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Our Village Is Growing

With the municipal building well under way, two new schools, a church and an office building being constructed, and plans already laid for other buildings of this nature, Birmingham is in a fair way to have things to boast of before next winter sets in. The progress it is making in buildings other than homes is a natural one considering the growth of our near neighbors, Pontiac and Detroit, and the subsequent development of the village itself. Just a few years ago Birmingham was a place people passed through on their way to the northern part of the state. Today it is a village where people make their homes and conduct their business. It is a fine thing to know that the village has the spirit of intelligent progressiveness; that it is building schools and churches and government buildings along with its homes. Through these facilities it is offering a greater inducement for more homes. The future looks excellent. This summer promises to see the completion of the pavement on Woodward avenue and possibly the start in the removal of the Grand Trunk tracks and the paving of a highway through that part of Birmingham.

We Hope He Is Clean

The United States Senate Teapot Dome Committee is going to investigate the estate of the late President Harding to determine whether or not he received any of the oil lease money. For the sake of the people's faith in the highest office in the land, we hope that Harding is found guilty personally as far as the Teapot Dome scandal is concerned. Somehow or other we can't believe that a President of the United States can go wrong when filled with a true consciousness of the importance of his position in history. We are willing to believe that Harding's friends, social and political, may have made money by cheating the government of some part of its possessions—but we are reluctant to be told that human avarice and greed overtook the President's chair of these United States. Such evidence, indeed, be a bitter blow to popular government.

A Chicago Judge

Judge Marcus Kavanaugh of Chicago celebrated his thirtieth anniversary on the bench with the publication of a book having to do with crime. The average human being cherishes the belief that judges are not normally intelligent persons whose minds are trained to function in some cases, judges are considered mental maddonnas who can read off large words and know all the time what those real words mean. They are the exceptions of course, but at least a judge is supposed to be on the same mental plane as the fellow who faces him in court. Well, Judge Kavanaugh in this book defends capital punishment and advocates the whipping post for law violators. On this latter score he says, "No underworld lord can retain the respect of his followers after he has wined under the pain of a whipping. The cat-nine talk is feared more by the racketeer and more than a jail sentence." This, remember, comes from a venerable and august judge who has turned to literature. It is not the observation of a plodder from mountains of Tennessee. Sometimes it is difficult to understand why none of these people who talk of crime prevention in this manner have failed to think of advocating the return of the stocks.

JUDGE BOWLES IN DETROIT has scored the police department in that city for arresting the operators of punch boards in drug stores. The judge, finding 12 cases on his docket Tuesday morning, suggested testily that the officers spend more time in the effort to apprehend dangerous criminals. From what we know of Detroit politics we suggest that they spend the time they have left over in the effort to apprehend some semblance of civilization. And this observation does not follow an encounter with a traffic officer, either. "Daves Driven Into Campaign," says the newspaper headlines, referring to the Vice-President's competition for Republican honor with Herbert Hoover for the Presidency. Daves is spoken of as a "dark horse." The race between these two, then, may develop into a heated gallop. To know a man's worth, you must take him, not his accomplishments, but by his little acts. Is he kind where kindness brings no material reward? Can he forgive without feeling magnanimous? Is he helpful? These are the kind of tell-tale traits by which the real worth of a man is measured.—United American H. S.

A lot of unheeded advice is given, the most futile being that offered young folks concerning Futile Flights. When we wonder, will all this futile trans-Atlantic flying cease? Certainly the day is coming when it will be as safe to travel to Europe in an airplane as it is to travel there today in a bus, but that day is not yet at hand. Meanwhile it is folly of the greatest order, to try it with an airplane. The bus week was increased when Capt. Hincliffe and Miss Mackay were given up for lost. If their trip had been successful, what would it have meant that really matters? Lindbergh flew across the Atlantic in a non-stop trip, thus proving it can be done. Even a successful trip now would have no significance. It is tragic that the lure of publicity and the plaudits of the people mean so much to young aviators that they attempt so dangerous an expedition. Aviation soon will be made safer. Until that time the fate young people who are giving their lives in these needless trips could aid the cause a great deal more by continuing their daily duties and taking as few risks as possible.

Fakes And Fakes. It may be true, as Barnum said, that people like and expect to be fooled; but it is equally true that they are greatly surprised when they are not fooled. There are good fakes and bad fakes. People will enter the side show of a circus, knowing from experience that it is a hoax, yet deep down beneath their cloak of sophistication they hope it isn't. We have visited "the iniquitous dens of underground Chinatown" in the amusement parks of several cities, knowing them all to be frauds designed to snatch the coin from seekers after diversion. But there was a difference. Some were worth seeing and some were not. Some made no attempt at realism, presenting merely a few makeshift dummies, surrounded by tattered scenery and exhibited by quite uninteresting "spies." The spectator felt that his money was wasted. On the other hand, a few had introduced an artistic touch of realism into their exhibit. Their "spies" had a line of character about them, and the visitors would "take their medicine" with a smile. Instead of going away feeling that they had been fobbed, the observers felt that the laughs were worth the money. The people may like to be fooled but they don't like to be skinned, and if the managers of amusement parks were to be more concerned with the quality of the concessions to which they rent space, fewer parks would "go broke." The people will spend money recklessly until they feel they are being "stung," and then—the goose lays no more golden eggs.

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Amusement

The really odd and senescent part of this extravagance, however, aside from the fact that the people cannot afford it, is that the thrill-seekers are getting no more pleasure out of their squanderings than their grandmother did from playing with her rag dolls. If a dollar really brought a dollar's worth of pleasure all would be well, but it doesn't. Hundreds of thousands of people spend money for so-called "amusements" simply because they don't know what else to do. It is a habit, and when an action becomes a habit it is no longer a pleasure. We have no particular animosity toward the movies and ice cream beds for people who can afford them. But it is a rather pitiable condition of the average hard-pushed American family when its "think tanks" are so corroded that it cannot provide its own home-made amusements instead of spending the rent money for its recreation, which really isn't recreation at all, but only an expensive imitation.

We submit the following to Chicago for a slogan: "Chicago, the city of the slaughter-houses. Be ye man or beast, step ye forth to the killing."

The higher type of man seeks all that he wants in himself; the inferior man seeks all that he wants from others.—Confucius.

Contentment

Duty—grim word, it has a dreary sound, The dull prosaic never-ending round Of daily toil which it entails. Of washing endless dishes o'er and o'er, Of dusting chairs, mopping the kitchen floor Of baking pies and cakes and cooking stew, Each task accompanying to be done anew. I fain would linger in some sunny nook, With dainty sitting or a favorite book. A bulging mending basket stares at me, Small stockings gapping at the heel and knee And other tattered garments. Was I meant For only such a life? Grave discontent And weariness my soul assails. Day wanes. I pause to watch the setting sun. My man comes home to me, his labors done. The children, wearied with their play Leave scattered joys in disarray To climb upon my lap. But angels know Such perfect joy, or ever turn Contentment like to mine. Life is a thing divine.

PEOPLE'S COLUMN

The Eccentric is pleased to recognize the following for their contribution to this column. All communications must be signed. Signatures will be kept confidential.

MEMORIAL SUGGESTION How beautiful and kindly and praiseworthy a deed it would be if those who have it in mind to erect a monument to the memory and in honor of Harry Brooks, would instead, establish a memorial fund, named for him, for the benefit and encouragement of young men. There are so many who need help—the sick, the handicapped and the talented who lack funds to carry on their studies. Surely the parents of such a young man as Harry Brooks would derive more satisfaction from such a use of the money, than to have it put into a monument. An article would respond to an appeal for funds for this purpose, who might hesitate to help erect a monument. Mrs. G. W. CROSBY, 8651 N. Martindale Ave., Detroit, Mich.

DIDN'T LIKE BILLY Ladies and gentlemen of The Eccentric audience, we beg permission to interrupt your reading of our news items for a while to present for your entertainment and edification this Hot Flasher. We are not trying to sell you anything that will put money in our own hands, but we would respond to an appeal for funds for this purpose, who might hesitate to help erect a monument. Mrs. G. W. CROSBY, 8651 N. Martindale Ave., Detroit, Mich.

First Methodist Episcopal Church, Maple Avenue, West, at Henrietta Street. Pastor, Marcus Atkins, Minister of Music, Fred W. Jones. Services: 11:00 a. m., Morning Worship; 7:30 p. m., Evening Service. Sunday School, 10:30 a. m.

Southfield United Presbyterian Church, Rev. W. T. Armstrong, Minister of Music, Fred W. Jones. Services: 11:00 a. m., Morning Worship; 7:30 p. m., Evening Service. Sunday School, 10:30 a. m.

Holy Name Church, Mass. Ave. at Harrison Ave. Services: 11:00 a. m., Morning Worship; 7:30 p. m., Evening Service. Sunday School, 10:30 a. m.

LEGAL NOTICES STATE OF MICHIGAN: In the Court for the County of Oakland, the undersigned, Clerk of said Court, do hereby certify that the following is a true and correct copy of the petition filed in said Court for the appointment of a receiver for the property of the said County for the purpose of maintaining and determining the necessity of the same.

LEGAL NOTICES ANNEXATION ELECTION NOTICE The question of annexation submitted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Oakland, State of Michigan, to the voters of the County of Oakland, State of Michigan, on the 21st day of March, 1928, is hereby certified to be a true and correct copy of the petition filed in said Court for the appointment of a receiver for the property of the said County for the purpose of maintaining and determining the necessity of the same.

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CHURCHES

First Baptist Church, High School Auditorium, David Leon Woodward, E. D., Pastor. Res. 1167 Ferndale Ave. Phone 1312. All services held in the High School Auditorium and are free to the public. In fact every one is invited to attend. Special invitation to worship with us. Sunday School, 10 a. m. A class for every age with a special invitation to all people. Now that we are at the High School we have plenty of room to accommodate all children of the community. Morning Worship, 11:15 a. m. The pastor will give the benediction of the series on "What Belongs to Me." Appropriate music will be furnished by the choir and by Miss Mae Brumstead. Pastor's Training Class, 7 p. m. All children who are interested in learning what it means to be a Christian are invited. Young People's Union, 6:30 p. m. Clifford Harper is the leader for this Detroit. All young people invited. Evening Worship, 7:30 p. m. The pastor will give the benediction of the series on "What Belongs to Me." This is the third sermon of the special series of evening sermons on "The Characters of the Old Testament." Much interest is being manifested in the contracted series by the pastor. Come and share an enjoyable and helpful hour of worship with us. Mid-Week Prayer Service, Wednesday 7:30 p. m. Class in "How to Teach Religion," Wed. 8:30 p. m. That's All!

United Presbyterian Church, 126-128 North Woodward Ave. at Forest St. Henry S. Evans, Minister. Bible School, 10 a. m. Morning Worship, 11:15 a. m. This will be the last service of the present Church-year. An important feature will be the benediction to finish well whatever our undertakings. We urge all our members and friends to attend. Special effort to be present at these services. The pastor will continue his series of sermons on "The Characters of the Old Testament," taking the 13th chapter for this week. This chapter recounts the devilish work of two evil influencing beings. Any one who is interested in this mysterious book is invited to hear these discourses. We also invite anyone who has no church home to worship with us.

Redeemer Lutheran Church, Lincoln and Ann Sts. R. E. Scaer, Minister. Special Lenten services are being conducted every Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock. In last evening's services the pastor preached on Jesus' fifth word on the cross, "I thirst." Regular service Sunday at 11 a. m. Pastor's sermon, Jesus' last assertion, "I am the Son of God." The Sunday school service begins at 9:30 o'clock. Special classes and teachers for children of all ages. Redeemer Luther League at the church at 7:30 p. m. I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord.

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DIRECTORY

Dr. G. R. Norton OSTEOPATHIC PHYSICIAN 3145 West Maple HOURS: 10:00-12:15; and by appointment BIRMINGHAM, MICH. PHONE 1884. RESIDENCE 804-R. Office 1690 McAlpine-Starr, Inc. Engineers - Surveyors (Registered) 508 South Woodward BIRMINGHAM, MICH. Phone Birmingham 803 Municipal Engineering Farm Surveys Subdivision Layout "Accurate Work At Reasonable Cost" Clare H. Ogden Attorney-at-Law Suite 4, First National Bank Bldg. Phone Birmingham 1055 Allen Engineering Co. ENGINEERING AND SURVEYING OF ANY KIND 1015 N. Sigsbee St. Detroit, Mich. "Rust" Farm Surveys a Specialty Telephone 135-M