

The Birmingham Eccentric

PART TWO

FIFTY-FIRST YEAR—NO. 37

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THREE INJURED IN HEAVY FOG

Two Girls, Companions Hurt As They Stop At Woodward Barbecue

Three persons are recovering today in the Highland Park General Hospital from severe cuts and bruises received at 1:35 a. m., Wednesday, when a truck crashed into the rear of their car at Woodward avenue and the Twelve and One-Half Mile roads.

The injured were Violet McDonald and Margaret Robinson, 1570 Elmhurst avenue, and Allen Buffett, 73 Kenilworth avenue, Detroit.

Harold Hanley, 71 Kenilworth avenue, Detroit, stopped his automobile to allow the two girls to alight at a barbecue when a truck driven by Harry Heckathorn, 517 Reed street, Saginaw, crashed into the car. Heavy fog obscured the view it is reported. The truck driver was not held.

ROBERT JOHNSTON TAKEN BY DEATH

Brother Of Dr. D. M. Johnston Succumbs After Illness In Hospital

Funeral services were held yesterday at 2 p. m. at the G. Dewey Kimball Funeral Home for Robert A. Johnston, 70 years old, who died early Christmas Day in St. Joseph's Mercy Hospital, Pontiac. Burial was in Franklin cemetery, with Rev. Robert M. Atkins, pastor of the First Methodist Church, officiating.

Mr. Johnston came here four years ago from Louisville, Ky., to make his home with his sister, Mrs. Susan Parks, of 115 1/2 north Woodward avenue.

He is survived by another sister, Mrs. Diana Pickering, of Birmingham, and three brothers: Frank and Will Johnston, of Jackson, and Dr. D. M. Johnston, also of Birmingham.

65 BOYS ATTEND CAMP MEETING

More than 65 boys and leaders attended the reunion of last summer Y. M. C. A. campers at the New Baptist Church, Bates and Willets streets, yesterday from 2 to 4 p. m.

The program included a campfire and stunts and was arranged by Robert D. Lynd, secretary of the Y. M. C. A.

For as little as 25 cents you may be able to sell household goods, get or rent a room, house, or apartment through The Eccentric.

BRIGHT FUTURE FOR VILLAGE SEEN BY REALTY BOARD MEMBER

"Looking back over the history of 1928 from a Birmingham real estate standpoint, both the business and the residential development has been along extremely sound lines," said Charles E. Buck, of Colgrove, Buck & Tillotson, who is one of the retiring directors of the Birmingham Real Estate board.

"Taking the business property first during the past 12 months, a good many important sales have been made in downtown property, many of them by successful local and Detroit real estate investors. The majority of these properties have been purchased with the intention of holding and improving to gain the increase in values which invariably follows business property in a growing community.

Purchasing Power Great
"We find that it is a generally accepted fact by both merchants and real estate investors that the Birmingham purchasing power per family is probably the largest in Michigan.

The sale of property on west Maple has been particularly active and has probably been stimulated by the erection of the beautiful new Wabek building and the fact that the shops and offices in this building have filled very rapidly.

"Within the last few months, property to the east of the Woodward building has been sold by this firm, with additional sales on the opposite side of the street.

"In spite of the fact that 1928 has seen fully 20 new stores built in the downtown area during the past 12 months, there are practically no shops or rent today, and our own experience proves that a good many merchants, from both Detroit and Pontiac, are considering Birmingham in their sales program.

"The reasons for this are obvious. Birmingham is growing and these merchants who study conditions carefully feel that the next 10 years will see a growth proportionately larger than the past 10 years.

"From a residential standpoint, 1928 has seen the construction of a larger number of well-built homes.

Many Own Property
"The majority of these have been built by individuals who have owned their ground, and in many instances, have looked forward to this as home for a considerable period of time. In the long run this is the healthiest kind of growth that any community can have.

"There is no question that there has not been as much speculative building during 1928 as there has been in the past, and while there have been hundreds of building sites sold during the past 12 months, the majority have been purchased with the ultimate idea of the owner building his own home rather than for speculative purposes.

"The subdivision business has been far below normal, although the local situation has held its

BOOK REVIEWS

SCHUBERT LIFE STORY IS TOLD

By RAYMOND GIRARDIN From 'Schubert, the man and his circle. Newman Flower, Frederick A. Stokes company.

This is the story of the life of Schubert and his constant battle with a circumstance which led him to keep him always on the edge of recognition, and always missing it. Flower touches on his music not at all, except to show certain influences in his life in Austria at the time of various compositions.

This near-sighted timid man displayed marks of genius when quite young. He fought off the persuasions of a pedantic and poor father who would have him enter the teaching profession, and he chose music.

His life was a battle against starvation and a battle for recognition. It is typical of his experience with Beethoven who lived near him. Schubert always wanted to know the great master—and have him hear his music. He was too timid to present himself and only a few times before the two met.

The death of Beethoven, did the two meet. The dying man recognized the genius in the work of his guest—but it came too late for Schubert. The great friendship of the intellectual circle for Franz Schubert is stressed in the biography. Never did the composer become angry and only once was he insulting and that to charlatans when he was in his cups.

The biographer is confident that the disease which caused his

death was a social one. He advances considerable evidence to show the man suffered from this trouble from the age of 24 until he died at 31.

Effort has been expended in gathering the material presented in the book. Some of the data is seen the light of print for the first time. It is presented tenderly and by one who has great love and reverence for Schubert—as did the many friends who surrounded him during his life 100 years ago.

The tragedy of the man's career is felt keenly by the biographer who does not miss an opportunity to show a miserable life, made brighter only by a few appreciating and understanding friends.

What They Read Here and There

- Best Sellers for the week at L. C. David's bookstore.
- Fiction
 - Harness—Hamilton Gibbs
 - Point Counter Point—Aldous Huxley
 - 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea—Robert Benchesly
 - Empress of Hearts—E. Barrington
 - Matron's Vineyard—Phillips Oppenheim
 - Old Pybus—Warwick Deeping
 - Non-Fiction
 - Elizabeth and Essex—Lytton Strachey
 - Hunger Fighters—Paul de Kruif
 - Raiders of the Deep—Lowell Thomas
 - Buck in the Snow—Edna St. Vincent Millay
 - Abraham Lincoln—Albert J. Beveridge

WE HEARD IT SAID BY—

J. B. Howarth: "Taking the Grand Trunk night express from here to Chicago recently I had breakfast on the train before arriving and had the unique experience of being served by white waiters, English, evidently by accident. I have dined on most of the railroads of this country where colored waiters are universally employed. I rather enjoyed the exception. The meal too was exceptionally good."

Revenge

He: So Kitty and the doctor busted up?

She: Yes. She sent him back his ring.

He: What did he do?

She: He sent her a bill for 365 visits at five dollars apiece.

He: Hello! How did you find yourself?

She: Well, I just looked under the table an' there I was!—Everybody's Weekly (London).

It costs nothing to publish a news item in The Eccentric, Mrs. Birmingham. Call for a reporter on 11 or 12.

CHARLES E. BUCK

own much better than any other section of Michigan.

"What 1929 has in store from a real estate standpoint seems to be thoroughly encouraging.

Many Look To Village
"Detroit and Pontiac are both exceptional business centers, and there are literally thousands of people living in Detroit, particularly those with small children, who are looking forward to the day when they can come to the Birmingham, Bloomfield district to live.

"With Detroit again in its normal swing, and with business good across the country at large, it is the opinion of the real estate men of the local Board that the residential business, the subdivision business generally, and business property will enjoy a much larger volume than it experienced during the past eighteenth months."

DRIVER FREED IN ACCIDENT

Jury Finds Motorist Blameless In Death Of Walter Goozen

The driver of the car which fatally injured Walter Goozen, 50 years old, of 105 Emmons street, stands exonerated today following an inquest by a jury under Coroner G. C. Farmer Saturday in Pontiac.

George F. Carter, of Detroit, driver of the car, said Goozen stepped in front of him before he had a chance to stop. The accident occurred at Woodward and Bird avenues three weeks ago.

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FIRE DAMAGES VILLAGE HOME

Origin Of Abbey Road Blaze Remains Mystery; Other Fires Reported

A fire of undetermined origin damaged the roof of the home of Dr. Eugene Smith, Jr., 596 Abbey road, Monday afternoon.

Birmingham firemen extinguished the blaze with chemicals before it spread to other parts of the roof. An incinerator or defective wiring was named by occupants of the house as a possible reason for the fire which was not near the chimney.

Damage estimated at \$30 resulted from an overheated stove. Thursday morning in the garage at 203 Pierce street, managed by E. V. Orloman. Firemen controlled the blaze which started in the ceiling.

The fire department responded to an alarm at 8:35 a. m. Sunday, from the home of J. S. Cooper, 314 Oakland avenue. Heat from a fireplace burned out the chimney.

The Wolverine Mutual Motor Insurance Company
Doraville, Michigan

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19 29

GREETINGS of the SEASON

AS the year of 1928 passes into that long trail of yesterdays and 1929 is ushered in with its vista of promise, we extend greetings of the season and our wish that each succeeding day of the new year add its measure of contentment and prosperity.

The Arnold Studio
Birmingham Theatre Building

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL



Our Holiday Greeting to You—

For your share in our success the past year we tender our sincere thanks. . . .

May you have a happy Holiday season, followed by a most successful New Year.

L. C. David's
BIRMINGHAM DEPARTMENT STORE
Birmingham's Finest Store

ALL BIRMINGHAM Drug Stores WILL BE **CLOSED** New Year's Afternoon and Evening (Starting at 1 o'clock)

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HOWBRIDGE PHARMACY WABEK PHARMACY
SCHETTLER'S PHARMACY WILSON'S DRUGS
SHAIN'S DRUGS WOODWARD PHARMACY