

Getting It Straight
She—Did you get hurt when you were on the eleven?
Jack—No, it was while the eleven were on me.
Step On 'Em
"What's the matter with your feet?"
"I've got corns."
"Why don't you do something for them?"
"Why should I? They've never done anything for me."
Try an Eccentric Classified Ad.

BIRMINGHAM

TODAY AND SAT.
VIRGINIA BRUCE
WALTER PIDGEON
'Stronger Than Desire'

ALSO
JOHN HOWARD
'Bulldog Drummond's Bride'

SAT. MAT. ONLY
CARTOON SHOW
One Full Hour of Cartoons

SUN, MON., TUE., WED.
THE LANE SISTERS
JOHN GARFIELD
'DAUGHTERS COURAGEOUS'

Shows Sun. at 3:20-6:35-9:55
Mon., Tue., Wed. at 7 & 10

PLUS
VICTOR McLAGLEN
'EX-CHAMP'

COMING SOON
'GOODBYE, MR. CHIPS'

Probate Judge Moore Explains How Mother's Pension Law Operates Here

BY ARTHUR E. MOORE
(Oakland County Probate Judge)

In accordance with my policy which was previously announced, the following report is submitted as one of the periodical reports to be furnished to the public and to the Oakland County Board of Supervisors concerning matters covered within the jurisdiction of the Probate Court.

The following constitutes the report of Mothers' Pension Cases handled under the jurisdiction of the Probate Court and through Mrs. Rosalind Hill, Mothers' Pension Officer in charge thereof.

This report covers the period from July 1, 1938 to July 1, 1939. The amount of funds paid out during this period of time was \$139,419.00. In view of the size of such payments, it is important to make an accurate report concerning the same, and in addition to make periodical investigation and research to learn whether or not the assistance given and the method used, might be improved.

815 Children Helped
As of the present date, 815 children are being assisted through the payment of Mothers' Pension. These children and their mothers constitute 227 families. In addition, there are on file 103 applications which have not yet been accepted primarily because of the necessity of living within budget appropriations.

The volume of work required by this office is best illustrated by the following figures: 1638 office interviews were made, 1416 home calls were made by the Mothers' Pension Officer in charge, in addition to 1342 phone calls.

It is to be noted that the expense of pension cases is usually increased during the winter months and decreased during the

How To Get Pension
The procedure whereby the mother and her children may be assisted by a Mothers' Pension is as follows: an application is made to this Court stating the eligibility of the family, namely; that the mother has been a county resident for one year, is poor and unable to properly care and provide for her children, is a widow or that the father is otherwise not supporting the child, but that the mother is a proper guardian and that it is for the welfare of the child to remain in the mother's custody. In this connection it is

quiring proper home care and training, and are otherwise, as near as possible, having the advantages of a normal American home.

Make Better Homes
It seems to be a well founded and generally accepted theory that the financial conditions which have been had in Mothers' Pension Cases, the credit for which should be largely attributed to Mrs. Rosalind Hill, Officer in charge, results not only in a much finer home and home training for the children, but also decreases other home and child problems which are detrimental to the people of the County and expensive to the public purse.

In view of the considerable amount of discussion which has taken place in the past concerning the feasibility of carrying on assistance under Mothers' Pension as against assistance under the Emergency Welfare Relief Administration, the form of such computations have been made and comparisons have been prepared, concerning the two systems.

It is the writer's judgment that normally there is no great financial difference between the administration of Mothers' Pension Cases and the Aid to Dependent Children Relief. Generally speaking, however, Mothers' Pension Cases are paid somewhat more than A. D. C. Cases, and in addition through curtailment of Emergency Welfare Relief, per child and family allotments have been in several occasions reduced. For instance, since the Month of May 1939, I am advised that Aid to Dependent Children Relief has operated on a twenty per cent cut. This places the monthly supplement to family Cases considerably below the relief afforded under Mothers' Pension.

The Oakland County Emergency Relief Commission and the Administrator, Mr. S. S. Skelton, have shown a fine spirit of cooperation in surveys prepared and furnished concerning these matters. It is the writer's opinion that to A. D. C. assistance has been due to their lack of funds.

The writer is interested in a further phase of Mothers' Pension Cases which is of some considerable importance. In some instances the mother in question has been able to earn a small amount per month to supplement the family needs. The question of policy thereby immediately arose as to whether or not such additional earnings should be entirely deducted from the allotment made to the mother under Mothers' Pension. It became obvious that if the whole amount of these additional funds were deducted from the Mothers' Pension allotment, no incentive would be left for the mother to better her home conditions. This has resulted in a policy in necessary cases of allowing the mother a portion of the benefit of her additional income angeducting a portion of the benefit thereof from the Mothers' Pension Assistance. To be specific in the case of one family of five children, the mother would normally have received \$78.00 per month pension. She was able to earn on part time employment, \$30.00 per month, and our judgment therefore has allowed her the sum of \$60.00 per month making her full income a total of \$90. per month.

The Mothers' Pension Act. (Act No. 30 of 1931) expressly recites "during said period of time in which the mother receives aid" said mother and child or children shall not be considered as receiving public relief and support by reason of receiving the benefits of this Act.

Obviously this Act so designed, had in mind that it was no disgrace to receive Mothers' Pension aid and that such assistance was not in the nature of poor relief.

Not A "Relief" Matter
It would appear to be advisable, and in keeping with the purpose of the Act so stated, to treat the assistance given to widowed mothers and their children in the nature of a pension to which the Mothers' Pension family is properly entitled, rather than to throw them into the general classification of the nature of public relief. This statement is made with no disrespect to those who are required to seek public relief, but because experience has proved the advisability of such policy.

In an effort to ascertain why Aid to Dependent Children should not be administered in all cases through the Probate Court or by a local County administrator, the writer found that there was no ruling in effect in the Attorney General's Office of Michigan, but that the Federal Social Security Board had taken the position that federal funds could not be so administered. A copy of such ruling is in the writer's possession, but it would be known if I believe made public that the reasons set forth for such a ruling are obviously not well founded as legal propositions.

The writer is of the opinion that both Aid to Dependent Children and Mothers' Pension Cases should be administered through the local Probate Court or a local County Board or administrator, and be placed largely on the same basis so far as the amount of relief etc., given, is concerned. It is believed that such a ruling would be maintained which will continue the classification of Mothers' Pension Cases as herein outlined.

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But It's True



ENGAGED 47 TIMES BUT NEVER MARRIED—MISS ELIZABETH WILSON, 40, OF 1015 1/2 W. 11TH ST., WHO DIED AT THE AGE OF 55 IN 1920.

NO FRENCHMAN CAN SERVE IN THE FRENCH FOREIGN LEGION UNLESS HE FIRST RENOUNCES HIS CITIZENSHIP!

Mr. Godwin drives his car to work every day, then drives it into a pair of cement grooves he made himself, starts the motor, sends it home all by itself at a rate of five miles an hour. It is stopped by a rubber bumper. A short while before Mr. Godwin finishes his work, his wife turns the car around, places it back in the grooves. The auto runs on its rims, has no tires.

Mr. Klee spent most of 1933 making his casket. When it was finished he decided to climb in and rest a while. He never woke up.

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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
Sept. 12, 1889

James McBride has some choice pipes for sale. See cheap column.

Wanted at this office a good second hand heating stove, one of the Bradford pattern preferred. Send in your price and let us see the stove.

Great Scott! One day last week a child was killed in town and sold several copies of a book on social culture at \$3.75 each. A copy of the same can be had at Whitehead & Mitchell's for \$2. If the buyer kicks very hard he can have it for \$1.50.

We predict that in a few months after the works are running electric lights will be amongst us. Let the managers of the water works see that large enough boilers are put in to furnish steam for the electric dynamo, for it is sure to follow.

It is proposed by one of our best citizens to give an entertainment for the benefit of the destitute rich in our town. A careful examination into the facts will show the wisdom of the suggestion. You will find among them men who have grown prematurely old by care and trouble; women overworked because help "cannot be hired, and even children who ought to be in school kept home and doing in the tender years of childhood the work of men and women. Won't some one look to it?

LOVELY WEATHER, BUT OH MY!
How we need rain.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
Sept. 11, 1914

All the Rhodes Scholars from Canada and most of the Rhodes scholars from other parts of the world who are now at Oxford have enlisted for service with the British forces.

The name St. Petersburg, to designate the Russian capital, is no more. An imperial decree grants to receive the name of the capital to be called Petrograd. This change had been in the air some time. The German word "St. Petersburg" has long been a strange anomaly, and with the outbreak of the war there was a widespread demand that it be altered.

The Michigan farmer stands with millions of dollars through the upward impetus which Europe's calamity has given to crop prices. Estimates made a few days ago indicate that if certain prices hold, as at present seems likely, farmers in this State will see a profit of from eight to ten millions of dollars on wheat and rye.

Dr. N. T. Shaw, and son, Harold and H. A. Poppleton, the "do-in" the Toronto exposition. With red lemonade, peanuts, gingerbread and popcorn, they have had the time of their lives.

Many thanks to mine host Wootton of Birmingham for his fame, for the good time and pleasure he gave them on the day of their visit. He has been so administered. A copy of such ruling is in the writer's possession, but it would be known if I believe made public that the reasons set forth for such a ruling are obviously not well founded as legal propositions.

were dispersed yesterday by Dr. William Lloyd Kemp, city health officer.

The movement aimed at forcing the State Highway Department into an early completion of Wider Woodward avenue through Birmingham was at a standstill to day, with none of the three service men yet committed to participation in the movement, and no date set for a promised conference between city officials and Governor Constock.

We have a slight acquaintance with a red headed lad of five or six in the north end of town and the other day we saw him, astride his velocipede, dragging in the most approved fashion on an old cigarette butt. No amount of argument could persuade him to discard his treasure, and the explanation he finally offered, seeing that we were firm, was that as he was talking to his mama, with his head turned, someone sneaked up on him and put it in his mouth. He couldn't throw it away, he added coldly, because his mama told him not to. We went away feeling as though we had been trapped into an argument with Clarence Darrow.

CIVIC LOYALTY DAY, Sept. 16
His Reason
"Speaking of signs," writes W. P. "I remember once standing in front of a grocery store and noticing the sign, 'A Swindler, on the window. Entering, I asked the proprietor if it wouldn't look best for it, instead of 'A,' I printed his full Christian name.

"No," he said, "I would look worse. My first name is Adam".

CONVENIENCE

Few things add more to the convenience of modern living than the telephone. It saves steps and time and trouble. It keeps friends in touch . . . prevents worry when some one is late . . . permits a last-minute change in plans. Quick and dependable, the telephone serves you faithfully day and night. Serves you courteously . . . and serves you cheaply too.

OVERHEARD IN BIRMINGHAM

"There goes Mr. Andrews. He always looks nice in a suit."

"I've noticed that too, Grace. He must be having his suits Miracleaned and Form-pressed by Ridley. Tom tells me there's a world of difference."

3 PIECE SUITS . . . 95
Cash and Carry

RIDLEY Cleaners
138 S. WOODWARD

COAL WEATHER IS JUST AHEAD

Back-to-School Time is Time to Order Coal!

When the school bell rings, it is also the call for thrifty and wise homemakers to fill their bins with good LAWSON'S Coal and be ready for cooler days just ahead. Order a load of your favorite Coal today. Back-to-school time is the time to buy fuel. You will not only avoid the rush of the first cold days, but save money as well.

PHONE 111

LAWSON & SON
484 FOREST PHONE 111
Lumber . . . Fuel . . . Builders' Supplies

Be Smart! Be Thrifty!

Green Bus to Fair Grounds
No Parking Worries
From Maple Ave., to Fair Grounds, 20 cents
From Maple Ave., to Downtown Detroit, 30 cents

STATE FAIR
Sept. 1st to 10th

FALL RACE MEET
Sept. 14th to Oct. 7th

LOUIS-PASTOR FIGHT
Sept. 20th

THE FINEST TRANSPORTATION
BLUE GOOSE LINES
OVER MICHIGAN'S SCENIC HIGHWAYS

The only teakettle of its kind in AMERICA!

You've never seen a teakettle like this one. It is an *educated* teakettle . . . one that shuts off the electricity if negligence permits it to boil dry. When the water boils too low, the connection plug pops out—and it can't be replaced until this desirable feature. But aside from the kettle has cooled off. But aside from this desirable feature, the teakettle has other unique advantages. Made of polished aluminum and spotlessly clean, it can be used anywhere in the house—in the kitchen, the laundry, the sick room. Simply plug into the nearest electric outlet. A special high-speed element heats water in a few minutes—from one to four quarts. You will find this teakettle a great help in your household . . . it will save you time and steps. And with reasonable care, it should last a lifetime.

\$4.95 AT ANY DETROIT EDISON OFFICE

MICHIGAN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY

If you can't shop in person, shop by telephone