

BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC

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NOTE: The Eccentric is pleased to publish articles of events which have new value and which are written by persons not connected with the newspaper.

To An Anxious Father

An anxious father writes that the coming 25 years will not afford his sons the opportunity for big things which he has had in the last 25.

So it seems. Since father started out, and he built the Panama Canal, laid the first Pacific cable, made the tungsten lamp available.

Since father started out, telephone exchanges have added mechanical switchboards and power ratings; mechanical attendants; elevators have become self-stopping and self-leveling.

The present generations has seen radio broadcasting become a national institution, and commercial television rise above the horizon.

Our anxious correspondent may well inquire. Chemistry has added to his vocabulary words as acetates, celanese, celanese, rayon, duco, and pyrex.

Everything seems to have been done. So it seemed in 1833 to the head of the Patent Office, who wanted to resign because he felt the limit of human invention had been reached.

When our eyes look back in 1910, they will doubtless chuckle over our anxieties, as we smile over the anxiety of an earlier patent commissioner.

For he must be of little faith indeed who cannot feel the tremendous creative impulse of the day.

What is character? It is what we are, our real selves, not the veneer which may reveal, or may conceal, what we actually are.

In WHICH WE REMARK that we, too, celebrated Navy Day at home. We consumed a nice, large dish of navy beans—and thus proved that we were able to ketch up with the occasion.

"FEAR OF THESE (NAVY) organizations, with the anti-salon league at their head, makes Congress as well as state legislatures overwhelmingly dry," stated a United Press correspondent at Washington.

THE MICHIGAN COUNCIL of Religion held its sixty-ninth annual meeting in Pontiac two weeks ago. We trust that Pontiac will be impressed with the eleventh verse of the fourteenth chapter of St. Luke, which reads: "For whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted." That is a good verse for anyone at any time and every place, to remember, isn't it?

A WISCONSIN MEMBER of the House of Representatives announces that he will seek to have the American people ruled on their own about prohibition when the census is taken in 1936.

It is a good verse for anyone at any time and every place, to remember, isn't it?

Headed For Chaos

Italy, if it adopts the new penal code which Mussolini's Minister of Justice has just prepared, will jump back a good many centuries of so-called civilization: for the new code includes the return of capital punishment, and the elimination of trial by jury.

The Stunt That Failed

Added to the perils of the streets is that of having a "stunt man" fall on you, says The Boston Transcript unless city fathers are wise and forbid his performance.

Ready Gimono, described as a stunt man of New York, undertook to slide down a rope from the top of the Civic Opera Building in Chicago, a structure forty-four stories high.

But he was soon seen to be in trouble. For one thing, his feet showed a tendency to overtake his head, perhaps because his head was the lighter, making the feet the faster to control.

Why should any city tolerate such a performance? asks The Transcript. What useful purpose is served by the human flies, who, unless accident overtakes them, go up the walls of buildings instead of plunging down?

The Chicago performance which ended in the death of the performer and his victim was arranged by a news reel concern. Enough of it was recorded by the cameras to provide thrills for millions of spectators.

The right of a man sliding down a rope from the top of a building of nearly fifty stories may cause the driver of a motor car to look up when he should look ahead. It may bring the pedestrian to a stop.

The spirit of simplicity is a great magician. It softens asperities, bridges chasms, draws together hands and hearts. The forms which it takes in the world are infinite in number; but never does it seem to us more admirable than when it shows itself across the fatal barriers of position, interest, or prejudice.

Simplicity

As you walk down Pennsylvania Avenue towards the Capitol on the East side of the street between Sixth and Seventh Streets you will see an immense foundation, covering a whole city block.

What building is this? "The George Washington Memorial," he replies. And sure enough, that is what it is; for on this spot will be erected before 1932 the great National Memorial that will commemorate the bi-centenary of the birth of the father of his Country.

In order to get the ground for it and to retain it, the Memorial Association had to put down the foundation, and its first money was used for that purpose and to pay some of the architect's fees.

The women of the country are back of this Memorial, and are making drives everywhere for the money with which to erect it. They have before them the ghastly failure the Washington Monument Association made of raising funds for the stately obelisk known to all the world as the Washington Monument, and they are working like beavers towards their goal.

This memorial will be a great national auditorium in which conventions of every sort can assemble. There will be the most commodious hall in Washington, and from the plans approved by the Government not the least beautiful one on the Mall.

DURING THE PAST SUMMER Michigan's convicts built a total of 66.8 miles of state roads. Now, if they'd make Detroit River bootleggers do as much for the dreamed of "River Road,"—what's that? you say we are "all wet" on this idea?

IN SPITE OF THE FACT that many of the school children of Michigan have been engaged recently in writing essays on Light's Golden Jubilee, it must not be thought that this is the first batch of light essays ever written by school children.

A MISOGEN WOMAN's life was saved when a bullet struck her left side because her heart was on the other side of her body. Which would make Sobenpauer, were he alive today, admit that here's one woman at least who has the right kind of a heart.

SUGAR LOBBYISTS spent \$75,000.00 in less than a year, seeking to obtain full and protective legislation in Washington. Remember that, when you are so lucky as to reach for a sweet. As Brete Hart mentions in one of his books: "The old gold goes into the hills, if you take one of them, their lucky strikes." To which we may add: "It sure does raise cane when the sugar lobbyist tries to boot Congress."

"IT" SOMETIMES MAKES A DIFFERENCE!



Views and Reviews

George Clemenceau, former premier of France: "The doctors say I am ill. I am not! I am a dying man who is finishing his task."

Smith W. Brookhart, U. S. Senator from Iowa: "No man can invite me to a dinner where crime is in evidence in any way and say to me, because of his confidence as a host, I shall conceal the crime or neglect to testify exactly as to what occurred."

Fred B. Smith, Moderator, National Council, Congregational churches: "The church of tomorrow must not be dominated by any caste, caste or peculiar type of people."

Francis P. Duffy, Catholic priest: "Before I'll resort to harking on money matters from the pulpit, I'll go out and engage in the honorable occupation of street cleaning."

Edgar Rice Burroughs, author of "Tarzan" books: "I have often been asked how I came to write. The best answer is that I needed the money."

F. H. LaGuardia, defeated candidate for mayor of New York: "You can't get rich in public office honestly."

Charles Evans Hughes: "Our chief industry is not in making automobiles but in making laws."

George Bernard Shaw, British philosopher: "What we want to know is how little government we can get along with without being murdered in our beds."

Salvador de Madariaga: "There is no doubt that the idea of Nordic superiority owes not a little to the fact that maps are hung with the north up and the south down."

Charles M. Schwab, steel magnate: "I am the champion borrower of the United States."

Sidney S. Von Loesche: "Statistics show that more people die in bed than elsewhere. Give this fact sufficient publicity and someone will try to pass a law forbidding beds."

Appreciated: "Friend—I want to tell you how much I enjoyed your lecture last night. Speaker—Thanks, but I thought you had a date over your girl's house? Friend—I did—her parents went to hear you—Omaha Beach."

China's Light Of National Altruism

Still Struggles To Keep On Burning

By CHARLES P. STEWART, Central Press Staff Writer. Washington—The light of national altruism, kindled by the late Dr. Sun Yat Sen two-thirds of a generation ago in China, still struggles hard to keep on burning.

Chiang Kai-shek, China's president of today, is busy with the extinguisher. He is not the first, however, by a dozen or fifteen individuals, to attempt to put that light out, and find it too much for him. If only a flicker, nevertheless, is an almost unbelievably persistent one.

Dr. Sun Yat Sen originally was the whole Chinese revolution. The Manchus dynasty was decadent, and yet pretty powerful. Good for another century, maybe, if Dr. Sun had not arrived just when he did from a course of medical education in Honolulu, followed by a few years of wandering in Europe, and started an insurrection.

This was about 1910 or 1911. Doubtless China was fully ripe for a change. Dr. Sun was a wonderful man, anyway. In a mere matter of weeks all the Yangtze river were lost to the Manchus government. Dr. Sun was impromptu president at Nanjing. Manchus rule in the north, with headquarters at Peking, was tottering.

Yuan Shi-Kai was a chinese, not a Manchus. He was a northern Chinese, however—not in sympathy with the southern folk—for the Chinese are a much mixed people, speaking some 20 languages and not all not friendly with one another.

Yuan, previously in high favor with the Manchus, was in disgrace at the moment. Nevertheless, the imperial advisers recognized him as the only person strong enough to save the situation—if anyone could. They made him prime minister—really dictator. Shortly afterward he kicked the emperor off his throne. That is, the latter abdicated—to express it euphoniously.

Yuan promptly offered Dr. Sun an compromise—himself as a Manchus—north of the Great Wall, and therefore outside "China proper," but theoretically Chinese territory. Chang managed to set up a certain sort of apology for pre-emptive authority in Peking—and again Dr. Sun's light fell a-dick-

ering sorely. In the midst of this confusion Dr. Sun died, leaving the task of encouraging the sacred flame to his beloved secretary, Chiang Kai-shek.

Chiang carried on mightily successfully. He did the best that had yet been accomplished—drove Chang back into Manchuria (Chang was killed on the way), and proclaimed a fresh republic—this time a republic recognized throughout the whole of China proper, and with claims upon its one-time latent possessions: Manchuria, Mongolia and Tibet.

And then it began to appear that Dr. Sun's ideal was still un-realized. The doctor's creed was a government based on the brotherhood of mankind. Accordingly, the old-time Yat Senites are in rebellion again.

An Unusual Home in Fashionable Quarton Lake Estates. The beautiful new brick colonial home on Puritan Road, just South of Oak Street, is practically finished and open for inspection. Five bedrooms—three baths—large living room—dining room—recreation room and library are all artistically arranged and enjoy all the newest conveniences known to the building profession. For appointment to see this new Berz-built home, telephone Birmingham 830. Colgrove Buck & Tillotson REALTORS

Friendly Thoughts By G. Dewey Kimball. The gardener slept. And about him in this beautiful bow of flowers the weeds grew, timidly at first, but then sprang up strong and bold as they noticed the gardener slept so soundly. Their rank breath poisoned the air about them, and this spot once so fair to dwell in, once so sweet with the perfume of infinite promise became a loathsome place where crawling things made their nests in the ruined garden of this one man's mind. The gardener's name was Conscience. Our price—largest is well-known. And it is important that everyone should know about the furnishings will cost. G. DEWEY KIMBALL FUNERAL DIRECTOR. Ambulance Service. 408 N. WOODWARD AVE. PHONE 850

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