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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1929

"Big Moments" In Little Lives
Some day, years hence, when little Johnny, our seven-year-old son, comes across a scrap book which we are keeping, we hope he'll smile a bit as he reads these paragraphs—for they contain something that we feel he'll never forget, something that might be captioned "big moments in the lives of little children."

It all happened one day last week when we entered the private office of Governor Fred W. Green, in the Capitol Building at Lansing; we had with us little Johnny and 12-year-old Walter, who had been with Mr. and Mrs. Guy W. Jensen, of Madison avenue, who had been excused from school that day to be impressed with certain things which no schoolroom offers.

The Governor rose from his position at his desk and began to pay his respects to the young generation of Michiganders. Johnny, who has always been an embryonic Rotarian in his greeting of strangers, soon "made up" with the Chief Executive of this Commonwealth; in fact, as the Governor reached down and placed his arms about Johnny (and he didn't have to reach very far, either, in spite of Johnny's Lilliputian stature) our youngest son stretched his arms in an effort to encircle the somewhat rotund (no offense meant, Governor) dimensions of the former Mayor of Ionia. Amour, in all the manifestation of a fine little boy and a boy-loving Governor, was the theme for the moment. In an outer office a half dozen people waited on the whim of a moment—when a carefree, little boy tripped a Governor's countenance with wrinkles far from the kind created by affairs of state.

And, when Johnny arrived home that night, and related his experience to brother Bill and sister Susan, he was heard to say: "I was with Governor Green. He hugged me. I hugged him right back. 'an' here's the ten cents he gave me, too. . . . 'an' I wish I had a nephew like the one he had on his big desk."

Yes, Johnny, when you read this some years hence, I hope you'll smile—and may it be as clean and fine as it was when you made your first trip to Lansing.

Locating A County Site

In spite of their special committee's report favoring the combining of a future Oakland County building site with that of the city of Pontiac, a majority of the Oakland County Board of Supervisors two weeks ago voted against the plan, thus assuring the taxpayers of Oakland County that their collective interests are being watched. We refer to the special committee's report, because the one submitted called for locating the site on some very expensive property on West Huron street, just west of Saginaw street. It seems to us that, had this special committee viewed with favor a site at some point south of Huron street, easy to get to from Saginaw street, the recommendation would have been more favorably accepted by the entire Board of Supervisors.

However, nothing can be done until the April session of the Supervisors; in the meantime, the city of Pontiac, which has apparently given up its plan for a joint site with the County, will probably go ahead on its own municipal site development projects.

All the expense incurred when the Supervisor's special committee visited 13 eastern cities last fall to investigate combination projects, amounts to very little benefit to the taxpayers who financed the expedition. Perhaps, when the April session gets under way, some consideration to the southern portion of the County will be given in definitely locating the County site, and maybe the Supervisors will get together on an economical plan to settle the problem.

What Is Conversation?

"We were discussing the important subject of 'what constituted conversation' the other day with a prominent Birmingham citizen, and we both agreed that nine-tenths of the sound vibrations we are set up in the ether consist chiefly of 'just plain gossip.' We suggested a method to assist in the conservation of human energy which is composed of the following ingredients: take a large portion of the human desire to talk, mix thoroughly with several moments of complete silence between the origin of the thought and its expression audibly, strain it thoroughly through the mill of human kindness, the Commandment which declares 'Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor,' and then place it in a quiet place where it may quickly vanish into the void that gave it birth. By following this prescription each day much good work will be accomplished, especially the one who follows it, don't you think?"

GRAND RAPIDS, THE HUB of all good things in the future, possesses a "go-getting" city commission. Recently this commission voted in favor of the Kellogg Pact to outlay war, and then started a movement to have President-elect Hoover name revenue cutter "Grand Rapids." Next thing Grand Rapids officials may see is a submarine base on the Grand River.

True Wealth
You can't have everything that your desires, urges, and impulses clamor for—twice better, thus, else soon we'd scale the mountain top, and start descending. 'Tis better to have an uphill path before you than a downhill path and the law of gravity to assist in the descent.

It is not given to any one person to witness the fulfillment of all his or her dreams; as with the astronomer who, periodically perfecting telescopes as time and inventive genius comes on, are able to see farther into the Milky way, so does the attainment of each vision we possess—whether it be in morals or in physical science—reveal behind it greater attainments to be made. And thus we strive and struggle on.

Happy is the man or woman, boy or girl, who is obsessed with a vision of moral and spiritual greatness; better is he or she who, struggling against great odds in an attempt to overcome a bad habit, makes daily progress, than one who adds daily to a bankroll. There is a wealth in moral and spiritual progress that puts into oblivion all the wealth of the pride of possession of earthly things.

There is within us all a life so filled with beauty, harmony, and orderliness, that all other things fade into nothingness in comparison; such is the inheritance of God's children, the priceless consciousness of which fashions the link between mortal and immortal.

"Big Town vs. Hickville"

One of the amusing things about a metropolitan daily newspaper is its alert willingness to come out to a small town, somewhere outstate, and pick up a "story"; then the erudite reporter comes through with a fatuous, long-winded, and often times squabbled over the length of type to be allowed for squabbling cows, etc. etc. Well, our own observation of Detroit's city fathers over recent years makes us convinced of the truth that more genuine humor and facetiousness can be obtained from a Detroit metropolitan eccentric than from a dozen out-state village councils. And you may rest assured that the length of a cow's tether is more quickly arrived at than some of the comparable perplexities that squat themselves before the compatriots of Mayor Lodge.

"Shinnanigans"

Just who is behind a mysterious move to enact a bill in the Legislature which would allow the annexation of Royal Oak and Southfield Townships to Wayne County, without even referring the proposition to the people effected, is not known; but whoever he is or they are, they should be told in no uncertain terms that their notion will never bear fruit. Some queer things have happened in our legislature, but none of them more so than this one.

The State Income Tax Plan

Government, that intangible yet very real instrument which organized society has created to administer to its collective needs, requires certain amounts of legal tender with which to carry on. As society becomes more complex, the demand for money in direct proportion to man's ability or lack of ability to live up to the Golden Rule and the Ten Commandments. In Michigan, due to the great increase in population in recent years, new problems in raising revenue to pay for the cost of government have risen with them, and the government must be met with some kind of legitimate method of taxation. Governor Green's plan for an income tax, as at first presented, was met with unfavorable comment all over the state; however, since he now proposes to abolish the personal and corporation tax assessments, and replace them with a personal income tax, his plan is being received with more favor. Perhaps he has found the happy solution to Michigan's need for more funds with which to carry on government, especially in the rehabilitation of many of the out-grown state institutions.

Upon What Do You Depend?

Most everybody today uses simple arithmetic or some higher form of mathematics in his or her daily affairs; without a knowledge of the science of numbers a person would be greatly handicapped. In this old world there have been projected religious, moral, the greatest of which were taught and exemplified by the Master, a young man of Nazareth. How many people, today, use His rules and regulations to govern their activities with one another? How many people, when confronted with a problem in their personal, social, or business relationships, allow the Master's thoughts to mingle with their own in arriving at a solution? Probably only a small proportion of those who rely upon mathematics to guide them turn with equal trust to the rules and regulations laid down by the Great Teacher, and many fall in place in the tests of life as a result of not using God in mind of Man.

GRANT S. ROWE, editor of the *Midford Times*, now entering upon its 19th successive year of publication, asks the following pertinent question: "We can understand possible reasons which actuated the Board of Supervisors in rejecting the civic center idea but just why the majority appear to be wedded to the old jail site idea is not so clear. If the county is to have a new court house it would seem to be good business to sell the restricted but valuable location and build where land is cheaper and more of it is available."



PEOPLE'S COLUMN

The Eccentric is pleased to receive contributions for this column. All communications must be signed, but signatures will be kept confidential upon request.

LIKE EDITORIAL

To the Editor: We wish to write this note to tell you that we most heartily agree with your editorial titled "A Great Soul Did Err," published in the Feb. 7 issue of The Eccentric.

Even we can recall that during the period of the war a great many of our most outstanding preachers considered it a most important thing to impress upon the young manhood of this great country their duty to their country, thereby influencing them to enlist and to go across the water to take their brothers' lives. Yet that greatest of all books which has withstood the ages, and which what not, and no doubt will stand a great deal more rough usage through all the remaining years, distinctly teaches us, "Thou Shalt Not Kill."

We cannot understand why any man can honestly believe that he can condemn his own brothers to death, regardless of what crime has been committed, because it is nothing less than murder in the first degree, that is, taking a man's life.

This may not be fit for publication, inasmuch as we are very inexperienced at this sort of thing, but anyway it gives me some satisfaction to get it off my chest.

We would also like to comment to the article in the People's Column signed by H. R. Jones, regarding a Chamber of Commerce for Birmingham.

This is a vital question which should be considered very seriously by the business men of Birmingham, and that we may all go ahead and put Birmingham on the map where it belongs.

Perhaps if some people would get it in their heads that they can't all be president of such an organization at the same time, we could go ahead and do something. This is not a new wrinkle in town or in the People's Column which could never reach a head for the above reason.

Yours Truly H. E. T.

To the Editor: I read with very keen interest the article on the proposed airport in last Thursday's issue and was somewhat shocked to note that our commissioners turned down the opportunity of joining to the airport in the People's Column their endeavor to have an airport located practically in Birmingham.

HOOVER HAS WHEELS ALREADY WELL OILED

By CHARLES P. STEWART
Washington Correspondent for Central Press and The Associated Press

Washington.—Herbert Hoover's administration will not exactly BEGIN at noon, March 4. Rather, it will be GOING then. It will start, if it can be said to start at all, under full headway. Yet there will be no yank and jerk—no suddenness—about it. It simply will BE going, as if it had always been going.

Mr. Hoover has been doing his starting since his return from South America, like a brakeman jumping a swiftly-moving freight train. The brakeman does not ask the train to stop for him, or slow up, even.

He grabs a rail and runs alongside—the car partly carrying him and then altogether carrying him, until finally he shins up the side—and at last, as the train passes a given point, fairly kicking, the brakeman stops it.

Handily will the administration have flashed past noon, March 4, ere Herbert will be seen, safely on top of the gracefully swaying car with the motion.

Mr. Hoover has been the object of a good deal of sympathy because he was doing all that confabulating for—with the G. O. P. leaders—during the two weeks he spent in Washington, following his vacation the other side of the equator.

He would be inferior to a part of our own and I certainly hope that this will be reconsidered and the opportunity of our aiming in the greater enterprise not be allowed to slip by.

M. HOWARD COX
East Maple avenue
HITS FREAK BILL
To the Editor: Now comes Congressman Black of Brooklyn with the price freak bill of the season, which provides that whoever refers orally or in writing to the religion of a candidate for president, vice-president, or congressman, shall be fined not more than \$5,000 or imprisoned not more than three years, etc.

Mr. Hoover has not done much talking for publication to be sure. However, there are plenty of G. O. P. leaders who testify that he has done all that was necessary in private, and listened to a lot from others, and made all his plans to the last detail.

True, plans do go wrong sometimes, but it is not often they are put together with the scrupulous care Mr. Hoover has exercised, or that they are tested in advance with the same engineering exactness, to guard against hidden weaknesses, and accidents.

Faithful G. O. P. leaders will swear that these plans will stand up before every possible stress or strain, if plans ever did.

Hundreds, who saw him in the course of his two weeks in Washington, will bear witness to the ease with which the president-elect gets through with an almost unbelievable amount of business. Of course, it is no news that Herbert is an efficient worker. Nevertheless, the pre-presidential problems he has had to solve, in multiplicity, variety and intricacy have seemed enough to floor almost anything human—and they hardly seem to tire Mr. Hoover.

The folk who are closest to him say: (It remains to be seen if his answers to all these puzzles are the correct answers.)

Chesterfield Gardens
Three attractive building sites, 50 by 125, in highly restricted Chesterfield Gardens on Subdivision Terms.
Bounded on the East by Quarron Lake Estates, on the West by Bloomfield Village, with the new Quarron School a stone's throw to the North, these lots at \$2100.00 each represent an attractive buy for either home or investment purposes because they are in the heart of the best developments on the rapidly growing west side of Birmingham.

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Friendly Thoughts
By G. Dewey Kimball

Each day you are at work fashioning your character, modeling the man that is to become you. There are some wonderful models, of olden days and now, that you may copy. It may be your one great job, so work at it prayerfully and carefully.

We can serve you at distant points. We quickly respond to your telephoned wish. Consult with us about the arrangements and cost.

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dence center for the moneyed people of Michigan. Nature has particularly endowed this district as it consists of hills and valleys with little streams and lakes and renders the making of small real-estate lagoon and lakes possible. Here is where George Booth and family have turned their entire fortune of many millions into a wonderful school plant for the children. One of the finest Episcopal churches equipped with (if we mistake not) one of the finest Episcopalian altars in the city. But not only has nature so favored this section, it is so near to Detroit that it easily becomes the residential section of men of large interests enabling them to carry on their work in the city and in these wonderful Bloomfield Hills. George R. Averill went to Birmingham less than ten years ago. He bought the local newspaper and has most ardently labored to make his newspaper one always a

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