

THE NEWS and THAT

By G. R. A.

He or she who drops a dime, a nickel, or a quarter, into the church collection box is pricing cheap his soul. Long distance calling costs more than local phone connection; and who in church calls less than God is setting low his goal.

Your average educator will admit that the public school system needs some manner of renovating or improvement. We suggest that the Michigan Education Association hold a two or three-day clinic on any problem arising in some practical business and professional men, some farmers, some housewives, and some truck drivers to give them ideas.

In the early days of the automobile, pedestrians walked through the woods with heavy, loaded guns at their sides. Today pedestrians walk without any fear of Indians and most meetings of Indians are on four wheels.

Now that the turn of a New Year has arrived, the garden lover may again turn to his or her musings. Why not take a picture of the garden now that it is covered with snow, and then compare it with the colorful growth that will cover the same spot next summer?

The Eccentric is always ready to publish letters from its readers. If you want to send in your views on any subject, please do it—it won't cost you a penny, and your writing may help many others, too.

One who finds pleasure in his work, whatever his occupation, is fortunate. To work merely for the sake of getting money is not work at all, and it is not work. And those who build their lives solely in search of material wealth place, block by block, the stones of the tomb that will rise on them from the joy of living.

Sometimes I wish that we could return to the good old horse and buggy days. Then, perhaps, the children given new toys would be the family car for every errand, be it but a block away, would be a horse and buggy, and we would be hitching up the family horse, and would be taking a little exercise in walking.

The strongest athlete can grow soft and flabby, unless he keeps exercising. In the same way, people can become selfish, unless they continue to be generous. The only way one can keep a good quality of character is by using it as often as possible.

Has it ever been determined how much more important in the scheme of the Universe a man is than, for instance, an ant, or a butterfly? Perhaps other forms of life that humans hold beneath their feet are also of some importance. Perhaps that is why civilization, like huge ant colonies, is so often threatened by hitching up the family horse, and would be taking a little exercise in walking.

In a personal New Year's greeting I sent to a number of friends, in which I optimistically said: "Five hundred years from now I'm going to write you the same New Year's greeting as you are writing me now." It is interesting to note that Joseph R. Hayden, professor of political science at the University of Michigan, said in his response: "Dear George I shall be looking forward to the New Year Greeting that you agreed to send me on Jan. 1, 2429. In the meantime, thanks for one of current date. When I consider the rate at which science is taking the world apart today, I wonder what we will all be five years hence. Possibly for all, but I think the spirit are the only elements of our life today that will be recognizable half a millennium hence."

From stories appearing in the daily newspapers, it begins to appear that the "Great Depression" of Michigan's Republican Party, rests upon the throw of dice, the card game, bingo, roulette, and the roulette wheel. Steady, there! Let's not substitute the slot machine for the "great party" elephant as a symbol of progressive Republicanism.

President Roosevelt does have a real sense of humor on more than one occasion. How could he take the words that he said to the National Press Club at Washington this week—a time when he is posturing in all his "I'm teaching those warty and observing correspondents at the national scene of action?"

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'Morons Good Drivers'-- Trooper Tells P. T. A.

"A high-grade moron makes the best driver, according to psychology, and that is no fooling as it should," declared State Trooper Fred Nettwig of the Michigan State Police, featured speaker at a safety meeting Monday evening presented by the Parent Teacher Association of the Quenton School. "A moron has a one-track mind," continued Trooper Nettwig, "and when he is behind the wheel he is driving and not thinking about anything else. Every man thinks he is a safe driver, but many brilliant men are the opposite."

TWO CARS PLUNGE IN RIVER ROUGE AFTER COLLISION

Two cars crashed through a fence and plunged down a 10-foot embankment into the River Rouge Monday at 3:45 p. m. at the intersection of Woodward and Ravine road in one of Birmingham's most spectacular accidents. The cars, a Buick and a Ford, were on the five people involved were only minor injuries.

The collision occurred when Mrs. Rose Bryce of 1171 Holland street, who was driving north on Woodward avenue, attempted to make a right turn into Ravine road, and a Ford, driven by W. E. Wilson, 26 West Farm street, Pontiac, both cars catapulted off the road, down the embankment and into the water, landing one upon the other.

With Mrs. Bryce in her car was Dr. W. W. Treat, 1100 Greenwood avenue. Both were uninjured. Riding with Wilson were Mrs. White, Mrs. J. H. Highway, Drayton, Adams, and William Young, 49 East Ypsilanti street, Pontiac. Wilson suffered no injury, but the Ford, which was carrying five passengers in his car, he was given first aid treatment at St. Joseph's Mercy Hospital.

A minor accident was reported to the police 15 minutes earlier, when cars driven by Woodford Green, 18 O. Oberbeck, 22 887 Watkins street, came in contact with the cars of Robert Edin, 1000 W. Brown street. Neither driver and injured and no damage was done to the cars.

PASTOR QUOTES THE ECCENTRIC IN TALK TO CLUB

A complete history of Birmingham's churches, gleaned through the columns of The Birmingham Eccentric from the first issue in March, 1937, was presented to members of the Lions Club at their meeting Wednesday at the Hotel Hamilton by the Rev. Theodore Waggener, Jr., pastor of Redeemer Lutheran Church. Through the stories which he read, the district carried, giving the progress and activities of the churches. Mr. Waggener's remarks on the moral attitude of the community as reflected by church life and expression.

Past history as revealed by the Eccentric of bygone days, shows that the Birmingham churches, in their efforts to keep up with the times, have called "the city's slight leaning towards Blue Laws," have always been to narrow the gap between questions. The Eccentric, Mr. Waggener found, pledged its support to the temperance forces and often issued biting reprimands to users of liquor or tobacco, some of which are quoted. He cited The Eccentric's stories during the controversy of approximately five years ago over the local sale of liquor by the retail method. The constant attitude of the churches as reflected in the news.

Have You Met?

Mr. and Mrs. William M. Belknap Jr. of 1713 Pine near the corner of the most recent arrivals in Birmingham. They have no children.

Berg-Ford-Weigh Health Sales. Folds up old or worn shoes in to new shoes. Berg-Ford-Weigh Health Sales, 26 N. 1st St., Huxton Hardware, 263 N. Woodward.

GRADUATING SENIORS AS EXECUTIVE, TELLS PLANS

New Exchange Head Lists Committees To Assist In Work

Ernest A. Buttraw, newly-elected president of the Exchange Club, outlined his plans for the club through the next six months, in his inaugural address, delivered Tuesday noon at the Community House. He also listed committees who would assist him during his administration.

Chief among his plans is what Mr. Buttraw termed "a return to the original meaning of Exchange," an opportunity for men of different professions to meet and exchange ideas. He will designate one meeting each month to the members of Lions and Rotary Clubs. All members are asked to plan for a Tri-Club bridge tournament to be played with members of Lions and Rotary Clubs. All members are asked to plan for a Tri-Club bridge tournament to be played with members of Lions and Rotary Clubs.

'GOLDEN EAGLES' GO TO FIVE LOCAL SCOUTS AT COURT

Five Birmingham Boy Scouts were awarded the rank of Eagle Scout at the Court of Honor held in the Community House. They are Joseph Stutte, Jr., of Troop B-4 and Robert Edin, of Troop B-5, which will be awarded the winning club.

WINTER PROGRAM FOR RECREATION IS CONSIDERED

The Board of Education has under advisement a community recreation program as submitted to members of the board by Howard D. Crull, superintendent of schools, at the meeting held Tuesday evening.

In order that certain phases of a recreation program for Birmingham children, the board has authorized that there be a sponsor for the program. The board has authorized that there be a sponsor for the program. The board has authorized that there be a sponsor for the program.

A.A.T.W. AND HOUSE JOINT SPONSORS OF SATURDAY CLUB

After five successive seasons as a recreation project for Birmingham children, the Saturday Club, sponsored by the A.A.T.W. and the House, will be held at the Community House.

Demonstration of Bait and Fly Casting Given Friday

Charles Wilcox, president of the Trout organization, a recognized national authority on the subject, in addition to Mr. Wilcox's talk, a demonstration of expert casting will be given by members of the Detroit club.

RETAIL MERCHANTS SPONSOR DINNER

All Birmingham merchants are invited to attend the informal dinner to be held by the Retail Merchants' association in conjunction with its meeting Jan. 18, at 6:30 p. m., at the Community House.

SALUTATORIAN—VALEDICTORIAN GIVEN AT PARK SITE

Fifteen Acre Tract Is Offered For \$8,000 As Playground

The offer of 15.6 acres of land at a purchase price of \$8,000, and the estate of the northeast corner of the city, was made to the City Commission Monday evening by Louis Hassall, representing the Smith and Poppleton interests. The land in question is located between the drive and the New Super Highway which forms the east division of Woodward avenue.

The property, which has been in use as a skating rink and recreation field for sports activities, owned jointly by W. Knox Poppleton and the estate of the late B. Smith. No action was taken by the Commission, but the project is to be further considered before the next meeting.

D. A. R. Post Sponsors Girls In Pilgrimage Contest

Birmingham will be represented by two girls in the group for final selection of a B.A.R. to Washington as the guest of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution. The girls will also honor the contest.

BALDWIN LIBRARY GIVEN \$357.71 FROM STATE FUND

Baldwin Public Library has \$357.71 to spend for increasing its reading material, purchasing some of its equipment, according to an announcement made today by Miss Adeline Cooke, librarian. This amount represents the first and second quarterly grants from the state government awarded by the State Board of Libraries from the general Library Fund.

Under provision of the law establishing state aid for libraries, the money may be used for salaries of personnel, purchase of books or equipment, extension of library service, or for any other purpose within the exception of remodeling or alterations to the building or payment of interest on principal on debts. Miss Cooke explained.

CRULL TO PREPARE METHOD TO REDUCE SCHOOL TARDINESS

Recognizing punctuality and attendance as the basic problem of the school system, members of the Board of Education met Tuesday evening, appointed Howard D. Crull, superintendent of schools, to prepare a method to be used in the Birmingham schools for reducing tardiness and absence cases.

Board Re-Elects Edwards Chairman

Henry T. Edwards was re-elected as chairman of the Board of Directors of the Birmingham National Bank at the annual stockholders' meeting held Tuesday evening in the hotel. Charles E. James continues as president; E. W. Seasholt as vice-president; J. G. Burnett as cashier; and A. Stanley Ross as assistant cashier.

'Workable Idealism' Theme Of Address

Hugh Booth, a member of the Foreign American industry, professionally in charge of the work of the industrial relations committee, addressed Birmingham Rotary Monday noon at the Community House on the subject: "Workable Idealism." He pointed out the importance of measuring up to the responsibilities of business management, holding that an employer who assists in increasing the productivity of his workers that is in the economic and social world.

POST OFFICE REPORT SHOWS BIG INCREASE

Total receipts for the year amounting to \$57,271.41 at the Birmingham Post Office during 1938, according to the annual report issued by Postmaster Joseph A. Byrne. The figure is a marked increase over that of a year ago, the total of which was \$49,829. Mr. Byrne explained that the total revenue is what maintains a first-class rating for the city's post office. The money is derived through the sale of stamps, stamped envelopes and wrappers and local mail.

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