

The Birmingham Eccentric

Published every Thursday at Birmingham, Mich. in The Eccentric Building, 226-222 North Woodward Avenue. Telephone 11, 12, and 13.

Subscription Rates: (In Oakland County) One Year \$2.00, Six Months \$1.00, Three Months \$0.50.

The Eccentric is a member of National Editorial Association, Michigan Press Association, United Press Club, and Oakland County Weekly Press Association.

THURSDAY, JULY 5, 1934

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.

Our Peculiar People

A week ago last Saturday afternoon at the suggestion of Maud H. DeFoe, Charlotteville, a group of Michigan newspapermen attended the horse races at the Fair Grounds, later coming out to our house for food and an evening of discussion.

In a part of the state that is bankrupt, where less than half the taxes levied are being collected, where school teachers are going without pay, where the federal government has poured millions to relieve distress, where banks have crumbled and fallen like wooden soldiers struck with a groundball, where the public debt approaches one billion dollars, 15,000 persons paid \$1.25 each to see a bunch of jockeyed-out sets of horses over the course.

Evening papers tell the results of today's races and posts the odds for the next. Thousands upon thousands at cigar stands and corner drug stores bet that money on races they never see and on horses they never see.

It's a great age. It's a great state that becomes a paragon of gambling business to get revenues to feed those who lose their earnings at gambling.

Brief Movie Programs

We wonder why the motion picture people do not cut down the length of the programs they are putting on in many theaters throughout the land.

"Kick 'Em Out" Farley

Because he wrote an editorial criticizing some phase of the county Democratic plans that he opposed, James S. Haskins, Howard City editor and former postmaster, was discharged by Postmaster-General Clegg as a "pernicious political activity."

Well, the antics of these Farley tactics will someday be felt in the nation's ballot boxes, and Mr. Farley will be returned to the well-deserved oblivion that ought to be reserved for his type of predatory politics.

Says GEORGE SHAW in his Wiggon Progress: "Old John Barleycorn was the only man ever buried alive for fourteen years and lived to tell the tale." Which only proves, George, that alcohol continues to be a pickling preservative.

The Spirit Of Our Charter

The revelation that the Detroit law firm of Rice, Meas and Allen, of which Mayor Harry Allen is a member, has been retained to draw up the legal contract covering the division of joint assets and liabilities of Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills and Bloomfield Township, comes as a surprise, to say the least.

But the important point at issue is whether or not the Mayor has actually taken advantage of his position by contract to perform for the city a service for which he will profit in a monetary way.

Grand Jury Results

If good results are obtained from the Grand Jury investigation being conducted in Ingham County, it is our belief that Attorney-General Patrick H. O'Brien will deserve little of the credit.

Another Federal Tammany?

In the near future every State in the nation will have a "supreme director" of another new federal board to be known as the NEC—which means National Emergency Council.

Senator ROBERT F. WAGNER, stormy New York member of Congress whose legislation is so radical that he proposes to turn the government over to the American Federation of Labor, seems to be on the decline as a power in the Roosevelt administration.

In the cheerful and aggressive personality of Cliff Ward, well known Michigan newspaperman, the River Rouge Herald has acquired an able and experienced editor.

All of Us

YOU SAY this friend of yours is a fine fellow when you get to know him. You've known him for a long time and underneath that crusty exterior is a heart of gold that's tenderer than any child's.

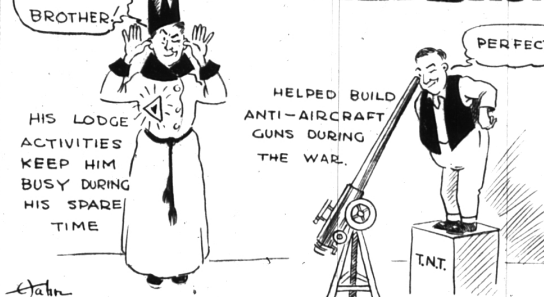
Very well, I'm glad to hear it. And I believe it. Your friend is a decent, generous human being. One in a million. And a man is lucky to have such a friend.

Birmingham Business Leaders

No. 25



SAM WAS BORN ON A FARM NEAR THE 'HEEL' OF ITALY



Sam Brunl, proprietor of the Birmingham Fruit and Grocery Company, 124 North Woodward Avenue, was 15 years old when he came to this country from Italy in 1910 to join his father in Farmington, Va.

THE OTHER CHAP SAYS SOMETHING

THE TRUTH ABOUT RUSSIA. Thinking people are grateful to The Christian Science Monitor for its series of articles on Russia by William Henry Chamberlain.

Mr. Baldwin

THE sad story of how fewer than two million Communists rule with the iron hand of terror and propaganda, a population of 160 millions is one to stir the heart.

It is credibly reported that when Lady Astor met Stalin in Moscow in 1931 she posed the blunt question: "How long will you go on killing people?"

One Minute Pulpit

Sorrow is better than laughter: by the sadness of the countenance the heart is made better. Ecclesiastes 7:3.

FROM THE ECCENTRIC COLUMNS

of Long Ago

FIFTY YEARS AGO. Messrs. Partridge and McA. Randall took in the Jackson excursion last week, and report an interesting visit to the state prison where they saw Blackton and Mr. Frank Cole, 'last of Troy.'

Mr. Goodwin is home for a vacation. He is certainly a promising young man, and one who does honor to our village. You missed a great treat if you miss his address that won for him the gold medal in a State oratorical contest.

FIVE YEARS AGO. Leases have just been signed by three prominent contractors for locations in the Briggs-Birmingham Building.

RELOCATED. Newsed—A man of weight got my mind when my wife told me that she could cook.

THIRTY-FIVE YEARS AGO. Five Birmingham couples wedded inside of 48 hours in traveling town for a country village.

Jest For the Fun of It

Call The Hardware Store. Famous Firm Through & Through. This is a hand of shored tie. That explains the thumb prints on it.

Group Snapshot. He squints against the sun, in vain attempting to smile with giddy brightness, and pre-empting A tiny space to peep behind the heads.

Geographical Proposal. "Honey, will you all marry me?" "Why, this is all so southern!"

MIMIC. She's a drug store blond and her teeth are as false! I think she's very nice. A good word for a bad one is worth much and costs little.

New Service TO MUSKOGON and MILWAUKEE. The Grand Trunk now offers a new service via Muskogon and Steamers to Milwaukee. EASTERN STANDARD TIME. Lv. Birmingham Ex. Sun. Daily 2:15 P.M. Ar. Muskogon 2:30 P.M. 6:50 P.M. Lv. Muskogon via Steamer 2:30 P.M. 11:30 P.M. CENTRAL STANDARD TIME. Ar. Milwaukee 8:00 P.M. \* 4:30 A.M.

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