

A Good Start Toward Removing Unfit Motorists from Highways

We have nothing but praise for the recent manner in which the State of Michigan has concentrated the licensing of automobile drivers, together with maintaining the history of motor car accidents and fatalities, and the human element related to this latter.

For only through such a method will the state be able to determine who is the safe and the unsafe motorist—with the final result that chronic unsafe drivers will lose their right to drive on public highways.

It is a documented fact that the vast majority of traffic accidents occur when vehicles are in the hands of those whose conduct behind the wheel makes them unfit for guiding a fast automobile over the highways.

Let MSC Remain MSC

Some time ago it was suggested that the name of Michigan State College of Agriculture and Applied Science be changed to "Michigan State University".

Immediately the Board of Regents and faculty members of the University of Michigan raised objections to the change. Their opposition centers on the use of the word "University", and they argue that it will create considerable confusion in the minds of the public as to which educational center is which.

How to Use a Hammer!

Three psychologists at Purdue University say that despite the old theory, one does not need a small hammer to drive small nails.

The three psychologists did a bit of research on this issue recently in an effort to disprove the line of some hardware salesmen.

They came to the conclusion that the salesman is not necessarily correct when he says a small hammer is best in driving small nails.

AFTER MUCH OBJECTIVE research, the psychologists came to the conclusion that a large hammer is best for large nails, but that it also is good for small nails.

It is good to have this age-old controversy subjected to the light of modern science. In fact, the three psychologists have described their experiments in a six-page report, which includes charts and the dimensions of saw-horses used, and so forth. A number of different sized nails and hammers were used in these experiments.

AFTER THESE TESTS, involving sixty different combinations of hammers and nails, the result shows that the hardware salesman is sometimes full of applause. However, the learned psychologists failed to explain how one could wield either a large or small hammer with guaranteed assurance that one's thumb would not get in the way of the hammer's wallop.

Republicans Better Stay Clean

Personally, we think it was good for the Republican Party that 53 U.S. Senators voted against vacating the seat of New Mexico's Senator Chavez, five of these votes being Republicans who joined with 48 Democrats.

After all, Chavez has held his office for two years. Though all agree that he himself was honest in his election campaign,

From The Eccentric's Point of View...

An Indiana farmer has revealed he paid a blond woman \$1,058.50 for an assortment of 20 magazine subscriptions, including a 60-year subscription to a farm publication. What a reading man he must be—and also proof of the old bromide that "gentlemen prefer blondes."

This is an election year. Watch the number of votes cast from time to time by the House and Senate in Washington, D.C. The other day an important vote was taken in the House, the result being 93-80. Where were the other 362 members of the House? Most of them were probably outside of the Capital City, either on junkets or back in their districts doing some politicking.

A Humor Hall of Fame for the nation's funniest men and women is to be established.

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In No Position to Make Threats



HORSE SENSE AND NONSENSE

BY ALICE E. MORGAN

One of the little folks came dragging home one day last week, wet to the hips and plastered with mud. A rusty, leaky tin can was clutched in one grubby fist which, according to the bearer, was full of "poggy woll" eggs.

These, the proud owner declared, would hatch and in a matter of a few weeks would turn into frogs and the family would be all set for a "super" dinner.

While mother fussed and fumed, Uncle Abner chuckled in his beard and remembered other years. When the small Fry had been banished to the tub, he reminded mother of some of them.

IT SEEMS when she was a lit the girl, living on the farm, her collection of wild life was much and varied.

He brought to mind the day she came tagging back to the house with a quite large pail full of water and small crayfish. Her idea was to put them in the horse trough where they would, without a doubt, grow into lobsters.

A small discouraged salamander was anchored out by the trough against the time it would turn into a "wading" alligator and bring a huge price from a zoo or circus.

OTHER ITEMS she collected had included a small porcupine. This poor little creature was supposed to supply the family with quills so an Indian moccasin had to be started, using the hide of the deer shot by the menfolk every fall.

Uncle Abner's chuckle grew louder, and mother's face grew redder, and the family enjoyed the whole affair.

That is, enjoyed it temporarily. Uncle Abner cast a roving eye around and singled out each and every one of his children to remind them of their leanings toward natural history.

It seems the very prim Aunt Sophie had had a passion for mice, and rescued every one the cat

and every one she could get her hands on. The mice were kept in a box under the bed, and she would bring them out to show to the neighbors.

BY THE END of the session, they were reminding Uncle Abner of things he had forgotten—as well as some of his own "collecting."

Everyone there joined forces in asking him if he had any recent collection of the time he brought the two small weasels home, and what happened.

Memories of an almost-depleted hen house brought a slow red creeping across his face, and an abrupt change of conversation.

Happenings of Long Ago

Bits Of News Cleared From Old Files Of The Eccentric—The Items That Make Up The Historical Background Of The Birmingham Of Today.

50 YEARS AGO April 18, 1904
"A Franklin young man figured that his girl would look like her mother when she grew old and broke the engagement."

"LaVern McClelland, a four-year-old nipper, son of David, is a happy kid wrestling with scarlet fever. He is in good spirits and will 'wave the white flag' as a poor editor as he passes by."

"They say 'Jed' Rundle isn't lucky. Everything good, they say, he gets because he goes after it. Well, that's all hush. The time he fell through the ice in Turtle Lake last winter (a thrilling account of which was published in the columns of this great literary engine at the time) he had a pair of rubber wading boots on and when they pulled him out, he was dusty and there was a seven pound pike in one boot leg and a perch in the other weighing three and one-half pounds."

Ed Montgomery, our enterprising and wide awake laundryman, has purchased a home of his own. He has bought Miss Frankie Phelps' house next to the Presbyterian church and will move it to the Campbell subdivision where he will make a cozy and comfortable home.

30 YEARS AGO April 18, 1924
Attracted by screams, while on West Maple avenue near the ravine last Thursday, Vernelle Ward rushed to the scene of the crime in time to save three-year-old Bruce Corson, who had fallen in the fish pond on the rear of the Clizbe property at the foot of Willets street hill.

The annual report for the Baldwin Public Library for the year ending March 31, 1924 shows that the total number of books and periodicals loaned for the past year was 19,177, of which over 15,000 were to adults.

The Boys' Camp Cooking class, composed of 11 members between 14 and 16 years of age, is entertaining with a dinner party at the Community House Monday evening for 11 girls. The boys are going to cook and serve the dinner themselves.

Mrs. Royce L. Beers of Arlington drive will serve as president of the Birmingham Branch, American Association of University Women, during the coming year.

Kitty and Maude Ellen Keller entertained 60 of their friends among the ranks of the school set at a roller skating party Thursday evening at the Clawson rink. The young hostesses make their home at 1111 S. Hannah of Rivenook avenue.

To buy or sell a used automobile, read and use Eccentric Classified Ads.

ONE THING OR ANOTHER

By George Wm. Averill

Streets is one of the most recurring subjects which Birmingham city commissioners have discussed during the eight years I have been reporting their activities for the community.

Good streets, bad streets. Concrete streets and gravel streets. Oil mat streets and streets which merely exist on a subdivision plat.

Discussions range from closing or opening of streets, to proper street drainage and street maintenance.

ALMOST WITHOUT EXCEPTION, these commissioners have held steadfast to the theory that permanently surfaced streets cost the city and the property owners less in the long run than to live on dirt and gravel roadways.

Considerable progress had been made to have more local streets improved. Some areas all but insist the city spread special assessments for concrete or asphalt street surfaces.

A larger number of areas are not quite convinced of the practicality of the plan, and must have the commission bring out its arguments and prove them. Then the assessment district gets spread without too much further opposition.

HOWEVER, THERE ARE some areas in Birmingham which have continually resisted any and all attempts of the city to improve its street maintenance program the way city officials believe it should be accomplished.

When it is all boiled down, these objections seem to come out: "We want dirt streets to maintain Birmingham's 'village atmosphere'. Concrete or other hard-surfaced roadways merely puts us in the same class as just any other city."

The other night I decided to recollect what has been done in any other ways likewise to protect Birmingham's "village atmosphere". Or, if it were possible for me to recall, what with regularity has been

decried as other steps and measures were taken locally that lead to "big city atmosphere."

WHERE IS THE LOCAL person today who does not take pride that he lives in a community which:

Just has taken steps to provide more and better fire protection, and has a fire department which for a city of this size is so well organized and administered that for years it has been the envy of sister municipalities in the state?

Is the only municipality in Oakland county that has erected its very own sewage disposal plant?

Within the past five years has expended almost \$6 1/2 million for the most modern high school and elementary schools?

Has seen a number of fine, new business enterprises move into the community?

Has seen many established businesses expand their services with additional space, departments, and services?

HAS SEEN MANY BUSINESS property owners spend many thousands of dollars to give their store fronts a modern facelift?

And related to these improvements are the problems of more traffic, more parking space, more parking meters.

As far as I can see, villages don't go in for these sort of community ventures. Villages don't have these sort of problems, either.

It seems to me someone ought to come up with a more realistic slogan, a sounder argument against concrete streets than the repeated cry: "Leave us with our gravel streets and we will keep our village atmosphere!"

If I found one peach in a bushel of apples, I couldn't say it was a bushel of peaches... although I might like to find at least one peach every time I bought some apples.

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Birmingham Representative: David K. Falvey, C.L.U.

My recipe for CORN CASSEROLE... always successful in my ELECTRIC RANGE
Corn Casserole Recipe:
Temp: 350° F. Time: 30 Min.
2 cups cooked white-kernel corn
1/2 cup chopped celery
1/2 cup chopped green pepper
1/4 cup onion, if desired
2 tablespoons butter
1 cup milk
2 cups soft breadcrumbs
1 cup diced cheese
1 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon pepper
Melt butter in saucepan. Add corn, celery, green pepper and onion. Stir until tender. Add remaining ingredients. Mix well. Pour into greased casserole dish. Bake.
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