

BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 1931

NOTE: The Eccentric is pleased to publish stories of events which have news value and which are written by persons not connected with the staff of the paper. All copy should be prepared before noon on Wednesday. The right to use material submitted is for the issue of the paper in which it appears. If it is desired that it be published in subsequent issues, the writer must so indicate. An appropriate reference upon the character, standing or qualifications of the writer or contributor should appear in the columns of the Eccentric will be gladly accepted upon being brought to the attention of the publishers.

"White Mule" Killers

The three human beings whose twisted and warped minds allowed them to kill and burn four young people last week over one Ypsilanti are deserving of but one punishment: banishment to some primitive penal colony for life. Incarceration in any of Michigan's state prisons is altogether too comfortable an existence for the slayers, and too expensive to maintain for the taxpayers. So we suggest that Governor Brucker and the State Prison Commission pick out a nicely isolated, rugged island upon Lake Superior, fit it up with a few crude shelters, some agricultural and industrial implements, some food and seeds for growing food—and invite to it those of the habitual and brutally criminal class of "violent" criminals who are sentenced to life.

Soviet Joy

The Soviets in Russia are joyful because, soon, they will be starting what they hope to be an annual tractor output of 10,000 machines, to be used to promote agriculture in their own country. It will pay the rest of the world to watch out for a country that can in the name of industrial progress, convert its people into slaves for sufficient time to enable them to amass equipment, plus a human system of workers, and thus menace the more orderly progress of nations. The solution lies within the hands of two classes of people, the capitalists, or the laboring folk. Evolution or revolution.

"Kosher Matches"

A. H. Copland is a Detroit commercial artist and advertising man, connected with the Epstein Agency. A few days ago Mr. Copland thought he would like to taste some matzoh—uncleaned bread eaten at the Hebrew Passover. So he went into a downtown kosher store and asked for a package. Someone else's phosgene was a bit off—their being storekeeper wrapped up a box of matches. Asked why he accepted the matches in place of the matzoh, the inimitable Copland replied: "Well, what the heck difference does it make, anyway?"

Did You Ever Meet—

For many years a kindly old lady has been coming to The Eccentric office each week, armed with a copy of The War Cry, official publication of the Salvation Army; for many years we have bought a copy each week. Sometimes we haven't time to scan its pages, but when we do take time we are sure to find something of real interest and help. Last week we discovered the following regenerating article, under the challenging caption of "Did You Ever Meet—"

Someone whose very handclasp was a tonic? Someone whose cheery morning greeting brightened the whole day? Someone to whom you instinctively told the bright worth-while happenings in your life, forgetting all the shadows? Someone who made you feel the world a better, cleaner, happier place in which to live than ever before imagined? Someone who showed such cordiality and sincere pleasure in your presence that you must love him then and there? Someone who forgot his own affairs in his interest to hear about your plans, your work and your pleasures? Someone who never noticed your deficiencies and always put you at your ease? Someone who stirred in you a desire to be better, bigger and purer? Someone who gave you such clear vision singled out the sham and imitation of your life and showed its worthlessness? Someone who was genuinely glad at your success and good fortune? Someone who strengthened your purpose and ideas and made you glad that you still had some illusions? There are a host of "someones" in this world. Do you belong to their fraternity, and by the discerning eyes of brotherhood discover more of their number every day?

ONE OF THE GREATEST instruments to use in putting down public expenditures is a watchful, co-operative, sleeping street cleaner. That's why, in our estimation, the Property Owners' Division of the Birmingham Real Estate Board can accomplish such constructive work to reduce taxes in this area.

Student Loan Fund

Mrs. F. H. McKinney, of Puritan road, is the new president of the Birmingham Student Loan Fund Association, a local organization which makes available financial aid to boys and girls who wish to enter college or university. Mrs. McKinney is placed in a position that may be of great importance in the life of our country; for upon the help rendered by the Association may depend the future of some unknown boy or girl student, because of assistance, may become a great leader tomorrow. Boys and girls aided by this fund ought to develop real gratitude to those who, from out of their busy lives, provide the time and effort required to keep the Association a going concern.

Iron County's Iron Men

Referring to some of our comment that Iron County, in the Upper Peninsula, should have a grand jury, and thus not be out-done by Lower Peninsula units of government, Pat O'Brien devoted a column in his Iron Reporter to the subject. He proposes that his county will have a grand jury, and that said body will bring to light the name of Al Capone's Iron River representative. More power to you, Pat. Though most of our citizens may possess wiser characters in keeping with the name of your county, undoubtedly there are some whose moral courage is not so enduring; here's a chance for you and Tom Conlin, of Crystal Falls, to aid in "throwing the rascals out."

Be Grateful For Problems

We who live in this generation, and in this community, ought to be grateful. We all would be, too, if it could be revealed to each one that problems are injected into life in order to make us more vigorous disciples of true wisdom—for true wisdom is acquired only when we learn to focus our abilities and our attentions more upon our moral and spiritual selves, and less and less upon the vanishing things of the material world. True, we ought to direct our talents along those practical lines that will insure us a living; but how empty becomes the life if we know nothing but the height that one dollar can be laid upon another.

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EX-ATRIX

"Fifty years from now," says Bob Tarkenton, "I will be a distinguished attorney." Nineteen-eighty-nine, 'tis said. Will be a skillful eye-needle at least that's the prediction. Of one keen and thoughtful man, who has been in the time comes. If business don't get off its knees through me will be without a pa, will lose his B. V. D's!

BOO, HOO!

The skipper of this column is heartbroken, and with reason. Last week he spent a considerable amount of time looking up a most entertaining and exciting photograph of a man and a woman. Leaving out the fact that he was away on his vacation, something happened, something very horrible, perhaps it was the work of some jealous scoundrel who takes delight in watching a skipper squirm.

Anyhow, the merry little piece was printed, but the picture was left out. Leaving out the fact that he was away on his vacation, something happened, something very horrible, perhaps it was the work of some jealous scoundrel who takes delight in watching a skipper squirm.

HAIL EMILY POST

Now that the corn-on-the-cob season is here again in all its gnawings, crunching and face-smearing manifestations, there are a few questions we'd like to have settled once and for all, by the members of your organization as well as propriety. For instance: Do you proceed in circles around the cob and back to the starting place, or do you go from side to side and if you go from side to side do you go from left to left or from left to right? "Thanking" for granted that you go from side to side, do you take one, two, three or four rows at a time? Do you go right through from one side to the other without stopping, or do you call a halt and get your breath and your bearings? Do you spread salt and butter the whole length of the ear or just put big dabs at one end and then carry through to the other end before it's all gone? Do you hold your head and move the ear, or do you push the corn along and keep looking at it? All you people who like corn on the ear owe it to yourself to question a hearing.

LIFE AND TIMES OF THE EMPRESS EUGENIE

(What has gone before: A lot of things have gone before—a herd of things that even Eugenie herself never dreamed of—and she used to have some dreams that were beautiful. But don't tell me you missed last week's installment! Some people have all the time.) Now go on with the story: After beating around the world with the name-drummer, Eugenie got good and tired of circus life and decided to end it all by jumping into the sea. Eugenie sailed, but it was winter and the sea was covered with a good thick layer of ice and Eugenie only suffered a bad bump on what was later to become the resting place of a very famous piece of ladies' wearing apparel.

SMILE THAT REVEALS THE SOLE

Hollywood item—The new star of the screen is a girl with skin, deep blue eyes, a rather large mouth which when she smiles reveals perfect teeth and dainty feet.

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Poems That Live

"ONLY A BABY SAM!" Dropped from the skies, Only a laughing face, Two sunny eyes, One two cherry lips, One chubby little hand, Ten little toes, Ten little hands, Ten little toes.

THE OTHER CHAP SAYS SOMETHING

THE LAWYER'S OATH The Birmingham Bar Association has formulated a oath which it suggests should be required of all applicants for the practice of law. It is comparatively short, very clear and concise. Every lawyer should seek to live up to its requirements. "I do solemnly swear that—"

THE OTHER CHAP SAYS SOMETHING

"I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Michigan." "I will maintain the respect due the courts of justice and judicial officers." "I will not counsel or maintain any suit or proceeding which shall be manifestly unjust, nor any defense except such as I believe to be honestly debatable under the law of the State of Michigan." "I will employ for the purpose of maintaining the causes confided to me, no means or methods inconsistent with truth and honor, and will never seek to mislead the judge or jury by any artifice or false statement of facts." "I will maintain the confidence and preserve inviolate the secrets and confidences of the clients of my business except from him or with his knowledge and approval." "I will abstain from all offensive personalities, and advance no fact prejudicial to the honor or reputation of a witness, unless required by the justice of the cause which I am conducting." "I will never reject, from any consideration personal to myself, any cause that is justly presented, or delay any man's cause for lucre or malice, so help me, God."—Lowell (Mich.) Ledger.

THIS SHOULD BE PASSED ALONG

Methods of collecting taxes and the freedom of the taxpayer are fully as important as the amount itself. Some months ago the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce and the Birmingham Taxpayers' Association, in cooperation with the Birmingham Taxpayers' Association, have advertised an issue of bonds for the purpose of raising money to pay the taxes of the Birmingham area. The Birmingham Taxpayers' Association has issued a circular which contains some interesting facts. We recommend that every taxpayer and every city, village and township official read them and think them over.

IN THE LAST FOUR YEARS

Knoxville has levied \$12,781,907 in taxes.—Better than 94 per cent of their taxes have actually been paid, and this in a city which is not the largest in the state and has its large percentage of colored population. Knoxville now collects taxes quarterly, allowing taxpayers benefit of 8 per cent on unexpired portion of their payments.

The circular which was issued by a large Chicago investment bank says that God has created a decided saving to taxpayers for early payment and encourages tax collectors and the new plan is working admirably. Not only should this state, and every state, on its own initiative, set an example for every person who has reached the age of twenty-one and who enjoys the benefits of government, but it should be so arranged that the entire amount of the tax does not fall due at one time. The partial payment plan is not an experiment in other lines of business. In fact most of the great industries and all of the countries are today founded upon the partial-payment and credit basis. With a premium to those who are thrifty and can pay in advance, much of the pain of taxation can be alleviated.

GOD'S GOOD LIGHT

At eleven o'clock tonight, set your clock ahead to midnight. You'll wake up tomorrow and go about your business at the usual hour, not realizing you are saving an hour of daylight and an hour's consumption of electric juice. The power company has the price of the "juice," but they'll make it up in some other way. You get better light, too. God's free gift will have the benefit of an hour of extra rest in the proper period for sleep. The power company is in St. Ignace Republican News.

FROM THE ECCENTRIC COLUMNS—of Long Ago

Bits of News Gleaned From Old Files Of The Eccentric—The Items That Make Up The Historical Background Of The Birmingham Of Today.

FIFTY YEARS AGO

John Stanley was in town Saturday last. Schuyler Adams is home again safe and sound. "Uncle Billy" Hawthorne is buying cattle in the vicinity of New Baltimore. Dan Cook gets cucumbers into bottles which fill the bottles chuck full, and stains the glass awfully, making quite a curiosity. Archie Hatch, a bright and wide awake young son of Richard Hatch, swallows cartridges for amusement without harm to self or cartridge.

FIVE YEARS AGO

More than 350 homes are under construction in Ezzomfield Township at the present time, according to a list maintained by Robert Y. Moore, supervisor. The total valuation of these cars is not figured accurately, but it runs into the millions. Mr. Moore said, "Approval of a budget for the coming year of \$437,503.42 was given by Birmingham schools by members of the school board at their meeting Monday night. The budget really calls for \$294,018 in direct taxes because \$143,484.54 is available from building funds, tuition and other incidental items." Several delays have been encountered in chlorinating the water of Birmingham and the ban which went into effect 10 days ago will not be lifted at least until Monday, according to Harry Starr, village manager.

THE TEXACO STATION

DIXON & GRINNELL Gasoline - Oils - Washing - Lubricating Tires - Batteries of the country are today founded upon the partial-payment and credit basis. With a premium to those who are thrifty and can pay in advance, much of the pain of taxation can be alleviated.

ENGINEERS

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BIRMINGHAM CAB CO. D. H. REYNOLDS, Owner New Rate: Anywhere in Birmingham from our Cab Stand at Woodward and Maple 25c TELEPHONE 941-W

The "Big Shots" Say—

George Bernard Shaw, British author: "In politics there are three classes of speakers—a statesman, an orator and a windbag." Henry Ford, industrialist: "It is not always an easy matter to say when yesterday left off, when today began, nor yet when the two will merge into our tomorrow." Ida Tarbell, author: "The majority of people ask nothing better than a comfortable routine that keeps them in food and clothes and does not require too great an exercise of brain matter." Henry T. F. Rhodes, in a lecture before British chemists: "Probably the day is not far distant when the man who has lost an arm or a leg will be able, by the help of modern biological methods, literally to grow a new one." A doctor suggests that, of the many people who disappear every year, some are actuated by the belief that they are not wanted, and go to get their balls for a long time, after a big fight killed his wife and she was intruding on his life and she was intruding on his life and she was intruding on his life.

Paralaffs

We have a special gold balla are used to stand the heat. Even in this country we have seen a golfer fan his ball for a long time with his club before hitting it.—Punch.

Does He?

Columbia professor wants to make marriage more difficult. Does the man think it is easy now?—The Dallas Journal.

Alfonso's Change

If Alfonso ever comes back, he will have some ideas, no doubt, about who should be kept for the unemployed.—The Richmond Times-Dispatch.

Clothes make the man.

If you look a little shabby, there's no danger of being mistaken for a gangster.—The Birmingham News.

DR. ROY

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