

# The Birmingham Post-Herald

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## EXCHANGITES HEAR TALK ON AVIATION

Major L. G. King Told of Flight Progress, Forees It As Popular Transit

Major Laurence G. King, of the International Air Express, spoke to Birmingham Exchangers Tuesday noon at the Community House. He was introduced by Ray E. Palmer, member.

Major King narrated the progress of aviation during the last five years, and compared its future with that of the automobile's history. Although he never expected airplanes to be as widely used as automobiles, he does believe that the number of flyers will be about 10 per cent of the number of motor car owners.

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## Prize Essays By Village School Children Reveal Benefits of the Community House

What Birmingham's Community House means to the younger generation of our village was given a full and ample demonstration in the essays that were submitted in the prize essay competition offered by the Community House in the interests of its annual roll which starts next Monday.

Awards in the essay contest were determined just previous to the closing of the schools for the spring holidays, so that 19 Birmingham boys and girls went off to their vacation with the knowledge that they had won a prize for excellence in craftsmanship of essay writing. And the steering committee of the Community House association was in possession of some splendid ideas for bettering the work of the community house.

For not all of the essays were fully complimentary. With the frankness of youth they criticized and suggested and many of their suggestions were points well taken. Points that will undoubtedly have the full consideration of the Community House board.

Mrs. Clarence Viet, George R. Averill and Mrs. Edward E. Bryant were the official judges and to them came the final decisions. The first elimination of the essays was made by the teachers of the Birmingham schools who are instructing in English. They gave the es-

say project as a school theme and judged the essays on their merits from the standpoint of the class room. The best were selected on this basis and turned over to the committee to make the final choice.

As the prize essays, which are printed in this issue, reveal, the youth of the village have a most clear and comprehensive idea of the functions of the Community House and of the service that it performs. The essays follow:

**By Nancy Johnson—12A.** Birmingham is a community of homes, and they all have one home in common—our Community House. Everybody, from the baby of the family to grandfather, derives some benefit from this wonderful institution. Little brother does not know what a party is, but he knows what a game room is with all the "regular fellows." Little sister belongs to a nice little group which meets once a week in the Girl Scout room and does all kind of fascinating and exciting things. The neighbor is a Boy Scout and how little brother does envy him! He has a strong mind, many happy hours, is a mile long and can do anything. And what a fascinating room the Boy Scout room at the Community House is with all its evidence of accomplishment on the part of the boys.

Dad goes once a week to this wonderful building and partakes of a delicious feast served by the Community House kitchen to the Lions Club, and "talks shop" with a general good time with his business associates. And can you believe it? Mother is taking a course in International Relations, and it's very culture and just too interesting! She actually knows more than Dad now about what's going on in this world of ours. Big sister is in high school and is very (?) grown up and sophisticated. She comes to the Community House on Saturday nights along with the rest of the "gang" and spends the happy hours in practicing the Finnish chorale art to the haunting strains of a real orchestra.

Giving people a good time is by no means the only function of the Community House. For those who are less fortunate than this family of ours, there is the thrift shop where one can economically invest in the necessities of life, and the employment bureau; and the welfare department helps hundreds of needy families every year. Don't you think this is a project worthy of your support?

**By Carol Dweley—10B.** "How do you like Birmingham?" "How do you like Birmingham?" "How do you like Birmingham?" asked a pleasant looking

matron, at a meeting at the Community House.

"I should love it if only I could find a good maid and some inexpensive, wholesome amusements for my children outside of the eternal movies."

"Harriet is sixteen, and loves dancing, but I disapprove of road houses."

"Why not let Harriet try one of those young people Saturday night parties at the Community House? We charge a nominal fee, and the dances are supervised by our best people. High school students find them very attractive. Let her join the Girl Reserves, too. Her mother is a grandfater, she loves to go to the movies, but I disapprove of road houses."

"Do you suppose I could find a maid?" "I'm sure of it."

The mother smiled, ecstatically, and said: "I had no idea the activities of your Community House were so diversified. I'll try your Community House, too. When it can do these things for you, and the poor with its thrift shop and social service department, you know it lives up to its spirit as well as the letter of its service."

**By Don Stewart—11A.** There is a certain town in central Michigan in which a great number of people live in such poor homes that they have no running water. This town supports a Community House, and every Saturday evening the unfortunate townspeople come and have their weekly bath in the Community House. The schools of the town have no gymnasium, and the Community House is used for all their athletics. There can be no doubt that this Community House is very valuable to the town because it was established to give the people something they could not get otherwise.

The Birmingham Community House was established for the same purpose, to give service to the community. Although Birmingham has no such need as a public Saturday night bath, there are many other things that the local organization does to make our village a better place in which to live. The Community House serves our people in three different fields: social, recreational, and charitable. When an organization wishes to hold a meeting, it can do so in the Community House. The Boy and Girl Scouts, bridge clubs, and business and professional clubs hold their regular meeting places there. Weekly a dance is given in the beautiful auditorium. When boys and girls tire of staying home, as happens at times, they are welcome at the recreation room of the Community House. Art classes and study clubs attract many people there. In the basement there is a thrift shop for the victims of unemployment. Christmas and Thanksgiving always bring food, clothing, and coal to the unfortunate from the welfare department.

All these services make the Community House what its supporters have endeavored to make it—the character-building center of Birmingham.

**By Ethel Mary Hoover—9A, Baldwin.** A blind groping to express a social instinct. The Community House is more than an institution, it is a home, a thrilling with life and human kindness, it is the heart, the most vital organ of the Village of Birmingham.

It was not for profit, that it was created, it was of the people, for the people, and by the people. It is a part of every member of the organization called the Village of Birmingham.

The Welfare Department alone is worth any trouble taken to maintain and better it. The training of the younger generation is carried on in group meeting there.

No one can honestly state that they care not one way nor the other, if there is a Community House, if he is acquainted with the facts concerning it. It is an able helper laboring beside one, lending a helping hand when skies are clouded; laughing when you laugh, sighing when you sigh and cheering you when gladness is gone. A friend in need is a friend indeed, no one can deny that the Community House is just that, promoting health, wealth, and happiness to those you love beyond life and to yourself. It is a companion to your entire home, educating, entertaining, and building friendship in its work. Uphold this friend, join in the

## WINNERS OF PRIZE ESSAY CONTEST "Our Community House"

Senior High School Grades— First Prize, Nancy Johnson, 12A Baldwin High. Second Prize, Carol Dweley, 10B Baldwin High. Third Prize, Don Stewart, 11A Baldwin High.

Junior High School Grades— First Prize, Ethel May Hoover, 9A Baldwin High. Second Prize, Max Hodge, 9A Baldwin High. Third Prize, Robert Henrion, 2A Baldwin High.

Fifth and Sixth Grades— First Prize, Norman Lyle, 5A Adams School. Second Prize, Mary Grace Ogden, 5A Pierce School. Third Prize, Mary Pritchard, 6A Adams School.

Ten Special Prizes— Gwendolyn Scandinavian, 6A Pierce School. The Gellatly, 6B Barnum School. John Spencer Black, 6B Quarton School. Mary Frances Grubbs, 4th Grade Bloomfield Village School.

Also, Lee Heimiller, 3d Grade Bloomfield Village School. Bronx Barr, 8B Barnum School. Walter R. Forles, 6A Pierce School. Colin John, 5A Quarton School. Weston Meyer, 5B Quarton School. Betty Cole, 6A Quarton School.

activities, and raise your voice in a mighty cheer for the Community House.

**By Max Hodge—9A, Baldwin.** Our Community House, the "Moose" of Birmingham where all people, old, the young, the rich, and the unemployed find relief happiness.

To the children, it is a castle of delight where they can hold their secret meetings, meet friends and do their homework. The adult's conception is a beautiful place of pleasure where gladness skips on the auditorium floor and sounds upon the tables in the banquet room.

It is a haven to the unemployed where work and the necessities of life can be found, a good will in its attitude.

The Community House is an asset to Birmingham and not a liability. Almost all of its department and activities are self-supporting. But even if this were not so and the people had to pay an extra heavy tax (which is not the case) it would still be an economical institution, for the good the Community House does is not measured in dollars, but in good deeds.

To be without the Community House would be like a frontier settlement without a fort. Both are essential necessities that neither could be without. Like the fort, it is a gathering place for people to assemble. It is a city, a town, that has no weight in gold. It cannot be claimed by one person or class of people, it is Our Community House.

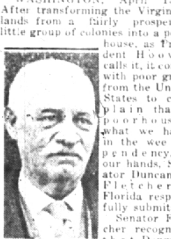
**By Robert Henrion—7A, Barnum.** Our Community House is the one most all it can do to help the Community. Now, just take a look at the Welfare department, which helps the people at Thanksgiving and Christmas, giving food to starving or at least hungry persons, old and young. Babies and children, big and little, who thought St. Nick wasn't coming, then on that cold, cold night St. Nick did come! The Community House saw to that.

Take a glance, too, at the game room for boys. Pool tables, ping pong tables, etc., cost plenty. If you do think that the worth it and you'll go away happy when your money helped us have so much fun.

Take a peep at different activities, for instance, the Boy and Girl Scouts. They each have a room just like big brother and sister. Then there are Saturday night dances for high school children, and they have fun, too, when I'm big enough I'll go. There was a great Lions Club party for the boys and girls and say it was just a wow! Old St. Nick and the Reindeers were there, they have fun, and gifts and Miss Stevens who made the kids so happy!

## Uncle Sam Is Blamed Because Virgin Isles Are 'Poorhouse'

By CHARLES P. STEWART, United Press Staff Writer, WASHINGTON, April 15.



Senator Fletcher

After transforming the Virgin Islands from a fairly prosperous little group of colonies into a "poorhouse" as President Hoover calls it, it comes with poor grace from the United States to complain that a poor house is what we have in the West Indian dependencies, on our hands, Senator Duncan U. Fletcher says.

Senator Fletcher resented that a Denmark struck Uncle Sam with a gold snicker when she sold the islands to him for \$25,000,000 in 1917.

Nevertheless, he agrees that it was up to the Washington government to give the inhabitants of the islands the benefit of a reasonably intelligent American administration, instead of depriving them of their only means of livelihood (which was the production and sale of rum), under the eighteenth amendment, and then forgetting about them for the next 14 years—only to have Mr. Hoover express surprise, on visiting them in the course of his recent West Indian voyage, to discover that they are not even as well off today as they were under Danish rule.

AT THAT, however, it rks the Florida senator somewhat to note the critical attitude taken by the islands' last Danish governor toward American indifference to their welfare, as reported in his dispatches from Copenhagen following publication of President Hoover's comment.

If the Danes took so benevolent an interest in the islanders' "downfall," the senator would like to know why were they so willing to sell out in 1917?

"Admitting that Uncle Sam has been careless, it looks to the senator, he says, as if the Danes were middling mercenary, they evidently cared more for \$25,000,000 than for what became of the islanders. Hence the Florida senator considers that the sarcasm of the last

## DENIES BREAKING INTO STORE HERE

Danish governor come with a decidedly last grace from him, too.

INVESTIGATION of diplomatic sources does, indeed, disclose that the Danish government had been angling for a customer for the islands for many years prior to the outbreak of the World War, but could get no satisfactory bids.

It is problematical how much truth there was in rumors circulated just after American entrance into the world struggle that a sale was about to be effected with Germany. Those rumors ended a bargain with the United States, at any rate. Washington's reaction was instant and positive that such a key to the Panama canal would not be permitted to pass to the Kaiser's possession. Apparently to Page 6, this section.

Turn to Page 6, this section.

Detroit Held in \$10,000 Bail Pending Examination Today Before Judge Hunt

James Buchanan, alias A. D. Young, 27 years old, 4400 Third avenue, Detroit, will appear this afternoon before Justice Malcolm Hunt for examination on a charge of breaking and entering. Buchanan, said by police to be suspected of several recent thefts in Royal Oak, was arrested Monday. He is accused of having broken into the Atlantic and Pacific Store on Adams avenue, Mar. 20.

Upon arraignment, Buchanan pleaded not guilty and was held in default of \$10,000 bond. According to Chief John P. Hackett, Buchanan has served sentences in various parts of the country for other felonies.

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