

BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1931

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

Charles A. Bingham

On the eve of a gently sloping hill, north the sheltering arms of a trio of old trees one day last week was laid all that was mortal of Charles A. Bingham. Nature was dressed in all the gaiety of her autumnal adornment that day—preparatory for the long winter's sleep, so that she could awaken again in the spring and bring forth new life to an ever new world.

Employment Insurance

America today is threatened with future distress if capital and labor refuse to provide a method of insuring human labor against periods of unemployment.

We will not go into a full explanation of Mr. Swopes plan, which provided employment insurance, disability compensation, and old-age pensions. It is important, however, to note that leaders of industry, such as Mr. Swopes, are beginning to think of the right of working men to have reasonable expectation of protection for their families in case of death, protection for their old age, and protection against unemployment.

The employees of the General Electric Company, now numbering 60,000 as compared with a maximum of 90,000 in recent years, are now voting on a plan which involves the payment of 10 per cent of their earnings, with the company matching their contributions dollar for dollar.

Further progress along this line is inevitable, and if capitalist industry does not voluntarily assume the responsibility, political action will certainly come about.

The President Points The Way

From President Hoover's Radio Address on Unemployment Relief: "The maintenance of a spirit of self-reliance through voluntary giving, through the responsibility of local government, is of the utmost importance to the future of America."

"The success and the character of nations are to be judged by the ideals and the spirit of its people. Time and again the American people have demonstrated a spiritual quality, a capacity for unity of action, of generosity, a certainty of results in time of emergency that have made them great in the annals of the history of all nations."

"I would that I possessed the art of words to fix the real issue with which the troubled world is faced into the mind and heart of every American man and woman. Our country and the world are today involved in more than a financial crisis. We are faced with the primary question of human relations, which reaches to the very depth of organized society and to the very depth of human conscience. This civilization and this great complex, which is our American life is builded and can alone survive upon the basis of individual action of good will."

What Does Business Need?

If mankind, in its economic system, were able to exemplify more of the brotherhood of man, there would be much to be said in the ranks of the unemployed. But man has erected his system upon a rather selfish idea that everything he can get his hands upon, legally, is also morally his.

Each week we receive, through the mail, a clip sheet from the National Republican Publishing Co., Washington, D. C. Frankly, it is biased propaganda for the Republican party. Its contents are colored to defend Republicanism and to denigrate the Democrats.

It is the CHINESEMAN in CHINA as good as the Chinaman in America, the Jew will be hard pressed if they are able to confer Manchuria.

IT MUST BE VERY DIFFICULT these days for the orator to make his audience believe that "time is money."

NEARLY EVERY DAY, in the Free Press, Grantland Rice writes his Sportlight column. And in it, quite often, you will find one of his verses. As a rhythmizer, it is our opinion that Mr. Rice is a wordy fellow.

SMALL DAIRYMEN of MICHIGAN are planning to stop a war against the big fellows in their business. They want that both sides will issue curdling statements.

The Eccentric Columns of Long Ago

FIFTY YEARS AGO

Going to have a "late fall"? Local news is very, very interesting.

That Hanna road will yank the head off from nearly every passerby who dares to ride over it.

There will be a grand ball at the residence of George M. Mitchell this evening.

Ever since the time when the barber shaved the baker last winter, the crowd has been full of bat-like wings over the devoted precincts of the lake shop.

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What May Prove To Be A Horse Of A Different Color



The Other Chap Says Something—

THE WHY OF CRIME A lot has been said about the crime wave being due to the aftermath of the late war, a lot of hokey.

KEEPING FAITH WITH THE BANK

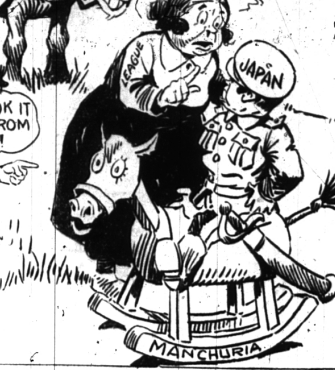
The news that "the bank has failed" has swept through hundreds of towns and cities within twenty-four hours.

THE WISE ONES

One thing has impressed us in reading the political comments of the other editors throughout the state.

SECURITIES (?) COMMISSION

Hub M. George talented state affairs writer on the Detroit Free Press is running a series of articles on the abysmal failure of the so-called state securities commission.



The "Big Shots" Say—

Gerard Swopes, industrialist: "We must do with people and by people instead of for people and to people."

LeBaron Cooke: "We are still a considerable number of intelligent men and women who are capable of enjoying our own civilization without a bottle of gin."

Aristide Briand, French foreign minister: "Americans invent everything, but they don't profit by them."

Thomas L. Chodura: "We are all meditating in the business world whether there will be any action when the survival comes."

Walter S. Gifford, head, National Relief Committee: "This depression will not be ended by a panacea."

Aristide Briand, French Foreign Minister: "My policy is to look, listen and say nothing."

Robert Wilkins, noted explorer: "The wealth of knowledge to be gained from the area about the pole can hardly be collected unless the submarine is used."

Betty Compton, motion picture star: "A picture star, particularly a woman, cannot count on more than 15 years of earning ability."

C. C. Dill, U. S. Senator from Washington: "When industrial conditions improve, so will agricultural conditions."

All of Us

Well, I tell you something, and I think it's the truth. Men aren't lazier than women. They may love them, but they're afraid of them.

Poems That Live

"LOVE IN THY YOUTH, FAIR MAID" Love in thy youth, fair maid, be wise. Old time will make thee colder. And though each morning new arties, Yet we each day grow older.

PEOPLE'S COLUMN

The Eccentric is pleased to give a column to persons who desire to voice their opinions on local and national news.

To the Editor: In these days of stress and unpaid taxes, high cost of government, and the usual and inevitable of payrolls with scrip, will you kindly tell me why we cling to our "village"—A collection of houses, smaller than a town. In some states a municipality smaller than a city.

We have 47 supervisors in the County of Oakland, none from the Village of Birmingham, one from Bloomfield Township, or the surrounding municipalities.

A very small part do we play in the governmental affairs of Oakland County, Why?—Because we are not a city; just a small village, smaller than a town.

If Birmingham were a city it would have about three supervisors on the board, so I am given to understand. This in itself seems sufficient reason to me why we should change our present form of government. However, there are other good reasons too numerous to mention at this time.

And, Mr. Editor, may I ask, why do you not "cite" some of the reasons you hear so often why we must remain a village?

JAMES W. TAYLOR, 187 Trenton Road.

Our Scrap Book

ART AT HULL-HOUSE Because Hull-House is an important district in the city of Chicago, it has the great advantage that children in the art school are of many races and nationalities and by receiving a degree they are familiar with the backgrounds of culture which their parents represent.

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C. C. Dill, U. S. Senator from Washington: "When industrial conditions improve, so will agricultural conditions."

Hubby: "It's queer, but the biggest idiots seem to marry the prettiest women."

Snyder: "I'm sure you're trying to flatter me."—Southern Public Utilities Magazine.

Beautiful Blonde: "The Lord made us beautiful and dumb."

B. B.: "Yes, beautiful so the men would love us, and dumb so that we could love them."

"We are now passing the most important test in Berlin," explained the guide. "We are not" contradicted the American tourist as he hurried off the sight-seeing bus.—Acting Editor.

Check: Relativity says Albert Einstein, has nothing to do with the soul. But Einstein says that the soul is something that is to save our souls.—Horton Herald.