It's a good thing that God helps your average preacher. In the modern world of complex trivialities, he finds it pretty hard to find room on the world's sales' shelves for the merchandise of Christianity. So many people think you can reveal the substance of God by wrapping it in cellophane.

The Birmingham Eccentric

16 PAGES, PART 1

FIFTY-NINTH YEAR—NO. 2 | BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN. THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 1936 | $2.00 PER YEAR—SINGLE COPIES 5c

THIS and THAT

By G. R. A.

You cannot very well be backward in coming forward to ass st in the uplift of mankind. To he thus backward is being short-sighted in looking ahead.

In spite of appearances, there are many millions of sacrificing, unselfish men and women living upon our earth. If this were not so the route of the human race would be thrown out of its orbit every 24 hours. Every good act is like a strong stone in the foundation of mankind's house—and this house is especially safe when erected upon the rock of Universal Brotherhood.

Here's a practical suggestion for getting votes, to be cashed in on by either Democrats or Republicans: insert in your political platform this very definite and easily delivered promise, i. e.,: to perfect a squirtless grapefruit. This will get the votes of all who wear glasses.

According to an investigation made by Living Church, it is estimated there are about 692,400,000 Christians in the world, of whom 522,596,000, or about five-sevenths, belong to the various Catholic bodies, and 169,804,000, or about two-sevenths, to the more than 200 Protestant denominations.

Humanity is always hopeful. Somewhere I've read, "when they're under 6 years, they write to Santa Claus. When they are over 60 they sign Townsend petitions."

Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg certainly is doing a good Congressional job in his efforts to prevent the spending of federal money for such things, for instance, as that Florida canal. George B. Boutwell, of Lakeview avenue, recently returned from a trip through Florida, is keen in his support of all efforts to stop digging that canal which, it is estimated, would cost 200 millions of dollars. (You will recall that President Roosevelt, on his own initiative, appropriated five millions to start the project some time ago.) Mr. Boutwell brought back the fourth issue of the Yankeetown News—the sole object of its columns seeming to be to help the project. (Mr. Boutwell says that Yankeetown is little more than a Gulf of Mexico fishing hamlet, a few scattered houses, situated on the edge of a three-mile piece of swamp land.) "The southern half of Florida is pronouncedly against the canal project, while the northern section is for it," related Mr. Boutwell. "To me, the entire plan is ridiculous. It seems that, with so many other sections of the United States in need of practical assistance, President Roosevelt ought to find better use for the people's money than to throw it into a Florida ditch that won't be used if it ever were finished."

"Everybody has his or her price at which he or she will 'sell out'" is an old saying that, in every generation, has been quoted. While it may be true that too many people can be purchased, there are many alive today who place the attributes of character above material wealth. I've met a few of them in my own brief span upon earth—and they certainly are a refreshing aroma in the midst of desolate stretches of carrion-laden land. Many of us make mistakes—often because we may assume that we actually are doing no wrong at all; fortunately, only a few really are unscrupulous and deliberately so. Blessed are those, however, who will not "sell out" at any price; their material condition may not be compared to the wealth of an Indian Prince, but their lives are filled with good things, their friends are legion, and their lives a benediction to those who know them. Heaven already has their names enrolled upon Heaven's Register.

Do you think that University Professors, supported in public institutions, should, or should not, allow their public utterances to be quoted in newspapers? The other evening I listened to a splendid presentation of Japanese social, economic, and cultural life, by an equally splendid chap who, when he began his talk before a local audience, frankly asked that he be not quoted. I respected his wishes, of course, since I was at the meeting as a guest and not spec fically as a reporter. This chap, speaking recently on the Pacific coast where the Japanese question is an acute one, met with unfair treatment at the hands of a daily newspaper re-

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MANY ATTEND LIONS CHARTER NIGHT DINNER

District Governor Ludwig Addresses 86 Guests on Club Work

Celebrating charter night, 86 Lions, their wives and guests, gathered at the Community House last evening for a dinner dance. An interesting program of entertainment was provided, the highlight of which was an address by District Governor Robert Ludwig of St. Joseph.

Following the meal, Russell McBride, president of the Birmingham Lions, introduced the speaker and Mr. Ludwig gave a review of the club's activities in District number 11, of which he is governor. He pointed out that the enthusiasm and interest shown by the local group was outstanding and that their work had pleased, not only him, but the national organization as well. In relating the various phases of the organization's work, he stressed the good this club and other Lions clubs were accomplishing in helping the blind. In this connection, he pointed out how Lions picked out needy blind cases and helped send them to a state owned institution at Saginaw. In return for the cooperation from the state, he said, merchants who are members of the various clubs attempt to aid the upkeep of the institution by handling articles for sale that were made by these confined there.

Mr. Ludwig asserted that Lions clubs throughout the country are growing and that at present there are over 80,000 members. The splendid service and cooperation they demonstrate at all times is the essential reason for their progress, he said.

Table decorations for the affair included a red and white color scheme with candle light adding to the cheeriness of the scene. Vases of Roses, Snap Dragons and Daffodils were placed at intervals on the tables.

Reports Given

President McBride called for reports from the club's committees and Omer Lewis, Floyd Swayze, Arthur Wingerden and Frank Higbie responded with outlines of the work being done by the special units. Following these reports, Mr. Wingerden, as chairman of the entertainment program, introduced Mrs. Harold Keen and her daughter, Clara, of Pontiac. Several clever hits were sung by Clara, her mother accompanying her at the piano.

Cody Johnson entertained the large group with a skit entitled, "The Mechanical Man." His interpretations of a robot at the drum was realistic and those present thoroughly enjoyed the act. Don Underwood accompanied him at the piano and gave several numbers on the accordian afterward. Both Johnson and Underwood are from Pontiac.

Immediately following the entertainment and speech by Mr. Ludwig, President McBride adjourned the assemblage, many remaining to participate in the dancing.

Guests at the affair included Sheriff and Mrs. Spencer Howarth of Pontiac, the speaker and several local people. The women's committee on decorations for the affair included Mrs. Russell McBride, chairman, assisted by Mrs. G. R. Norton, Mrs. Omer Lewis and Mrs. William Spence.

BITS OF BIRMINGHAM

Elizabeth Roura was chosen for membership in Senior Society, honorary senior women's organization at the University of Michigan, it was announced at the Installation Banquet given for the new officers of the Women's League, Monday, April 6.

Mary Lambie was elected vice-president from the College Architecture of the Women's League, it was announced Monday, April 6.

Alice Osterman, Barbara Spalding, Eleanor Anibal, Beth Ranney, Julie Kaine, and Adelaide Bly, all of Birmingham, attended the Installation Banquet of the Women's League, University of Michigan, Monday, April 6.

Louise Stone was a hostess at the dinner given Tuesday, April 7, by the Delta Delta Delta sorority in honor of foreign women students at the University of Michigan.

Earl Marrow attended the Slide Rule Dance, annual ball given by students of the School of Engineering at the University of Michigan, Friday, April 3.

Fred H. Schwarze, sophomore at Michigan, is a member of the University golf team this year.

Mrs. M. Ray Cook of 780 Oak-land Avenue will have as her guest this month her cousin, Miss Eva Nelson, who will go directly from here to New York where she will take a boat for Singapore, Malaysia to take over religious educational work there. Miss Nelson was a teacher in the Minneapolis, Minn. schools for religious education and has had ten years of experience in Singapore, having been principal of the Eveland Training School there. She holds the degree of Doctor of Divinity from the University of Chicago.

Mrs. Mary-Lewis Fletcher, who has been conducting regular Monday night bridge tournaments at the Community House, announces that the competitive duplicate for April 20 will start promptly at 8:15 o'clock. At that time, it was said, plans will be discussed for a city-wide championship tourney among local players. All card players are urged to be on hand for this meeting.

Miss Mary Wibel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Wibel of 3825 Oakland Drive, Birmingham, a freshman at Mount Holyoke College, will take part in the entertainment for members of the senior class at a reception given in their honor Saturday afternoon. Miss Wibel will appear in a dance number.

Miss Harriet Clark, 692 Oak St., a senior at Wooster College, Wooster, Ohio, plays the double bass for the Wooster Symphony orchestra which will give a concert in the college chapel here April 22.

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"I-Spunky Jones" by Marjorie Elaine Porter

This is the first of a series of articles on the experiences of a child, written from the child's point of view, by Marjorie Elaine Porter for The Eccentric. The continued stories are written in a humorous vein and it is hoped the readers will enjoy this youthful philosophy.

I remember the day I started on my journey. I was lying in my cloud-cradle with its misty, white curtains back in the Sky-Nursery, when I woke to hear the Voices talking beside my bed.

The Voices are good fairies. They have charge of the nursery in Skyland, and I don't know what Doctor Stork would do without them. Each time he starts on his journey to the big, strange world, he depends on the Voices to choose the right baby for him to take along.

So when I heard them talking about me, I knew I was soon to leave my snug crib, and fly out through the clouds. I was getting curious about the World, and was glad my chance had come to go there and find out for myself what it was like.

"Here's just the boy for Mr. and Mrs. Jones," said the First Voice.

"I thought he was going to the Brown's," said the Second Voice.

"I did think something of sending him there," replied the First, "but I'm afraid he wouldn't be quite welcome. The Browns are still pretty fond of stepping out. I can't understand it, but they seem to feel that dancing and golf and bridge are more important than staying home to bring up a family. Now the Jones are different. In fact, they're looking for someone to tuck in a little bed they have all ready in a cozy nursery."

"That's the right spirit!" exclaimed the Second. "So this little fellow's name is going to be Jones. What do you think they'll give him for a first name?"

That's what I wanted to know. I lay very still and listened. This business of having to take the name somebody picks for you when you're too little and helpless to stand up for your own rights, never did seem fair to me.

I remember one husky baby who left our nursery. Doctor Stork came back and told us the Family had named him 'Percival Pembeton.' A name like that's enough to make a fellow afraid to be born! I hoped I'd have better luck, but it's the chance we babies all have to take.

"As for a first name, I don't know," mused the First Voice, "Mr. Jones' name is Harrington Weatherby Jones, III. I suppose his son will be Harrington Weatherby Jones, III."

"Harrington Weatherby Jones, III," I repeated to myself, and it didn't sound very red-blooded. "Why not drop the Harrington Weatherby," I thought, "and call me plain Jim Jones." I'd rather be Jim the first than Harrington Weatherby, or anything else, Number Three.

Why can't a fellow start life with a name that's going to mean what he makes of it? I wonder how many Dads and Mothers think of that when they wish a fancy name on a boy, because it's been in the family a long time, and they're afraid someone will forget their sissy ancestors!

Then my attention drifted back to the Voices. They were discussing what I was going to need on my journey.

"What do you think we'd better give him to take along?" asked the Second Voice.

"Plenty of endurance," answered the First, "all humans need that."

"Wonder what it is, I thought, and why I'm going to need it.

"Also," continued the First, "he should have a great deal of energy and resistance."

"How about patience, perseverance, faith, hope and charity?" inquired the Second.

Whew! I thought, what next!

"That's all up to the parents," the First replied, "And I only wish more of them knew it. Too many seem to feel after they have fed and clothed a child and provided amusements, they have done their duty. They seem to think their offspring are born perfect, and are going to stay that way. If faults develop later, Father and Mother both act as if their children caught them like measles from the family next door!"

"You're quite right," the Second agreed, "I have always felt that bringing up a child is like taking care of a garden. One has to weed out some things and cultivate others. Neglect a garden, and the weeds get a head start. Pay

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NEXT ISSUE ON WEDNESDAY

The next edition of The Eccentric will be published on Wednesday, April 22, instead of on Thursday, the customary date of issue.

Those who plan on submitting advertising or material for use in next week's paper are requested to have their copy in by Tuesday noon at the latest. The usual publication date will be resumed the following week.

STATE BANK TO MAIL DIVIDEND

Depositors Will Get Five Per Cent Before End Of Month

Depositors in the former Birmingham First State Savings Bank will receive another five per cent dividend the latter part of April, according to an announcement made yesterday by Henry Purdy, receiver. Approximately $80,000.-00 will mailed out. This will make a total of 30 per cent of the original deposits to be paid out of the $1,600,000.00 when the bank closed June 16, 1931.

"We have just obtained authorization by the Court, and affirmed by the State Banking Dept., for the payment of this latest dividend," stated Mr. Purdy. "We shall mail checks to the last known address of depositors. Depositors who have changed their address since receiving the five per cent dividend last September are requested to send me their present one. Checks are not to be called for at my office—I want to impress this fact upon people.

"The checks will be payable at the Wabeek Bank here in Birmingham," said Mr. Purdy.

EXCHANGITES AWARD KIRK SERVICE PLAQUE

Oliver Kirk, who served as the local Exchange Club president in 1934, was presented with a past president's plaque at the regular Tuesday noon luncheon of members at the Community House. Presentation of the plaque was made by Kenneth Pentecost.

Members of the Birmingham club are competing for a prize which will be awarded to the man who comes closest in picking the finishing positions of the baseball teams in the American League this summer.

Several letters from Exchange Clubs located in the flood areas of Pennsylvania were read thanking the local club for its help during the recent disaster.

FORUM HEARS SIEDENBURG ON SECURITY NEED

Educator Advocates Old Age Pensions, Health Program, Insurance

Pointing out that people are not born equal and that economic liberty is a problem confronting us today, Rev. Frederick Siedenburg, S. J., of the University of Detroit, asserted that the capitalistic system, while the best for this country, must be humanized, in his address before the O'en Forum meeting, held in Baldwin Library auditorium Tuesday evening. The speaker's subject was "Human Security" and he was introduced by Prof. William A. Frayer, executive dean of the Cranbrook Foundation.

Reverend Siedenburg's opening remarks laid stress on the inequality of individuals at the time of their birth, the speaker stating that vast discrepancies occurred in heredity, education, opportunity and financial backing. "The constitution of the United States provides for political but not economical liberty and that is the problem we must face now," the educator said.

"Unemployment insurance, old age pensions supported by the state and federal governments, and the institution of a health education program to prevent laborers from becoming financial burdens to their country as a result of lost health.

The first requisite for security for a man is a job, said the speaker, continued that the capitalistic system has not proportioned revenue producing work properly as 40 per cent of our workers are receiving less than $1500 yearly income while one-half of one per cent is getting 42 per cent of the national income.

The tragedy of the recent depression is the loss in morale, he continued. He spoke in praise of the NRA, which, he said, helped not only labor but industry and allowed industry to arrange its own codes.

The government setups declared unconstitutional by the United States Supreme Court were merely passed on as to the constitutionality of their value when they judged. The constitution was not designed to be static, Rev. Siedenburg said, and should be elastic enough to take care of changing conditions.

Dr. Harrison B. Fagan of the economic department, Wayne University, will address the forum meeting next Tuesday evening, on "The Rights of Labor: What it is, and What it Should Be." Dr. Fagan completed his undergraduate work at Syracuse University. Later, as an American Field Service fellow, he took the degree of Doctuer en Droit at the University of Lyon, France. He received his PhD degree from the University of Chicago in 1930.

Before coming to Wayne, Dr. Fagan taught at the University of Illinois. Until the NRA was declared unconstitutional, he served as chairman of the Labor Relations Board for District No. 8. He has published several books, prominent among them being, "The Judge as the Creator of Law in the United States" and "American Economic Progress."

T. D. Seeley, Former Receiver Here, Dies

Thaddeus D. Seeley, prominent in Oakland County business and political circles for over 32 years and a former receiver of the old First National Bank, now the Birmingham National Bank here, died in Pontiac last Wednesday evening at 9:30 o'clock.

Mr. Seeley was born on a farm that is now part of the Pontiac State Hospital property. For a number of years he was a farmer and livestock handler. Later he entered the hardware business in Pontiac, retiring to real estate after a short interval. In political matters he was an active member of the Republican party and served two terms each as state representative and senator at Lansing. He was a former mayor of Pontiac, in addition.

Mr. Seeley took over the receivership of the defunct First National Bank here in October of 1933, following his appointment by the comptroller of the currency in Washington. He resigned this position because of failing health.

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Mayor Martz Outlines Plans For Ensuing Year

Mayor John E. Martz, who was unanimously elected to the leadership of this city's government by members of the commission last Monday night, replacing Harry Allen, has issued a statement regarding, in general, his plans and policies for the ensuing year. Mr. Martz, who is a Detroit attorney and well known resident of this community, has this to say:

"No citizen could be selected for mayor of a city like Birmingham and not appreciate the privilege. The splendid administration of the past years indicate a successor to hope and strive to equal the generous and public spirited service they rendered over the past years.

"This commission will continue to direct the affairs of the city as economically as possible and consistent with the fair and reasonable rights of its citizens, its employers and its creditors. The budget for the coming fiscal year calls for special consideration, due in part to the refunding plan calling for definite debt service commitments. It is the hope of the commission that strong publicity will be provided at the time of our public hearings on the budget and that a large attendance of citizens will be present.

"A sewage disposal plant may be forced upon the city during the present year. The state health department is active on this problem. Zoning, installment payment of taxes and a definite provision for maintaining our tax collection system are problems which both our city should and will consider during the coming month.

"A 'pay as you go' policy on general principles is always a sound and desirable for all municipalities to build upon and it can be applied mainly to current problems. To this extent, pay as you go has been in Birmingham's policy for some time. Such tactics should be continued and extended whenever possible and sound.

"We hope for constructive, understanding criticism from the taxpayers, based on actual facts. If they do not have the facts, we ask that they secure such information from the city, from my administration through executive officials of the city.

"I shall exert my best and most patient efforts in discharging the duties of the office of mayor of this city.

Signed,
JOHN E. MARTZ.

John E. Martz

Prominent Detroit attorney and civic leader, Mr. Martz was elected Birmingham's mayor last night at the regular meeting of the City Commission Monday night. He succeeds Harry Allen, who retired from the position along with Arthur E. Brandt.

FORUM HEARS HENRY SUNDAY

Educational Phases From A State Wide Angle Will Be Topic

The Men's Forum will continue the series of programs dealing with Education, next Sunday morning April 19, at the Community House by presenting Dr. David D. Henry, recently Assistant State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Dr. Henry, who is a graduate of Pennsylvania State College and a member of the English faculty of that institution for four years, will discuss a phase of our present educational problem with which his position in the Michigan State Superintendent's office has made him a recognized authority. His topic will be, "Financial, Legal, and Public Relation Phases of Education from a State Wide Angle."

The program will be held on Easter Sunday, the last subject being Home and School Relationships; as discussed in a most interesting manner by Mrs. Frances Ferguson Hall of Pontiac. Mrs. Hall stressed the need for Adult Education and at the same time stated that this development, which is rapidly coming, would mean an added cost to the taxpayers.

There is probably no more timely educational subject than this because it is generally recognized that emphasis in the past on expensive buildings has left an indebtedness which limit the present desire to recognize teaching as of first importance. To provide worth-while opportunities for the employment of leisure time.

Dr. Henry is the author of two highly regarded books, "Adult Education, A Bibliography," and "William Vaughn Moody: A Study." At present, in addition to his position as Assistant to the President of Wayne University, he is on the Faculty as Professor of English and is Vice President of both the Michigan Council on Education and the Michigan Association of North Central Colleges.

The meeting, because of the general interest in and importance of this subject, will be open to all and women are especially invited to attend. Because of limited time, the meeting will start promptly at 10 o'clock and will close at 11 o'clock.

COUNTY RELIEF IS DISCUSSED

Administrator S. S. Skelton Says 2900 Families Are Still Getting Aid

S. S. Skelton, Oakland County Relief Administrator, appeared before the Bloomfield Hills city commission Tuesday evening at their monthly meeting to discuss the urgent necessity for additional relief funds for the county. Two members of the board of supervisors were appointed and regular fire and police reports were submitted to the commissioners at the session.

In his talk on relief Mr. Skelton pointed out that the county administration is going in debt at the rate of $7000 per week now and that unless some drastic action is taken by the various political units of Oakland County the 2,000 families receiving help will have to go hungry. In this connection he asserted that the average family amounts $4.50 per month per person being the allotment. He said there are 10,000 people on relief in this county now and that many have been employed within the past year lessening the burden. He asked the Bloomfield Hills commission to contribute one mill of their assessed valuation toward relief. It was agreed by the commission to hold the matter in abeyance.

The two members of the board of review were re-appointed for another term by the commission. They are H. A. O'Dell and Walter Morley.

A monthly police report was approved. A total of 14 cases were handled by the police during March. Thirty-six cases were handled out of court. Eight cases came before the court, three for reckless driving, three drunk and disorderly and one driving under the influence of liquor case.

The monthly fire report showed that 37 calls had been made, six of which were false alarms. Property loss of which $2243.75 was reported. Twenty-five of the alarms were for grass fires, one caused by the calls for help being out of order and the remainder for various causes.

The commission renewed several liquor licenses for the year and ordered them to dispense alcoholic beverages was granted. The commission discussed the failure of taxpayers to obtain dog licenses and definite enforcement of city ordinances on the matter was directed.

Masonic Golfing League Is Planned

At a meeting held Monday in the Birmingham Masonic Temple, an organization was formed to control the golfing enthusiasts of the Masonic Fraternity in Oakland County.

The purpose of this organization, which shall be known as the Oakland County Masonic Golf League, is to better acquaint members of the craft, to exchange viewpoints on Masonry, and to promote and encourage fellowship and better cooperation.

A committee was elected including Jess Gunter, Brotherhood Lodge, No. 561, of Pontiac, chairman; Bert Denham, Cedar Lodge No. 60, of Clarkston, vice-chairman; Charles Ardussi, Birmingham No. 44, Secretary.

All Masonic lodges in Oakland County will receive a letter from the Secretary relative to the plans of the organization.

MARTZ NAMED MAYOR AT NEW COUNCIL MEET

Three New Commissioners Take Oath. Packard Is Mayor Pro Tem

John E. Martz, Detroit attorney and prominent local citizen, was unanimously chosen mayor of Birmingham at the City Commission meeting Monday night in the Municipal building. Taking the oath of office along with the new mayor was Frank S. Packard, who was unopposed for the position of mayor pro tem. The retiring mayor, Harry Allen, was not present at the reorganization session of the commission, being on a vacation trip with his family. Three commissioners elected Monday a week ago, Luther Heacock, Wilmer E. Moody and Ray A. Palmer, were also sworn into office at the meeting.

Mayor Martz was born in Youngstown, Ohio, in 1887. Following his early education at Manila School, Manilla, N. Y., he entered Ohio Wesleyan University, later attending the Detroit College of Law. He has lived in Birmingham for the past 12 years, having been a resident of Detroit for 26 years prior to coming here. He has practiced law in Michigan's largest city for over 23 years. He is chairman of the grievance committee of the state bar association. In 1932-33 Mr. Martz served on the local board of education. He was elected a member of the city commission two years ago.

A citizen of Birmingham for the past 18 years, Mr. Packard, the new mayor pro tem, has been a commissioner since 1931. He is in the building profession.

In accepting the leadership of this city's government, Mr. Martz paid tribute to former Mayor Allen, who was a member of the commission for seven years. He thanked the commission for the confidence they had demonstrated by selecting him as their leader and he expressed the wish that the problem of a municipal light and power plant for the city may be settled in the near future.

Wilmer E. Moody, Luther Heacock, and Ray A. Palmer, took the usual oath of office administered before being sworn into office by City Clerk Irene Hanley. Former Mayor Harry C. Allen and Former Commissioner Arthur J. Brandt were the retiring members of the commission. Allen would not accept renomination and Brandt withdrew from the commission race shortly before the election.

Supervisors re-elected

The four local representatives on the Oakland County Board of Supervisors, Donald C. Egbert, David Levinson, Luther Heacock and John S. Black, were named to continue in office. Robert R. Allen was nominated for one of the positions but was defeated in the balloting.

It was suggested by Commissioner Lawrence Hulburt that he advise and the chief attend a meeting of the commission in the near future and explain the functioning of their departments for the benefit of the new members of the commission. The matter of bonding the city manager and city clerk was likewise discussed but no action was taken at the session.

The May Day Dance will be held on May 11, it was announced. At that time members of the organization will take over city offices for the day.

WYOTTE GETS SUSPENDED SENTENCE FOR DRINKING

Birmingham police arrested Ted W. Wyotte, 1054 Holland Avenue, on Sunday, April 12 for being drunk and endangering his own life and that of motorists by walking down the center of a main highway. He was fined before Judge Forbes Hascall this week and given a 30-day suspended sentence. Wyotte, 22 years of age and married, is a teamster working near here.

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