JUDGE ROSS STOCKWELL

Oakland county circuit court, the death of Judge Stockwell was for 14 years was judge of probate. He was local in Birmingham and had occupied other positions of prominence in the county before entering the appointment to the probate court.

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looking through a stereoscope at handpainted views of Niagra Falls.

All of which brings me to the conclusion. Prohibition is having an effect. It has made the Great American public get out and get itself so blooming plastered that, for a time at least, it is far more interested in sitting at home enjoying the static that is ringing the doorbell of a hand jag.

CRIPPLE CHILD DRIVE REACHES $1,839 HERE

Annual Campaign For Funds Exceeds Last Year's Total By $231

WORK IS EXPLAINED

Subscriptions in Birmingham and Bloomfield Township, for membership in the Oakland County chapter of the Michigan Society for Crippled Children, reached the total of $1,839.28, according to David H. Ladd, chairman of the enrollment drive committee. Other townships, in that colonial western district, composed of Royal Oak, Highland, Milford, Commerce, White Lake, Springfield, West Bloomfield and Bloomfield township, have not reported Mr. Ladd, said.

The amount received this year in Bloomfield township, exceeds that received last year by $231.82. The money is used to care for the crippled children in Oakland County only, Mr. Todd said. Much of the success of the Oakland County chapter is due to the work of Miss Leola B. Jacques, nurse and physiotherapist, Mr. Ladd declared.

Miss Jaques at present conducts treatment clinics in Birmingham on Monday and Friday afternoons and Wednesday morning at the Pierce School. She may be located at the department of Public Health, 97 Perry street, Pontiac, on Monday and Friday mornings; at Wednesday afternoons; and at Ferndale and Royal Oak on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons; and Saturday mornings at the Union School, Washington street, Royal Oak. If she cannot be reached at these places, she may be referred to her by calling Mr. Ladd or Dr. Harold E. Roehm, of Birmingham.

When cases are reported they are investigated by Miss Jaques, and if they are found to be for the crippled children's care, the child is taken to the clinic at the Children's Hospital of Michigan in Detroit or to the University Hospital at Ann Arbor, for examination and diagnosis by orthopedic specialists. If necessary, treatments, hospitalization and operations then follow.

A number of cases of crippled children have been reported since the drive began, Mr. Ladd said. These children received the necessary care and attention. Special effort was made at Christmas to make all the crippled children known, in Oakland County so happy and comfortable as possible. The Rotary club of Birmingham and Detroit made this possible by the toy gifts they gave, he said.

DRUNK DRIVER GETS 30 DAYS

New Year's Eve Celebrator Lands In Jail After Auto Crash

Celebrating New Years so vigorously that his automobile overturned on Woodward avenue in Bloomfield Hills village caused Herman Kurth, 1264 Alfred street, Detroit, to be sentenced to 30 days in the Oakland County Jail when he appeared before Justice Floyd S. Buck Tuesday.

He was arrested by Patrolman Delos Anderson of the hills police department after the crash. Kurth escaped without injury when the car overturned. Judge Buck recommended that his operator's license be revoked for six months.

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

Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Wattles celebrated the thirtieth anniversary of their wedding at their residence on Center street in Troy, on the evening of Jan. 2. Their neighbors and relatives to the number of about fifty helped them upon the occasion. A very enjoyable time was had and some elegant tokens of esteem, in the shape of linen, silk and china goods were presented them, with the kindest regards and best wishes of all present. A bountious repast was served at ten o'clock, in the spacious dining room, the table fairly groaned under the load of good things which Mrs. Wattles knows so well how to prepare. The company dispersed at a reasonable hour, feeling that they had been very kindly entertained, and hoping that the host and hostess might live to see many returns of the season.

Miss Mattie Baldwin returned home from the New Orleans exposition last week Saturday, having left there the week before. She brought to our sanctum some orange boughs, full on them two full grown, ripe oranges, the first we ever saw, fastened to a limb. We were also favored with the Mississippi Valley and all of the noted places of interest and personages. Verily its nice to travel.

At the annual election of officers of Birmingham grange for the ensuing year the following were elected: M., P. A. Park; O., S. Beatty; L., H. H. Peabody; S., Grace Satterlee; A. S., Allie Simpson; C., G. W. Hendrickson; T., William Satterlee; Secretary, C. G. Jackson; G. K., H. Perkins; Pomona, Mrs. Bowers; Flora, Mrs. Peabody; Ceres, Bertha Von Dorsels; L. A. S., Mrs. Shain.

We were lately shown a life size photo of Deputy Sheriff Abe Beattie, taken by that genuine and artistic photographer, W. H. Brummitt, at Pontiac. The picture is true to nature and very lifelike, and a credit to both artist and victim.

We noticed that Lucien Humphrey is back again from the wilds of Dakato. He will stay until December 30, when you can commence your costume now, and then you won't be in a pucker about it when the time comes.

Miss Lydia Clift has again returned to the Eastern asylum for the insane where she will fill a very important position with that institution.

The care worn look on the face of the junior proprietor of the Eccentric is rapidly disappearing as the 4th of March looms up in the distance. Visions of a fat office, ship in the scavenger's office or perhaps the position of the chief bouncer for the president elect, himself, are what make George look so much younger than he did two months ago.

Allie Simpson started on an extended southern tour this week. He will absorb the beautiful atmosphere of Louisania and will visit the New Orleans exposition as well as breathing the ambient air of the sunny clime of Texas and visiting his sisters, Mrs. Mc-Munus and Miss Clara Simonson. May happiness attend him.

Miss Annie Scharick, of Flint, is the guest of the family of George Sly near Wing Lake. The Misses Scharick and Sly were at the roller rink Saturday evening last and seemed to enjoy the pastime hugely.

C. A. Bigelow of Detroit was in town last Saturday.

James Baldwin visited his brother John a day or two last week.

On Tuesday next, January 20, Mr. and Mrs. James Bailey of this place will have reached the 60th milestone of their married life. A golden wedding is a rare occurrance, but this vivacious old couple celebrated their's ten years ago. May they live to see many more of their wedding anniversaries.

At the regular election of officers of the L. L. of the following were elected: President, Mrs. R. E. Trowbridge; Vice president, Mrs. J. A. Bigelow; secretary Miss Cromwell; Miss J. Pest, Board of directors; Mrs. H. F. Trowbridge, Mrs. M. Smith, Mrs. C. Bevier, Mrs. P. H. Sherman, Miss M. Baldwin.

The Ladies Library society have issued tickets of invitation to their thirteenth annual masquerade ball. This affair is the event of the season and as roller skating ads about done away with dancing for some time past we predict that the lovers of the mazy waltz will turn out in full force and give the treasurery such a boom as it never had before. Costumes can be had at the hall of the popular costumers, Miss Lucy Bains & Co.

25 YEARS AGO

The Ladies Aid of the Presbyterian Church will meet with Mrs. Theron Smith Wednesday afternoon. You are welcome.

Supervisors are again in session and our A. U. Porter is very busy looking out for Bloomfield's interest. He always does. The tax commission is with them and they are making Andrew watch out a bit.

On January 10 the friends and relatives of Moses Goodell of Troy gave him a very pleasant birthday party. Just before dinner A. H. Miles, of Detroit, in behalf of Mrs. Goodell presented him with a handsome gentlemen's rocker, for a birthday present. Not a bad day for rockers.

At the residence of the bride's parents, on Wednesday Dec. 31, at noon, Lewis Gradley and Gertrude J. Bailey, of Troy were united in marriage by Rev. Mr. Jennings. F. L. Newton, of Pontiac acted as best man and Miss Clara Bailey as maid of honor. The bride was tastefully attired in white silk and the maid of honor in white organdie. Miss Jennie Niles played the wedding march and little Misses Ethel and Edith Phillips carried the ribbon. After the ceremony a bountiful dinner was served. Seventy-five relatives and friends were present.

Notes From Big Beaver

One of the pleasing features of the new officers of our Sunday school assuming their duties was when Stephen Mill, the newly elected superintendent, called Mr. Goodale, who had served in that office for several years, to come to the front and report the financial standing of the school. He then informed him that it was a debt of love and gratitude that the school owed him, and in as few well chosen words, presented him an behalf of the teachers and officers with a beautiful Oxford Bible.

Frank Roggenorff and Miss Sarah Stevens were married at the home of the bride Wednesday, Jan. 7, Rev. L. L. Houghton officiating.

Mrs. David Lamb, of Bay City, is visiting friends here.

Gilbert Becker and family moved last week to Rochester.

John Vokes had the misfortune while cutting down hay from a stack, to fall, breaking one rib and fracturing two others.

Notes from Troy

A birthday surprise party was perpetrated on John Harper Friday even-g.

Telephone Company To Spend $250,000

The Birmingham branch of the Michigan Bell Telephone company will spend $250,000 in this area during 1928, according to announcement today by J. W. Tatham, manager of the business office. This money will go toward the extension of facilities for service, Mr. Tatham said, and will be expended with the idea of keeping pace with the rapid growth of Birmingham.

The quota is larger than that allotted to any other community in Michigan the size of Birmingham and is necessitated because of the unusual expansion here, he declared.

A large share of the money will supply relief for crowded sections of the village and its immediate environs, according to plans announced by the company. It is expected large cables will be installed in different parts of the village where congestion has been found to exist.

Great expansion is reported by the Telephone company during 1927, which is believed to have been the greatest year of its operation in Birmingham. Today there is a total 2,800 lines in Birmingham. This is an increase of approximately 500 over the figure announced a year ago. A proportionate increase is anticipated by company officials for 1928.

Congestion to be Relieved

"Although the Telephone company believe it is keeping pace with the rapid growth of Birmingham, the anticipated growth has to be reckoned with," said Mr. Tatham. "We have reason to believe this will be continued and are making plans to continue the kind of service our subscribers are entitled to," he said.

Plans for the year here call for the installation of eight new switch board sections. Congestion in the neighborhood of Oak street is to be relieved and added accommodation will be given persons in the neighborhood of Southfield road, he said.

During 1927 practically all the proposed work on the installation of cables in the northwest section of Birmingham has been completed, Mr. Tatham said. The main offices of the company moved from the quarters on Pierce street to 147 east Maple avenue where a new building has been constructed. Added recreational facilities have been placed at the disposal of the operators of the Birmingham exchange. While the removal to the offices the part of the Pierce street building has been remodeled into rest and recreation rooms for the operators.

The 1928 state program contemplates large additions to the long distance cables and open wire toll circuits, installation of new central offices, installation of additional central office equipment in existing central offices, and the construction of much new outside plant apparatus, and considerable building activity. It calls for the expenditure of $27,000,000.

These expenditures are made necessary, it is shown, in order to keep up with the growing service requirements of the state and its cities, and because of the increasing usage of long distance service by firms in every branch of manufacturing and merchandising in their effort to keep abreast of modern high speed methods of buying, selling and handling business.

Provide For Future

The Michigan Bell's plans for 1928 carry a reasonable provision for this future, as careful studies made by the company in the territory served, forecast a continuing increase of Michigan's population and industry. A report of a survey recently completed by the company in Detroit indicated a belief that that city will have a population of 3,000,000 by 1945, with corresponding growth likely for the remainder of the state. Similar telephone surveys made in other cities of the state, such as Grand Rapids, Flint, Ann Arbor, Pontiac, Jackson, Kalamazoo and Lansing, show steady increase of population. Another factor that

(Continued on Page 7, Part 2)

DEATH TAKES C. KLINE, 80

Pioneer Of Franklin Lived In Vicinity Over 30 Years

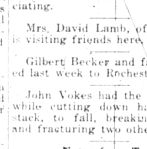
Christopher Klein of Franklin road, died at his home early Monday morning, from complications incident to old age. He was 80 years old.

Mr. Klein was born in Grosse Pointe, Feb 8, 1847 but has been a resident of Birmingham for 31 years.

In March 1863, he enlisted in the 15th Michigan Division staying in the ranks until the close of the Civil war in 1865.

Beside his widow, Mrs. Catherine Klein, nine children survive. They are: Mrs. Rose C. Raynale of Highland, Mrs. Carolie Allen of Crystal Lake, John Klein of Birmingham, Mrs. Della Waters of Utah, Mrs. Elizabeth Barker of Pontiac, George Klein of Southfield, Charles Klein of Pontiac, Mrs. Agnes Burt of Davison, and Miss Olive Klein of Franklin.

The burial was Wednesday at 11 a. m. from the Franklin Methodist Episcopal Church.



Birmingham

--the ideal location

BIRMINGHAM offers a distinct attraction for people who wish to live here and have their respective businesses in Detroit or Pontiac. Let us show you our complete list of homes and homesites.

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