

BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC (Founded in 1874)

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THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 1929

NOTE: The Eccentric is pleased to publish stories of events which have news value and which are written by persons not connected with the editorial staff of the paper.

Monday's Quiet Election

Monday's elections were uninteresting among the list of voting days in the last three years. There was quiet throughout Birmingham. There were no banners; no bands; no interest.

"Have you voted yet?" one citizen would ask another. "Voted? Oh, Yah. Ah, well, I will. That's right, today's election day, isn't it?"

The election is over. Perhaps, at a future date, the village will again be called upon to vote on the bond issues. They are important and necessary.

"Be Keerful, Murl, Be Keerful!" Murl H. Defoe, immensely interesting editor of the Charlotte (Mich.) Republican-Tribune, does not smoke or drink, eat hay or chow mein, and seldom resorts to harsh language like talking to socks, etc.

Joe Speaks On Temperance Well-meaning Joe Sturgeon, publisher of the Delta Reporter, at Gladstone, in the Upper Peninsula, is so upset over present prohibition problems that he finally admits in his last issue "we are a sincere believer in temperance."

The Way Of The Poor Man Senator Ingalls has said: "We punish the man who steals a loaf of bread; we hang the man who monopolizes the loaf smaller and coarser." If a man steals a bar of iron, we railroad him to prison; if he steals an entire railroad, we say he is a financier.

Your Favorite Topic?

Newspaper editors, as they adjust their spectacles and the scholarly look and begin to write editorials, are often brought up short by the self-important question, "Just who will read this, and of what value will it be?"

It is the same question the gentleman who mounts the soap box would ask if he were faced by thousands of persons from every possible position in life.

All of which brings us, in a round about way, to the suggestion that a newspaper editor, like a side show owner, would know what his clientele prefers.

Could you let us have your suggestions of issues you consider of the most importance, whether or not those issues are concerned with Birmingham?

It's Squarely Up To Lansing The problem of raising money to meet the crying need for additional accommodation for the insane in Michigan still occupies the minds of the state legislators.

This is being written more than 10 weeks after the lawmakers for the present session, and nothing has been accomplished. Various means for raising the necessary twenty million dollars are being discussed by the law makers while an estimated 2,000 persons in the state are suffering from mental distortion.

Lessening A Horror Recent successful tests at Key West have demonstrated that under favorable conditions men trapped in a sunken submarine may escape by means of new life lines.

Advises Imprisonment Instead Of Death "I am opposed to death sentences because I do not think they are severe enough."

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THE ADVENT OF THE BULLET proof vest as a part of the equipment of a policeman is a reminder of the extent to which we are reverting to the turbulent, bloody condition of society in Europe throughout the dark ages.

ANOTHER FIRST "TOUCH" OF SPRING



SCRIPT OF PARRY ELLERBY DEBATE

(Continued from Page Four) extent that he contributes to the moral and spiritual, and unless this protection is given, none of the spirits of life can ever blossom. Judge Kavanaugh further states:

"I look at this question from 30 years on the bench and many years at the bar. It has been my solemn duty to sentence men to death for the preservation of public safety, yet, whenever the day of execution drew near, it always brought to me sleepless nights of abhorrent scenes and the black face of death as they listened to the death sentence."

There was a murder in Chicago every day for several years, and not a single execution; then two young desperados were hanged. No one could ever tell how many in Chicago for four weeks, and only three in six weeks. It is unfair to claim that 10 to 15 law-abiding citizens are alive today because a jury was merciful enough to the public to render justice to the guilty? Then only two or three executions occurred a year for many years.

There were 140 persons awaiting trial for homicide were passed, and three were sentenced to life, and one was hanged during the year following. In 1920 the number of homicides had fallen from 334 to 190. The death penalty had saved from assassination more than 400 human beings, and what is more important, not 400 men or women mere being murderers.

ELLERBY REBUTTAL Ellerby, (rebuttal), Italy, of Chicago, was appointed a capital punishment in 1924. And their homicide rate per hundred thousand in 1920 was 10.64 to 3.84 in 1920 and has continued to decrease since.

Valentine's Massacre He speaks of this Judge Kavanaugh, of Chicago, who was very much about crime in Chicago, except what I read in the newspapers, but I know from Valentine's day, they lined seven of them up against a wall and killed them. It hasn't proved to be a deterrent there.

Kresge comes to the Village Down on Woodward Avenue a new store is opening its doors to Birmingham.

Its great red sign—KRESGE—known from the Atlantic to the Pacific again confirms the conviction that we are everlastingly preaching that: the Bloomfield-Birmingham market is not only a profitable market in point of numbers, but offers the largest purchasing power per family of any shopping center in the state of Michigan.

Colgrove Buck & Tillotson REALTORS

Friendly Thoughts by G. Dewey Kimball. We all like a kind word or a helping hand. Distance is no barrier to our service. We respond immediately to all calls, and we render a personal sympathetic service.

POLICE RECEIVE SUPERVISION OF GUN EXPERT The Birmingham police department is receiving weekly target practice under the instruction of a pistol expert who has offered his services gratis.

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petrated last year. From year to year in Detroit, murder increases with ferocious rapidity. Why did not the press agitation and the simplification of the criminal laws produce the same result in Detroit as in Minneapolis? The answer is simple. The population of Detroit is altogether different from that of the Minnesota city and the sort of criminals in the former place respond only to a sterner treatment.

AFRICA TOPIC OF NOON TALK INS AFRICA TOPIC-14 Africa and its many sides and people was the topic of a talk made before the Birmingham Lions club yesterday night at their lunch in the First Baptist Church by Thomas Quinn of Detroit, who was born in Africa, and spent many years there.

MASONS TO HEAR PAST MASTER Past Master Walter Anderson, of Zurich lodge, Detroit, representative of the twelve districts grand lodge service commission, will be present at the meeting of the Birmingham lodge and A. M. scheduled for Tuesday at 7:30 p. m. at the Masonic Temple.