

BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC

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THURSDAY, MAY 23, 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.

Death Bill Veto The courage displayed by Gov. Fred W. Green in vetoing the death bill, passed upon by both Houses, marks Michigan's chief executive as a capable man who can remain cool and rational despite a state-wide wave of hysteria.

Considerable pressure was brought to bear on the governor by the Lenon-Wood electric chair bill. No doubt his action in vetoing it will make enemies for him.

Aside from the point that capital punishment does not prevent crime, it unquestionably would be applied, in the main, to the poor and helpless.

The State may well afford to give some energy and thought to the cause of crime and methods of preventing men and women from embracing it.

An Unsound Practice The village of Birmingham finds itself in an embarrassing position with \$50,000 of accounts receivable on its books and very little to show in writing for the accounts.

Former Commissioner W. W. Henry told the commission Monday night a road bill built for an inferior quality of gravel was used and that the road is impassable.

We are unable to see any wisdom in the village of Birmingham setting itself up in the road building business or any other business except that of the administration of its own government.

The unsoundness of endeavoring to do the work, however, bad as it is, hardly compares with the unsoundness of endeavoring to do \$50,000 worth of work with only verbal agreements for security.

Saturation Point? Automobile production records were broken during April when factory output totaled 620,616.

Just a few years ago, men were being called upon to make speeches and they declared firmly that the saturation point in the auto industry had been reached.

What Is Wrong Here? Responsibility often rests lightly upon the shoulders of those who are pledged to bear it.

For instance, the other evening we were talking to a local man who was asked by a preacher to join his church. "Will you allow me to continue taking an occasional drink or two?" asked the man. "Well, hardly that," replied the preacher-man, "for we in our church expect our members to obey the laws of the country."

RETAIL MERCHANTS GET BLANKS, was the headline in a neighboring town's newspaper recently.

"A DISGUSTED STUDENT" complains to the Maroon and White the Baldwin High School publication, that the high school band is reluctant to play more than three or four numbers in a whole day of fun and pleasure.

Now THAT LINDBERGH and his fiancée, Miss Anna Morrow, have definitely set June 15 as the date of their wedding, the world settles back for its next thrill.

AN OREGON PASTOR, beaten severely by four members of his congregation because they did not like a sermon, died from a fractured skull.

There APPEARS, from time to time, groups of Birmingham and nearby men who, in conjunction with the local Y. M. C. A. activities, confer with high school boys to assist them in choosing vocations.

Straw Hat Season

Saturday, it has been decreed, the gentlemen of Birmingham will discard their faithful and comfortable hats in favor of the jaunty straws.

Out in Ann Arbor every year, the freshmen at the university discard their hats with a great flourish. It really means something to them.

But the rest of us unappreciative, unsentimental creatures that we are—toss the old headpieces that our Rotary for service, onto a shelf, adjust the new and unfamiliar dishes and look for the sunshine.

A 'Break' For The Caddies

The caddies are getting reasonable treatment after all. Commissioners Scott Hersey and Robert R. Allen have arranged for a place for them to board buses to take them directly to the links where they work.

Pushing Toward The Moon

A Texan named Bill Williams will push a peanut to the top of Pike's Peak with the aid of a clothes pin attached to his nose. It will be his gratification of a desire for acclaim.

Good Work

The committees working on the revision of ordinances is doing a fine piece of constructive work for the village, and their efforts should be appreciated.

Under the chairmanship of Commissioner Hope F. Halgren, the following persons are giving their time and effort to make the ordinances workable:

Hazel E. Lawler, and Clare H. Ogden.

Recently a firm which does such work offered to revise the village ordinances for \$1,000. The committee is doing the work gratis.

Guilty, By Heck!

Among the wheezes whittled and the quips quibbled by a metropolitan newspaper paragrapher, we find this solemn pronouncement:

Old Dobbin, plodding down the streets, day after day, hauling Junior's first little bed, and the piano on which he plays his rags, and the new parlor rug, Mrs. Neighbor saved up six months to buy, and the new armchair Dad got for Christmas, and the things we eat, drink, and wear and the stores and other places, certainly isn't altogether outside of any legitimate definition of news when he shuffles off his inequid coil and gallops out in the service of the community.

Small town? Why certainly! Ashamed of it? Heck, no! If it were not for the small towns, where would the nation get its presidents? Its captains of industry? Its great teachers, great preachers and great scientists? Its Lindberghs, its Edisons, its Mayos, its Mark Twains, its Melvilles E. Stones, its John Raskobs, its Herbert Hoovers, and its Calvin Coolidges? Or, for that matter, its newspaper editorial paragraphers?

Some Old Dobbin hauled their tin-bound camel-back trunks to the depot and stood in the shade and watched while Nuts went snuffling and coughing down the track, carrying them out of the small towns on their way to everlasting glory.

Old Dobbin will continue to rate an obituary paragraph as long as this nation is run by the small town folks. And it looks like that would be a long, long time.—Eccentric (Mich.) Daily Press.

I AM OF THE OPINION that my life belongs to the whole community, and as long as I live it is my privilege to do for it whatsoever I can. I want to be thoroughly used up when I die, for the harder I work, the more I live. I rejoice in life for its own sake. Life is no "brief candle" for me. It is a sort of splendid torch which I have got hold of for a moment and I want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it on to future generations.—GEORGE BERNARD SHAW.

There APPEARS, from time to time, groups of Birmingham and nearby men who, in conjunction with the local Y. M. C. A. activities, confer with high school boys to assist them in choosing vocations. These group meetings are splendid ideas, replete with benefits to both the boys and the men. In more ways than one, the position—though often silent and unseen—influences of the men of this community are having a lasting quality upon the minds of our youth.

BOY WANTED EDISON'S FOOT-STEPS THE FIELD OF SCIENCE - CORDELL

PEOPLE'S COLUMN

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

ASKS TRAFFIC HELP

In the interest of the general public I make this appeal to the citizens of Detroit and vicinity to get behind and support the Police Department in its efforts to reduce the accident toll.

EQUALIZING TARIFF BENEFITS ABSURD, STATES CONGRESSMAN

By CHARLES P. STEWART, Central States Representative, Washington.—"The notion of equalizing tariff benefits is absurd," says Representative Cordell Hull, of Tennessee.

Congress is trying to do it, nevertheless—four of agriculture's benefit.

The prime purpose of the extra session, now on in Washington, is to help agriculture—by means of the widely-advertised but not so well understood farm bill, backed up by higher tariffs on all sorts of farm products.

The farm bill already is involved in a bad jam, due to the senate's addition to it of the recently-invented debarment feature, despite President Hoover's protest.

The bill embodying the tariff part of the program made its appearance a few days ago in the house of representatives, where all the objection immediately is raised that, for every nickel of advantage that it gives to the farmer, it costs the consumer a dollar's worth of advantage to somebody else at the farmer's expense.

"Representative Hull expresses no surprise that this is so. "A tariff," he comments, "is the most inequitable of all taxes."

A Jeffersonian of the old school, 1921-24 national Democratic chairman and prominently-mentioned candidate at Houston, the Tennessee representative is one of the pending tariff bill's half dozen of leading opponents at the present extra session of congress.

"A few 'minor farm specialties' may profit from protection, he agrees. So does the existing tariff system being what it is, he indorses it for them, too.

"As a whole, however, as a whole," he means nearly 90 per cent—fits from general agriculture, it is, adds the Tennessee, is not under the tariff of 1921 and 1922.

Against the proposal to broaden the president's "flexible tariff" authority—enabling him to alter rates without congressional sanction—the representative registers a "more vigorous protest."

"If law enacted by congress would thus be empowered to change the whole purpose of a tariff law enacted by congress."

"As already administered, the 'flexible provision' has been utterly disappointing. It has been used, unfairly, to revise tariffs upward in most instances. It has been productive of national economic sanction—unsound, unwise, impractical, subversive of congress's functions."

"It ought to be repealed."

"Not only," continues the Tennessee lawmaker, "is the tariff in-

THE OTHER CHAP SAYS SOMETHING

FRED KEISTER ON BANKS Yesterday we visited the town bank for the first time in a long time. For several days Harry Callow kept calling up to say there was a check for one dollar being to us and to come right over and get it. We hesitated about accepting the invitation, inside it was a trick to get us into the cooperative support of the simple rules of banking, why it is necessary to use caution when dealing with country printers.

Finally we threw caution to the winds and went in. They did have a check belonging to us. It had fallen to the floor while we were there. A note a month previous and had been retrieved

by the janitor. The boys at the bank agreed it was the longest time we ever kept a dollar in the bank.

Our readers probably wouldn't believe it, but we are one of the most popular customers the bank has. Almost every day we get a letter from the bank inviting us to call. Even Fritz Keister has been suspicious at the number we receive. She thinks we've got a sweetheart working there who is using the bank's stationery to write us love notes.

The bankers know we are a very strong-minded person. Oftentimes they write us as high as

eight or nine times before being able to change our decision not to come in and affix our signature to several new sets of official looking documents.

One thing we have gotten out of our banking experience. We've become so proficient signing our name it looks like a copper plate engraving. Maybe that's why the bankers like to see it so often. It must make them realize what a wonderful opportunity they lost when they took up banking and missed their chance to become great artists. But then, not everybody can be famous.

Most men are able to face a grave danger and give battle to it. But a higher courage than this is required in facing the petty annoyances of a humdrum daily existence.

With our backs against the wall we turn barbed to fight with real danger, but are driven to desperation if surrounded by a swarm of angry bees. He must smile at life's petty stings who would be a conqueror worth while.

To a director's knowledge should be added human understanding. Real, thoughtful consideration shall always be without price.

G. DEWEY KIMBALL FUNERAL DIRECTOR 408 N. WOODWARD AVE. PHONE 310 Ambulance Service

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REP. CORDELL HULL

equitable; it never can be made equitable.

"We may see an interest divided the criminated against, and even place it in a privileged position, but it will invariably be done to some other interest's corresponding advantage."

"The essence of the system is privilege. If all are privileged, none is privileged, and the system has defeated itself."

"The tendency," concluded the representative, "always is upward. "After the Civil war, high rates were provided to meet peculiar needs of the time. Presently those rates were made the basis for an increase. Following the World war an increase was made from that basis—to meet peculiar post-war conditions. The post-World war level is made the basis for a fresh increase—to meet peculiar conditions again."

"Our tariffs prevent collection of our foreign debts. They injure agriculture. They obstruct our exports. They hamper our trade."

"And if we continue to boost them, they will lead us to socialism," said the congressman.

Life a Struggle Get as much variety into your life as possible. Travel if you can. If that is impossible, read books that tell about other people, how they think, act and feel. Keep the mind fresh, alert, active and interested if you would prevent boredom.

Distilling Salt Water In a shallow salt water is boiled in evaporators. The steam rises through pipe to distiller, which consists of coils with cold water running over them. This condenses the steam, forming fresh water.

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Kroger's Second Woodward Ave. Store Again we congratulate the Kroger Grocery & Baking Company on opening its second forty-foot store on Woodward Avenue. We constantly have calls from various chain store operators for new buildings, in locations selected and checked under scientific merchandising methods.

Colgrove Buck & Tillotson REALTORS Friendly Thoughts By G. Dewey Kimball Most men are able to face a grave danger and give battle to it. But a higher courage than this is required in facing the petty annoyances of a humdrum daily existence.

DIRECTORY McAlpine-Starr, Inc. Engineers - Surveyors (Registered) 508 South Woodward BIRMINGHAM, MICH. PHONE BIRMINGHAM 805 CIVIL ENGINEERING Farm Surveys Lot Surveys Subdivision Design "Accurate Work At Reasonable Charge" ARTHUR L. WEEKS Architect FIELD BLDG. BIRMINGHAM Telephone 1140 Clare H. Ogden Attorney-at-Law Room 3, Oakland Springs Bldg. Phone Birmingham 1055 Dr. J. S. Donaldson Dentist TLEPHONE 1877 Suite 109 WABEEK BUILDING Hours: 9 to 12 and 1 to 5 Dr. G. R. Norton OSTEOPATHIC PHYSICIAN 1345 West Maple By APPOINTMENT LEONARD BLOFF PHONE: OFFICE 1690