

Happenings 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

E. J. Kelly, of the Hill Poster, thinks manager Watkins, of the Detroit, is either a knave or a fool. Verily, he manages at times to cause such wonderment.

Freeman Richardson hands in a very short limb cut from one of his plum trees that has seventeen large ripe plums hanging thereon, and still the village blacksmith speaks to ordinary people.

H. C. Kudner, poetical editor to the Lapeer Democrat, arises to remark that:

"The June bug disappears in June, the lightning bug in May."

The bed bug takes his bunnet off and simply comes to stay."

The concert at Liberty hall tomorrow night bids fair to prove successful in every particular. All the participants are way up in high C in their respective parts, and we prophesy a very full house.

The Franklin band will also be in hand at the hall tomorrow night, at an early hour and will discourage some of its celebrated music out of the ambient air. At least that is the present calculation.

An aspiring youth writes that he would like to become an editor. Oh, you would, eh? Well, after you become an editor and write "I kissed her under the silent stars" and the composer sets it to up, "I kicked her under the silent stars," you would just ache to grove hewed following a pain of oxen along a furrow in a fourth acre field.

School opened on Monday last, with an attendance which is highly gratifying to the board and teachers, and indicative of an unusual interest on the part of the scholars. This is as it should be.

Twenty-five Years Ago
Governor Brucker to speak here. Will address crowd at corner of Maple avenue and Pierce street at 11 A. M. Eclipse observation reported successful. Cranbrook Institute watched here and in east; films and smoked glasses prominent.

C. H. Stevens makes brief for city plan. State senators city major having as reason for change; discusses tax status.

3,511 registered at clerk's office; more than one thousand still unregistered; Bayley reports registration of 3,900.

Charles H. Cameron, not admitting. Village clerk corrects misimpression regarding duties of new body.

Roderick Cox on Wolverine list. Birmingham athlete gets Kipke's bid to early grid practice September 15 at Ann Arbor.

F. W. Deininger, the Norris'

laundry man, had a narrow escape from a serious accident a few days ago. His delivery wagon was standing in front of the Harper home while he was inside. A very wise pole of the D. U. R. suddenly fell and completely demolished the wagon. The horse ran away, and damages were about \$75.00 Mr. D. expects the trolley company to make good the loss and they probably will, too.

It is quite frequent that papers find themselves unappreciated by the men whom they have favored by their support, columns after columns having been published in their favor. When you find your home paper taking no interest in your success, when you see it keeping you aggressively silent when you think the editor should be tearing his linen in your behalf, don't work yourself into a fever of anxiety over it. Just stop and ask yourself wherein you've placed the paper and where in debt or under obligation to you.

Five Years Ago

County in red one million dollars by six month date; half of Oakland's delinquency in 1931, says A. L. Moore; favors less spending.

Bennaville man suffers beating; charges neighbor entered house and assaulted him; defendant says wife was insulted.

Crash injures youth and girls; three hurt as loose iron in Spauld road overturns small coupe.

Gas teacher fails to sign 1933 contract; 93 accept board's terms for coming year. Tentative list given to the board and teachers, and indicative of an unusual interest on the part of the scholars. This is as it should be.

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The BOOK SHELF

Late Book Reviews and Literary Criticism

by Doris Flint

KATHERINE ANNE PORTER

In a short autobiographical sketch Katherine Anne Porter tells us she was born in a little town in Texas in the early nineties; started to make letters on paper at the ripe age of three which was really the beginning of her career as a writer.

Writing is her absorbing interest and for her vocation she says she is willing to live and die. She considers very few of the things of the slightest importance. She is small, with graying curly hair and beautiful eyes of a brown color; eyes which seem to see into the very depths of our souls but somehow we have a feeling that while she is looking she is also being charitable in her evaluation of us. She says herself that she has a personal and insatiable interest in every person who comes within ten feet of her; that she has never seen two alike but has discovered marvelous differences.

She loves to travel and she also says "Not for nothing am I the great-great-grand daughter of Daniel Boone."

Miss Porter, who is a married name is Mrs. Eugene Presley, a short story writer of the first rank and during the past fifteen years has done book-reviewing, editing, political articles (she says politically, she bends to the Left) any kind of writing to earn a living; she says, was once very poor and had it not been for her friends she would have perished in many a time, she thinks.

She has written stories for Scribner's, Century, The New Masses and many other high grade publications. In 1930 a collection of her stories was published under the title of "The Flowering Juice." In 1931 she received a Guggenheim Fellowship which made it possible for her to go abroad to write.

Her latest book "Neon Wine" was published this past spring by Schuman of Detroit. It is a charming little story of 63 pages, short in form but perfectly balanced and most interesting. The first edition was limited to 250 copies, each one personally autographed by Miss Porter.

Mr. Royal Earle Thompson for a job on his farm. After a little bargaining it is agreed that Mr. Helton shall be paid seven dollars a month and all he can eat.

All goes well for several years, nine in fact; the Thomasons prosper through the help of the Swedish farm hand. Mr. Thompson has a refrigerator, some new furniture and water has been piped into the house. The two sons have grown up to be a credit to their parents then one hot August afternoon comes mean conning, Homer T. Hatch, looking for his escaped lunatic. He takes the name of Mr. Thompson when he makes known he has dined at the home of the mother of the son. The reward, of course, was what he was most interested in. The argument ends in the death of both Helton and Hatch.

The name of the story is taken from the one tune which the farm hand always played on his banjo. It was an old Scandinavian folk song written about the farmers who carry a bottle of wine about with them and if all goes well they drink at noon but very often, according to words of the song, they do not work for nothing.

Miss Porter was a member of the staff at the Olivet Writer's Conference this summer.

BALLOON SIGN.
Niagara Falls.—To help tourists find the Whirlpool Rapids Bridge a captive balloon with the name of the bridge painted on it will float over the structure, formerly known as the "Lower Arch Bridge."

Ag.—So you've just got back from your long week-end. Feel any change?
E.—Not a penny.

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COUNTRY CLUB CREAMY/DOUBLE WHIPPED
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