Member:
Oakland County Weekly Press Association
National Editorial Association
Michigan Press Association
University Press Club

The Birmingham Eccentric

PART TWO

FIFTIETH YEAR—NO. 49 BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 1928 $1.50 PER YEAR—SINGLE COPIES 5c

DEBATERS OUT IN STATE-WIDE ELIMINATIONS

Birmingham Team Loses To Oxford After Record Run Of Victories

SERIES TO CONTINUE

By losing the third elimination debate to Oxford last Thursday evening in the Oxford Union High School, the Birmingham debating team is out of the running for state championship. The loss of any one of the elimination debates excludes a school from the championship contest.

The Birmingham team, composed of Norma Martin, Leland Gunn and Mildred Patterson, under the coaching of Earle Correvont upheld the affirmative side of the question, "Resolved that the direct primary system of nominating candidates to public offices in the United States should be abolished."

Although failing to reach the much coveted state championship, the Birmingham team has an enviable record in this year's activities, having won most of the preliminary debates and two of the six elimination contests. When eliminated, Birmingham was one of sixteen surviving teams, a record unprecedented in Baldwin High debating history.

March 30 is the date set for the next series of debates between the eight surviving teams which are: Cheboygan, Grand Rapids, Zeeland, Paw Paw, North Adams, Memphis, Royal Oak and Oxford. The places where the March 30 eliminations will be held will be determined this week by Professor G. E. Densmore of the University of Michigan, manager of the Michigan High School Debating league. The four victors of these debates will meet in the final eliminations April 13. The championship contest between the two remaining teams will be held in the Hill auditorium, Ann Arbor, the evening of April 27. The winning team will be awarded the University of Michigan championship trophy. A smaller trophy will be given to the second team.

The University of Michigan wall plaques, of which Birmingham has 2 will be awarded to the 64 schools that have survived the preliminary contests.

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

A young lady of Holly who smokes cigarettes behind the door of the skating rink is going to have her name published in the Advertiser unless she quits the business instanter.

John Baldwin has rented his blacksmith shop to John Donald Cox, who has sublet the same to Charles Crocker, of Brown City, who comes with the highest recommendations as to his workmanship and integrity. It is 30 years ago next fall since Mr. Baldwin began at his trade in this village and the stone shop now occupied by Mr. Crocker was built by Mr. Baldwin in 1865. Among those for whom he did work 30 years ago Madison Spear is the only one living and Jonathan Todd is the next older. Mr. Baldwin will soon become an agriculturist and undoubtedly ere this he has sent in his name to become a granger and with the grangers stand.

Charlie Crocker of Brown City has taken up his abode in this burg, and as he is an apt pupil with a cornet, he will make quite an addition to our band.

Sometime in the near future the Birmingham cornet band will give a social hop at National hall for the purpose of raising money with which to repair their instruments. On the night of the party the holder of the lucky ticket draws a prize of $3 in cash. All who purchase a ticket stand an equal chance to draw the prize. Due notice will be given in these columns when the event takes place. You can purchase the tickets from the members and others, and when you are asked to buy don't refuse, but go down and "skive" for 75 cents. The boys are doing nicely just now and we predict a large turnout.

Very beautiful Easter exercises will be observed by members of the M. E. Sunday school. All are invited.

25 YEARS AGO

From the Evening News: Birmingham, Mich., some time ago established a jail, fitted with luxurious cots, blankets, etc. For a long time no one gave any excuse for incarceration, and it began to look as though the establishment of the jail had scared all the wickedness out of Birmingham, if indeed, there ever had been any. One cold night a tramp applied for lodgings and after putting in the night in the little bastille he was so delighted that he had to be starved out.

Mrs. Caroline Utter has had three of those mammoth shade trees that adorn Maple avenue in front of her residence cut down and cut up into wood.

John O'Connell is painting his barn and it looks nice enough to live in.

The regular annual meeting of the Birmingham cemetery association will be held at the library rooms Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock. M. Baldwin, secretary.

Mrs. M. Levinson, who has been a patient suffering for over two months from the effects of a delicate operation, has so far recovered as to be able to leave the hospital and will be home with her family in about three weeks, and her many friends are rejoicing thereat.

Free of charge—Send us your name, and we will send you, charges prepaid, a full size bottle of Re Sto Ro, guaranteed to restore Gray Hair to its natural color. This is no dye.

The following specimens of wood are wanted by the Region for the High School collection: Birdseye maple, rock elm, yellow oak, magnolia and tulip tree. Also good specimens of almost any but the very most common kind. Specimens should be at least 6 inches in diameter and one foot long with the bark attached. It is desired to be certain of the species and under what subdivision classed. Leave specimens at Exchange bank.

HINTS GIVEN FOR PLANNING GARDEN IN EARLY SPRING

Note: The following article was prepared for The Eccentric by Ralph I. Coryell, of the Coryell Nurseries of Birmingham. It is offered as a group of suggestions to the people of the village who soon will start their spring planting.

By RALPH I. CORYELL

No matter how small the garden improvement contemplated a plan should be prepared to indicate in detail the plants to be used and their arrangement. In a small group planting, one may think that he can visualize the improvement in his own mind but it is usually safer to reduce the plan to paper. In this way he may discover an improvement in the planting arrangement.

In the average home grounds there is not usually a surplus of space. Hence, one of the first problems to consider is how may the space available be utilized to the best advantage.

In general the effect of a spacious lawn may be obtained by planting largely along the borders of the lot and leaving the center open. The massing of the shrubs and evergreens along the border insures privacy to the occupants of the home lot, produces a pleasing effect of the planting as a whole and does not detract from the beauty of the house as much as a planting of separated specimen. Apparently such a procedure leaves greater space in the center of the lot, providing an easier manner of caring for the plants. It is found that the plants grow better in masses than they do in small scattered clusters or planted individually. This is partially due to the fact that masses of plants shade the ground better and keep moisture in the soil. Moreover, the grass may be more readily kept away from the plants.

Shrubs

In planning the planting of the lot, the house is first enveloped with shrubs and evergreens of the sizes and types best adapted to the space afforded. Next, the sides and the rear of the lot are "built up" with varieties of shrubs of large size. In front of these may be planted smaller shrubs or perennials or a combination of these. At strategic points may be placed evergreens which will show up quite strongly in the winter when the shrubs have lost their foliage. Care must be taken not to provide too monotonous a line, either horizontally or vertically. In order to emulate nature most successfully, an informal contour should be maintained.

Where the space permits one may often provide little nooks or even paths in the shrubbery and seats and arches may sometimes be placed at proper points. As in furnishing a room, however, one must not clutter up the space with too many artificial objects.

The spacing of the plants must provide for future growth. The large growing shrubs may be spaced from four to six feet apart, the medium shrubs from three to four feet and the smaller shrubs from two to three feet. Perennials are usually spaced from 12 to fifty inches apart varying with the habits of the variety.

Remember the Time

One should keep in mind the time of bloom and its color, as well as the height and type of growth of the shrub as in massing the shrubs, the masses of bloom also show up to best advantage. Thus, it is not necessary that all parts of the garden be in bloom simultaneously, but rather it is better that those portions which are in bloom shall show up rather conspicuously. For instance, a mass of Forsythia may burst into bloom in one group, then Lilacs and Spiraeas in other corners, followed still later by Mockorange and by Hydrangeas. Still other shrubs, such as the Viburnums, will show up later in fall colors, and in the winter the branches of the Red Branched Dogwood will glow with its fiery red.

In planning perennials one must remember for the background those strong growing varieties which will multiply fast and also grow tall; the more delicate and dwarf varieties will naturally take the foreground. The time of bloom will enter into the scheme. For instance, the Peonies will complete their cycle of bloom in about two weeks from the earliest to the latest, but Phlox will bloom from June to October, especially if the flowers are cut often.

With the outline of the plan before you, try to visualize the home grounds with the plants fully grown. Fill in with the varieties which will best attain this effect, and later, if necessary, some of the plants may be moved about to provide for a desirable change.

At Last It's Settled— The Woman Pays, Etc.

The much mooted question of whether it is the man or the woman who pays and pays etc. has a decision today that swings slightly in favor of the woman, following an episode in Justice Malcolm Hunt's court last Thursday.

James Ritzema, 35 years old, 1349 Howard street, Detroit, was assessed $20 when he was found guilty of having been drunk. Then Ritzema broke down and confessed somewhat blushingly that his financial condition was considerably weaker than that of the late Lazarus. James was about to accept the alternative of 10 days in the Big Grey House in Pontiac when he remembered—

So he telephoned his wife and after considerable argument she paid the fine.

Ritzema was arrested Wednesday night by Patrolman Harry Johnson when his car struck one driven by Arthur K. Kruz, 1021 Kensington avenue, Grosse Point Park as Krug was turning into Vinewood avenue. An argument ensued and unable to agree the two men went to the police station. Ritzema was held.

VILLAGER WRITES ON EUROPE TOUR

First Of Series By J. Mortimer Neff Appears In Eccentric Today; Others to Follow

The first of a series of articles on Europe appears on page one of part two of this edition of The Eccentric. The articles are written by J. Mortimer Neff, son of Dr. and Mrs. Irvin H. Neff of 300 West Maple avenue.

Mr. Neff sailed for Europe three weeks ago after being graduated from the University of Michigan where he completed the literary course. He has been connected with the editorial staff of The Eccentric and has done considerable other work on newspapers.

The article appearing today tells of the embarkation. Later sketches of various points of especial interest in the different countries he visits will appear.

Glimpses at and about BIRMINGHAM

By RAYMOND GIRARDIN

One of the most lamentable truths in all life seems to be the fact that anything which bears the slightest resemblance to beauty is destined to be as short-lived as the passing suggestion of perfume.

A shade in the sky, as the sun sets, which is unusual enough to fascinate, is rushed away before a hurrying tomorrow; a flower, if it survives the Philistine boot soon finds life too much for it; love, when it actually exists, is made ugly by a series of brutal circumstances and a characteristic, such as loyalty, is forgotten as greed, in whose presence man is far more at home, appears.

Pleasure, that childish and exaggerated conception of the commonplace, has the permanency of a rice on a roller coaster. In literature as I have pointed out before, the beautiful is kicked over the moon by the publishers, the pedagogues or one of the various agencies existing to keep the arts pure. A canvas or a piece of sculpture finds its way into the home of a parvenu---

May I paraphrase Hardy and say, "All beauty comes of misapprehension. Rightly put, there is no beautiful thing in the world."

— s —

And now, dear reader, I suppose I should apologize for being, as you might say, so pessimistic. You know I have no sympathy for these here destructive critics. I always say, "Well, if you don't like this here life, why do you live here?" When there are so many fine things in life like the poetry of Edgar Guest and the sunshine and all, I don't for the life of me see what there is to find fault with. People who go about always looking on the gloomy side of things, well, there must be something the matter with them, don't you think dear reader?

And from that Glimpse above dear reader, I don't want you to get the wrong impression of me. I don't want you to think I am finding fault because, while I like you, dear reader, and want to help you, I never want to hear that you think I am finding fault. People should not lose their tempers and I never would lose mine, but let me catch you saying I am finding fault, dear reader, and something will happen.

Do you know why I do not want you to think I am finding fault and make me lose my temper? Answer: Because I like you. Also I like you so well I want to help you. Ask me to do something. Call me up anytime of the day or night and ask me to go to the store for you or mind the baby or advise you on some problem. Especially advise. You see I make this generous offer because why? Because, dear reader, I don't want you to think I am finding fault.

— § —

Described architecture as "frozen music"----I am supposed, I suppose, to think of a cathedral andante, dripping when the sun shines----Notre Dame on a pair of tongs----the Acropolis in rumbling wagon----if "frozen" only had different connotations it would be a good figure----speaking to people and wondering who the devil they are----"Yes, it's a typical March day"----criticized a short story by saying it lacked "IT"----and Beatrice Lillie lacks everything else, so far as I know from the gallery----I don't mean the lady is like Nana----Here's. Mustsaysomethingnice. "Nice day, isn't it." Ahh----

CARILLON RECITAL PROGRAM GIVEN

Popular songs will be on the program next Saturday afternoon of William Hall Miner, soloist in a carillon recital at Christ Church, Cranbrook.

"When the Swallows Homeward Fly," by Flotow; "Ah, So Pure," by Martin; "To a Wild Rose," by MacDowell; "Lullaby Cerminie," by Jakobowski; "March of the Men of Harlech," and "Home, Sweet Home," by Bishop.

"You can't arrest me; I'm a politician," Robert Gates of Chicago, told a traffic policeman, but he was wrong and was fined $50.

POSTAL TEST SETS RECORD

Number Of Applicants For Positions Greater Than Any Other Time

Examinations taken by applicants for positions for mail carriers in Birmingham are in the government office at Washington today following the tests held in the Baldwin High School Saturday when all records for the number of applicants were broken. Twenty-six men took the examination Saturday where previously there were not more than seven or eight, according to Sylvester Wilkenson, postal employe who gave the examinations assisted by George Bingham, also in the service. Four position applicants will be successful.

The following were from Birmingham: W. Joseph Edgar, Donald E. Terry, Rudy Capling, Harold R. Hare, Reginald Robinson, John E. Wright, Robert A. Grant, Charles W. Frederick, Alfred W. Morlock, Erschel B. Brown and John Mellema. Several Detroit amen also competed.

Questions asked the men dealt with all the phases of postal service, Mr. Wilkenson said. Some of the questions had to do with ways of sorting mail, others with the correcting of misspelled words, still others with problems in arithmetic.

SOUSA A FEATURE AT STATE FAIR IN FALL

DETROIT, March 21.—Featuring two daily concerts by Lieutenant-Commander John Philip Sousa and his famous band of 70 internationally known musicians and soloists, the Michigan State Fair will open its 79th annual exhibition here Sunday, Sept. 2, continuing through Saturday, Sept. 8.

Sousa's band, noted for the playing of its famous director's march compositions, will be heard by the public at a 25-cent admission charge which includes entrance to the grounds and many of its attractions. Ordinarily, Sousa's concerts range in admission prices as high as four dollars.

Try An Eccentric Classified Ad.

YOUR MONEY

Increase its Earning Capacity by Investing in our Safe and Profitable

BONDS

Saving is the accumulation period for investment. Once you have saved up a safety surplus—invest the balance in safe, conservative bonds—carefully selected through the assistance and counsel of your banker.

This systematic plan of saving and investing keeps your money safely earning at top speed. It is the foundation of wealth and life-long happiness.

Ask For Our Current Suggestions

Birmingham Savings Bank

Woodward Avenue, Just South of Maple Avenue

CAPITAL $200,000.00

OFFICERS

Judson Bradway, President
Lawrence W. Martindale, Cashier
John C. Lawson, Vice-President
Charles J. Shain, Vice-President
Walter L. Morehead, Asst. Cashier

SURPLUS $50,000.00

DIRECTORS

Seymour D. Adams
Harry Allen
Luther D. Allen
Judson Bradway
Robert W. Cubbus
Rolla J. Cortell
John C. Lawson

DIRECTORS

Lawrence W. Martindale
Fred V. Quarton
Charles J. Shain
James Vernor, Jr.
James W. Taylor
Hayley D. Warner
Albert W. Wasey

PLANT MICHIGAN STOCK

Michigan Grown Stock is best suited for Michigan conditions.

Our stock is home grown, freshly dug, and promptly delivered.

Specify Coryell stock and treat yourself to the best.

Send for Price List *or call* B'ham 58

Coryell Nursery

W. Maple Ave. Birmingham

Nurseries at Birmingham, Southfield, Utica

Let Us SPRAY YOUR TREES NOW !

EMERSON C. BROWN

LANDSCAPE GARDENING AND TREE SURGERY

12 Levinson Bldg. Phone 808-W Birmingham

Call 2000

Phone 2000 will mean service in real estate and insurance. It is our new telephone number.

BINGHAM & BINGHAM

Real Estate - Insurance

Phone 2000