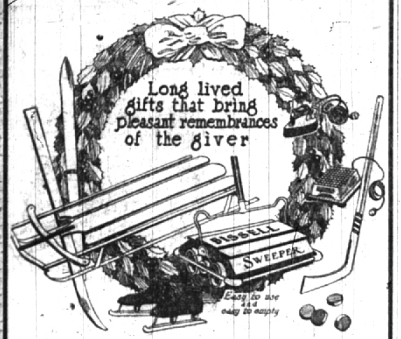


Fire Alarms Wake Villagers Early

Two fire alarms aroused the villagers early Wednesday morning but only slight damage was caused by the flames in the clothes closet of a vacant house at 1439 Bird

avenue, and the other an automobile fire at 878 Chester street. The cause of the first fire was undetermined and the second fire was caused when A. W. Perley, owner of the car, attempted to start it and back-fire resulted in a blaze. Try an Eccentric Classified Ad.

A Gift for Every Man, Woman and Child in Birmingham



Long lived gifts that bring pleasant remembrances of the giver. Gifts galore! If you wish to find some gift which will last and please come to Huston's. Toys, sports goods, electrical appliances and household goods are here in a great variety.

Columbia Bicycles. Sturdily Made Bicycles for Boys and Girls the famous Columbia make. \$25 up

PING-PONG. The ever popular Ping-Pong for boys or men priced from \$1.50 up

Insist on Northland Skis. Many sturdy toys for the children are on sale here. You will be surprised at the assortment.

ROYAL ROCHESTER Heat Proof CHINA. Colorful and beautiful appliances for gift presentation. WAFFLE IRONS \$7.50 up, PERCOLATORS \$8.50 up, CASSEROLES \$6.75 up, PIE DISHES \$4.75 up

ROASTERS. Many sizes and kinds of household and kitchen accessories. Cutlery sets for the Christmas Dinner. A SPECIAL offering is in our "O" size roaster at \$1.00. Other Roasters \$1.00 up, Steamers \$1.00 up, Kettles, Pans, etc., in wide variety.

PERCOLATOR SETS. Percolator sets made by Manning Brown include Tray, Percolator and Creamer. Priced from \$25.00 up

TOASTERS. An automatic toaster widely known as "Toaster" will make another good gift for wife or mother. Toastmasters Are \$12.50

Huston Hardware Co. Phone 110 205 NORTH WOODWARD AVENUE "OPEN EVENINGS"

(Continued from Page 1)

an operating knowledge of his history; but I believe sincerely that the first obligation of citizenship is to know about the history of his country. The citizenship which you and I enjoy today has been determined gradually year by year and even by event, the rights of the individual have been subordinated to the greater rights of the state; the rights of the states have been subordinated to the rights of the nation; and these things in their turn have brought to our citizenship the priceless protection of a strong and unassailable government. It is a process in which every generation has played, and must play, its part. It will mean more, if history may be expected to repeat itself, to be a citizen of the United States in the year 2500 than it does now; and Clay will be true to his bequest to the generations which follow us, and they to other generations, each in their turn, the same degree of advancement which previous generations have left to us. And we are to do this, we must know what has gone before—must know what is expected of us as our share of the day.

Days Of Revolution. "Specifically, what do I believe the average American citizen needs to know about the history of his country? What are the events and who are the men that mark the milestones in our political development? And why will a knowledge of these facts make most of a woman a better American citizen? I shall try to answer these questions in the order stated."

"If a man is to appreciate his American citizenship—and that is certainly the first obligation it imposes—he should be familiar in some detail with the American Revolution; for out of this struggle came the first measure of individual freedom. I do not believe that a group of men ever showed more courage in giving battle for political freedom than did these hardy fathers of the American Revolution. If you would appreciate this, you must know that they had absolutely nothing out of them to make a struggle for their indomitable will to govern the country they had developed. The population of the American continent—that is, the white part of it—was made up of a series of communities, practically without intercourse one with the other. There was no central figure, no one pivotal seat of government, around which the standards could rally. Yet such was the desire for freedom, such the hatred of taxation and rule without representation, that local leaders—arise with enthusiasm—rose up as if by magic and led the insurgent host to victory. In studying this period of American history, a man should pay particular attention to these leaders, for they, it was who gave expression to those ideals of citizenship which we have all inherited. Robert Morris was such a man. One of the wealthiest men in the colonies, he was the first of the revolution, he came out of it penniless and in debt—his personal fortune gone to the winds, his land far to feed and clothe Washington's ragged continentals. Almost single-handed, he financed the revolution. Washington was such a man. Rich in worldly goods, a cavalier by breeding and disposition, he lent his name and his ability to the American cause when it would have been far easier and more comfortable to have held his allegiance to another country. The man who studies in some detail, the life of George Washington will gain an appreciation of his country which will double the value of his citizenship.

Owa Washington Much. "It is next to impossible to overestimate the debt we owe George Washington for our citizenship. Every man who would appreciate his citizenship should know, in some detail, the services Washington rendered his country. He should follow Washington through his struggles to hold together that little continental army. It is a truth in every war that the ardor of patriotism soon passes out under the stern realities of battle. Men who have enlisted with the highest enthusiasm and the finest of motives are prone to recant their judgment when the going has faced the punishment of close-range fire. It was so with the continental army—especially so, for the men felt that their local governments were not supporting them properly. As their terms of enlistment expired, they wished to go home—and many of them did. There were times when Washington's army was reduced to a mere handful—and that handful rendered and immopely clothed. Worse yet, there was insufficient ammunition—and the ordnance available was pitifully small. "Washington held this army together by the sheer force and dominance of his personality. He continued, as occasion offered, to win battles. As you read his letters his family, you begin to see what a sacrifice he was making. Time and time again it looked as if army would simply be disbanded in the field—leaving him to suffer on the pages of history the most humiliating record a general can know. All the time his home beckoned—the comfort and security of Mount Vernon, the love and care of his family, the solitude of his servants. But he kept on in the face of it all—finally winning, by some of the most superb strategy known to military history, the right for you and me to govern ourselves; to have a voice in the selection of our officials; to be taxed only with direct representation; in other words, to be an American citizen. No man can know these facts, and realize their implication without a new sense of appreciation for his citizenship.

Our Constitution. "A man should know, too, that winning the Revolution was but the first step in building this na-

Window Display Prize Is Offered

All village merchants are eligible to enter the window display contest. The display to be awarded by The Birmingham Eccentric. Judging of the displays will be conducted between Monday, Dec. 15 and Christmas Eve, by a committee of five judges.

The silver loving cup will be awarded on Dec. 31 and the merchant winning it three years will retain possession of it permanently. The judges selected are James W. Parson, village manager; W. A. P. John, advertising counsel; Mrs. Cora Farrah; Helen K. Kiser, art instructor; Helen Baldwin, High School, and James L. Oliver, secretary of George G. Booth.

The colonies were in far worse condition following the war than they were preceding it. Even in England, it was said that a certain amount of experiment, there would be a strong sentiment with the Mother Country. To get a grasp of these further struggles, one should know of the constitutional convention—the one leading up to it, its own course, the struggle for adoption of the instrument that came out of it. "Gladstone has called the constitution of the United States the greatest work ever to be done and a hard man Gladstone was using poetic license there, for it took months to get any sort of agreement as to the text of our present governmental document. Here in Philadelphia, occurred some of the soundest political debates ever recorded. These men were speaking not for light sake of their individual reputations—for the sessions were all behind closed doors, with every member to be absolutely discreet; they were doing you and for posterity—for you, their children.

"Time after time the struggle grew more bitter. It looked as if agreement were impossible; that the convention would end in a deadlock, and would be dissolved. But for the venerable Franklin then rounding his four score years, and who was in the case. Always, he was ready with some sort of compromise, some sort of makeshift, some sort of rupture; once, when things got more beyond his control, he suggested that the delegates get a dinner for the members of a sort of early White-House breakfast with this generation known.

"One morning, almost as a final gesture of despair, Franklin thought it would be well to open the session with prayer, and to invoke divine guidance. The venerable Alexander Hamilton, then in his early thirties, was then immensely in the ways of the law and government, was his first in a minute. Oblivious of the implied insult to the aged Franklin, Hamilton said that, for one, he was not yet ready to admit that this gathering needed an outside force from outside. Finally there came the final compromise; you see its result today in the Senate of the United States. The equal representation for every state, whether large or small. But this heroic struggle was but another step forward; he who would know the value of his citizenship must go yet further to get the right constitution adopted. Alexander Hamilton, who really favored a monarchical form of government, and who signed the constitution not because he thought it good, but because he thought it better than nothing, worked day and night to get the constitution adopted; so did his other fellow-workers. This struggle to get the constitution while less dramatic than some of the other phases of our history, is one of the most fascinating of all. It was the ability to endure. Its adoption meant a sacrifice of individual rights for the greater rights of the whole. It is a chapter of American history that every man and woman should know and appreciate.

About The Civil War. "And certainly every man who would value his citizenship should know, in some detail, the story of the American Civil War. He should know, especially, the events leading up to it. He should know that there existed in the United States in the year 1850 two absolutely diverse types of civilization—the one so diametrically opposed to the other that, as Lincoln, said, the nation could not exist half one and half the other. A man should know, especially, the struggles that went on in the halls of Congress in an effort to com-

promise these differences without endangering the life of the nation. Out of all the noble characters that this period of American history he might well select for study Daniel Webster and Henry Clay. One of them was an eloquent visionary, so filled with love of his country that he believed that dead lives in every man who spoke or so much as thought, ill of it. No one can ever live in every man who without renewed respect for his citizenship. His speeches are an answer to the question, 'What matters it if he did lack business sense?' You know they say he was to sign a promissory note with the statement, 'Thank God that I—' a thing's said.' Clay was a practical, but eloquent, soul yielding to no one in his passionate love of American liberties, at the head of the stairway leading to his office a small cannon—loaded to his fill with nails, slugs and canister. Not content with this precaution, he stacked rifles in his office; and as a final resort he expressed his determination to defend before, attackers and defenders before. Instead of destroying his office, however, somebody had a good judgment to get out an arm-union signed by a local judge. A single election saved the nation, and with tears in his eyes for his lost cause, Clay handed the records to his office with a protest. If we may believe the records, there were not enough slaveholders in the State of Kentucky to intimidate the local pro-tection. He should not refrain from making a left-hand turn against a red light because it means a fine of \$20 if he is observed in the act; rather, he should uphold this ordinance because it means protection for himself when he happens to be the man beckoned onward in the other direction by the green light of the majority. And here I should like to say a few words, in the friendliest sort of criticism, about our public schools. I believe that formal education is a requisite to successful human existence; and I shall always champion and gladly support established educational systems of our nation. What I say, therefore is intended as a helpful criticism of an institution in which I believe implicitly; and which is all the more personal because it was once my privilege to have been entrusted, as a public school teacher, with the instruction of a community's youth. Furthermore, I am blessed with a brother who is devoting his life to the Science of Education in one of our State Universities.

Teach Our Children. "The time to get this viewpoint is during the so-called days of childhood; it should be taken into the system, day by day, with the child's respect for his parents, for his teacher—and for his companions. It should be an unescapable by-product of his education. And here I should like to say a few words, in the friendliest sort of criticism, about our public schools. I believe that formal education is a requisite to successful human existence; and I shall always champion and gladly support established educational systems of our nation. What I say, therefore is intended as a helpful criticism of an institution in which I believe implicitly; and which is all the more personal because it was once my privilege to have been entrusted, as a public school teacher, with the instruction of a community's youth. Furthermore, I am blessed with a brother who is devoting his life to the Science of Education in one of our State Universities.

Turn to Page 4, No. 2.

turning to the end of the Civil War, in this book appears a fascinating account of the activities of Cassius M. Clay, cousin of the great Henry Clay. Cassius M. Clay was called by the intimates of his generation was an abolitionist; he wanted to free the slaves at a time, and in a section of the country, when and where discretion was decidedly the better part of valor. Finally, in his abolitionist zeal, he was moved to establish a newspaper dedicated to his principles; and he began its publication in the City of Lexington, in the State of Kentucky, at a time when it was a most avoidable happened, and Clay was visited by a sizable delegation of responsible citizens who made it very plain that he was to cease and desist. His answer was to place at the head of the stairway leading to his office a small cannon—loaded to his fill with nails, slugs and canister. Not content with this precaution, he stacked rifles in his office; and as a final resort he expressed his determination to defend before, attackers and defenders before. Instead of destroying his office, however, somebody had a good judgment to get out an arm-union signed by a local judge. A single election saved the nation, and with tears in his eyes for his lost cause, Clay handed the records to his office with a protest. If we may believe the records, there were not enough slaveholders in the State of Kentucky to intimidate the local protection. He should not refrain from making a left-hand turn against a red light because it means a fine of \$20 if he is observed in the act; rather, he should uphold this ordinance because it means protection for himself when he happens to be the man beckoned onward in the other direction by the green light of the majority. And here I should like to say a few words, in the friendliest sort of criticism, about our public schools. I believe that formal education is a requisite to successful human existence; and I shall always champion and gladly support established educational systems of our nation. What I say, therefore is intended as a helpful criticism of an institution in which I believe implicitly; and which is all the more personal because it was once my privilege to have been entrusted, as a public school teacher, with the instruction of a community's youth. Furthermore, I am blessed with a brother who is devoting his life to the Science of Education in one of our State Universities.

Electrical Gifts



It Is Only Womanly To Want Things for the Home

Christmas will be but the first of an endless series of joyous days during which she will use that electric gift and think kindly thoughts of the giver.

Percolator Sets. Percolator with sugar and creamer on tray in dull "she" and nickel finish. \$20 up

Colorful Lamps. Lamps lend beauty to your home, shedding a soft glow that gives an atmosphere of comfort. Choose one for "her" from our large assortment of Junior Floor Lamps, Bridge and Table Models.

Electric Toasters. That toast bread to a golden even brown. A gift "she" will use every morning. \$5.00 up

Waffle Irons. Of nickel iron that produce golden, crisp waffles that enjoy housewife delights in making. \$10 up

Bird Electrical Co. 205 EAST MAPLE AVENUE Telephone 90

SEARCH For the Opening OF SEVE BROS. CUT-RATE MARKET TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23rd AT 100 W. MAPLE BIRMINGHAM Fancy Fruits, Vegetables, Groceries and Meats Lowest Prices Always! Watch Next Week's Issue of This Paper For Complete Details Regarding Opening! Special Opening Prices on Merchandise Will Amaze You!

Good Solid Winter CABBAGE 50c per bushel. Kraut Cutters, 50c each. Also 500 bushels of Chickens Cabbage, 200 bushels of Rutabagas, and 200 bushels of carrots for sale cheap. at the farm of Jack Frost. Twelve Mile and Leisher Roads Phone B'ham 7028-712