

BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC

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The Solo Political Comet

Up at Sault Sainte Marie, where the Aurora borealis begins to pattern the cold sky with its scintillating, its evanescent spectrum, there resides one Chase S. Osborn, one-time millionaire, former Governor of Michigan, after-dinner speaker, scholar, statesman, author, lecturer, and L. L. B. L. D. ...

Now, folks, when you "vacillate" you "move one way and the other"; you "tagger" and "huc-cu-rats," as well as "waver" and to think that our Jim should be so shamefully abused as that! Well, we are not worrying over what may happen to Senator Couzens—he is able to take care of himself, and he probably knows by this time that an overwhelming majority of voters in Michigan still think that he is functioning valuably for them in the United States Senate.

To us, it is interesting to observe lion-maned Osborn, whose first name seems to fit him so well for his bits about from jade to deli; he is full of spirit—and it is in his hand he holds the flaming torch, which he swings aloft so that they may see what a world wide world we live in! As he thrashes to and fro, and to, about the Political Highways of America, what do you think his muckraking light will be about to view? ...

In the meantime, Senator Couzens will continue to represent Michigan, and the rest of the country in Congress. He has done well thus far, fearlessly, conscientiously, and without a single (get this, Mr. Osborn, without a single!) personal vanity or selfish desire for personal aggrandizement.

As a real humanitarian, Mr. Osborn, Senator Couzens will live long in the hearts and minds of Michigan people while you, Sir, may become dusty and mouldy upon the altar of a philistine science that has become smeared with the decomposing acid of political chicanery.

WELL WAGES A BOUGHTOUT against an unbounded circle of nothing that there never was a man any happier than he who is able to view, are he passes on, the fine environment of a son or daughter who is established and doing well in the world.

Now that the greatest stock show ever put on in New York has come to a sad close, Chicago starts putting on its own stock pageant—except, of course, Chicago's affair will be on the hoof instead of the ticker.

It was VERY COLD for several days last week; many people shivered on the streets, some—albeit in their poorly heated homes in the squalid sections of cities. And some poor people—poor in livelihood before their blazing fireplaces at the chill winds of barren living penetrated their empty lives.

An Armed Peace

Here is something that ought to interest you especially if you are a member of Ruth Shain's local class on International Relations, which holds forth each Tuesday morning at the Community House. It was uttered recently by President Hoover, and it cusses the greatest need in the world today, namely, PEACE. Learn this by heart: "Yet after all it is an armed peace. The men under arms including active reserves in the world are almost thirty million in number, or nearly ten million more than before the Great War. There are the Washington arms conference and the destruction of the German navy the combatant ships in the world show some decrease since the war. But aircraft and other instruments of destruction are far more potent than they were even in the Great War. There are fears, distrusts and smouldering injuries among nations which are the tinder of war. Nor does a single quarter of a century during all the ages of human experience warrant the assumption that war will not occur again."—From the Armistice Day Speech of President HERBERT HOOVER.

IN THE OLD FRONTIER DAYS of the Golden West desperadoes used to make uncomfortable lives by holding up stage coaches, and robbing the passengers of their valuables. The other day a young man in Chicago pulled the spikes from the Union Pacific railroad tracks, that crack train to stop, and then robbed the passengers of \$500.00. The methods of Jesse James' impulses among human beings has only been transformed slightly, hasn't it?

PRESIDENT AND MRS. HOOVER, having reached the summit of man-made glory, humbled themselves in true American style Thanksgiving Day and, after paying their homage to Divine Providence by attending church in the morning, spent the rest of the day quietly in the White House. They probably realize the emptiness of haughty vanity, and self-glorification, and are more concerned with the personal attributes of life. The United States, as well as the whole world, is fortunate to have such people in the White House, don't you think?

GEORGES CLEMENCEAU, the "Grand Old Man" of France, went to his earthly end recently with little hope or faith in the promise of immortal life. From what we can gather, this man found little life to glorify God with, or he believed largely in the things of this world, and held that the earth was man's only sphere, and that man was mortal and complete death. From the true perspective of things eternal, Clemenceau—great as he may have been in the affairs of the earth—amounted to very little in the cause of establishing the immortal verities of life within the conscience and consciousness of man. From an earthly standpoint he was great; from a spiritual one he shone not with the Light of Life.

MR. JAMES M. DORAN, estimable wife of the federal commissioner of prohibition, is about to publish a book entitled "A Book of Juices." The contents of it will be of non-alcoholic. Just this far book will squirt is not known. Uncle Sam about to embark upon a new Bachmannal orgy of whisky manufacture down in Kentucky.

WORKERS FOR PERMANENT PEACE will be interested in the recent statement of General C. P. Sumner, chief of staff U. S. Army. His method of procuring new units for the military forces is far from complete. The incompleteness of fact that in question is probably because of war, while hundreds of thousands have been disillusioned by war's glamour and so-called adventure. In spite of the seriousness of a military lack, it is a healthy sign for eventual world peace when such apathy actually be turned to day when the sword will not be for the time required to make a mere Decoration or Armistice Day oration.

INFORMED PERSONS will not deny the fact that Billy Sunday, noted evangelist, has changed the life of millions of people toward better things; they have, to meet the apparent hostility Mr. Sunday, however, to rest a God-fearing, law-abiding son within his own domestic tabernacle. This son, Billy Jr., has gotten into several scrapes with the law; he offspring than he is in the person of his wayward son.

WRITES PUBLISHER J. E. McMullen, of the Linden Leader: "The Birmingham Eccentric is, we are pleased to note, improving, for it has begun quoting scriptures." These, good friend—we trust that you, too, will improve through the growing conviction of that Biblical admonition, "Thou Shalt Not Kill"; and thus cast your lot against capital punishment in Michigan.

A DETROIT MAN, BEING SUED for a large sum of money by a woman who says she thought she would become his wife, told a jury that she stabbed him in the heart by the spoon method, can try to be blamed for it?

JUDGES OF THE DETROIT Recorder's Court last week were given \$2,000 raises, bringing their annual pay up to \$14,500.00. In these days of temporary surpluses, it is nice to learn that the Detroit city council is not becoming stingy with other people's money.

SOCRATES, ANCIENT GREEK philosopher, has left a large imprint upon the world of men and women. No one will deny that he has not given mankind a great heritage by provoking man to thought. Paradoxically, though, Socrates did not help very much the immediate world about him, especially his own family. His wife, Xantippe, had a realistic mind and believed that a man should provide for his own family before starting out to rearrange the universe.

NOW THAT THE AMBASSADOR Bridge is opened between Detroit and Ontario, what the effect be upon the alley brewery business in Detroit? Regardless of the fact that it is suspended, we have no doubts the new Detroit River span will find plenty of support.

APPARENTLY, ALL THE fighting on the occasion of a football game isn't done on the ground according to news reports from Lansing, in which a crowd of University of Detroit sympathizers last week were in the hands of the police. Sometimes boys cease to be boys and try to be grownup.

MARKET CONDITIONS IN THE FAR EAST



PEOPLE'S COLUMN

The Other Chap Says Something

MICHIGAN'S BROKEN HOMES Tuesday's State Journal quotes Arthur D. Wood, commissioner of pardons and paroles as stating that on November 25, 1929, the prison population of the state numbered 5,511. Of these, 531 are inmates of broken homes. The biggest crime breeder in our modern civilization is the divorce problem. Courts are doing their best but the situation has become so widespread that about the only thing to do is to grant a decree and hope for the best.

The child from a divorced home is tragically handicapped for the rest of his life. No matter what one may claim, a stepmother or stepfather or grandparent rarely take the place of a father or mother. Heaven knows this is no reflection on the good intentions of these improvised parents, most of whom are volunteers trying to make the best of a trying and difficult situation. Society would be state are lucky indeed where there are no children to consider.

Broken homes is the basis for an appalling percentage of our pyramiding prison population, which is 500 ahead of last year's peak, and still growing. The nation's home life is the cornerstone of our social scheme. Upon it is based our respect for law, order and social stability in general. That it no longer represents a fluence what it once did is hopeful testimony that who is to blame? Every last one of us—Muriel De Rose in Charlotte (Mich.) Republican-Tribune.

A MAN OF BIG IDEAS Sir Henry Thornton is an outstanding figure in the railway world. The Grand Trunk's rapid transit plans for this city, which he came here Wednesday to discuss, abundantly testify to his vision and initiative. A native of India, Sir Henry did his first railroading with the Pennsylvania system, where he rose to be general superintendent of the Long Island division. The outbreak of the war found him in London, as Eastern manager of the Great Eastern railway, which has the most extensive suburban service in the world. The title that was bestowed on him in 1919 was recognition of his war service in France and Belgium, where he had charge of all British railway transport, with the rank of major-general.

During the war, when the Canadian government found itself loaded down with a tremendous mileage of unprofitable lines and was looking for a man to take them in hand, co-ordinate the Canadian National railways and turn deficits into surpluses, Mr. Thornton was the man. He is a constructive education of the mind and soul. We think that what we do in industry does not matter and thus we create a selfish spirit, unbecoming to a citizen worthy of a place in this great nation. What is the continue unchecked? That is the remedy. Or is it the inevitable. B. E. PUGH, 211 Townsend street.

Income Properties

We are offering two exceptional pieces of income property—100% leased to substantial tenants on long time leases. These properties will not only show a handsome return upon the investment but are located in growing districts where population and property values are rapidly increasing.

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Views and Reviews

John J. Blaine, Republican Senator, from Wisconsin: "This agricultural schedule contains a bunk from beginning to end." Arthur M. Hyde, Secretary of Agriculture: "at pluses can best be handled before they are produced." Raymond Duncan, brother of Isaac: "Every one is a genius and no one is especially blessed with this quality at birth." Ruth Hanna McCormick, Republican Congresswoman, from Illinois: "The spirit of personal, individual aggrandizement has never been so strong as it is at the present moment." Herbert Hoover, President: "Any lack of confidence in the economic future or the basic strength of business in the United States is foolish." Joseph Daniels, Secretary of the Navy, under President Wilson: "Anything that squints at dis-

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