

What does Christmas mean to the world? Is it just a human game of the imagination, a mere material present, or is it a time when we should pause and give the thought of our real spiritual nature?

T S and THAT

One morning last week, while glancing through a book that contained numerous illustrations, I chanced to see the photograph of a man in the mountains, in a foreground of which was a formidable peak, its gullies lined with an antiquity of snow.

It breaks the wind, the rain, the sun. With all of Nature it seems one. So shall I, too, my soul fling far from earth to yonder farthest star.

That evening, desiring to go into a little more detail upon the subject, I set my pen to work and above 10 lines into 30 lines, which you may find on the back of this issue in the Eccentric, among the editorials.

I don't wonder why it took so long to settle with the Chinese leaders, when you stop to think that it is to get your laundry from a Chinaman if you've lost your ticket.

Birmingham Goodfellows braved the cold blasts of a winter gale, Dec. 8 by selling newspapers from early morning until late at night, raising a total of \$1,150. That money will be used by them to help their families.

One phase of the American State Bank trial going on in Detroit points out a modern lawyer who has just been convicted to steal and stay out of jail, still to much that a high-priced lawyer can keep his name from becoming a mere number.

A Detroit school teacher, in a speech, revealed himself as opposed to compulsory military training in institutions of learning. An irritated politician member of the School Board sought to bring him out.

RITES HELD FOR MRS. F. S. BUCK Wife of Township Justice Succumbs to Lingering Illness

Slowly, but very surely, the government in Michigan is getting into the discard. Created and put into effect years ago, when the present is a far cry from the past, it is a relic of a bygone era.

First National Bank SAVINGS BANK

Important Financial Change Completed Here Today

HUSTON IS PRESIDENT

An important financial change was announced today by the officers and directors of the First National Bank when they made known the purchase of the Birmingham Savings Bank by the First National Bank of Birmingham. The transaction was completed last night when the records and assets of the Birmingham Savings Bank were moved to the offices of the First National Bank.

The officers of the First National Bank are as follows: President, Elmer C. Huston, president; Charles B. Randall, vice-president; Harry W. Wallace, vice-president; Robert S. Porritt, vice-president; M. T. Jarvis, cashier; George B. Boutwell, manager; and J. M. Davis, Jr., assistant manager.

RITES HELD FOR MRS. F. S. BUCK

Wife of Township Justice Succumbs to Lingering Illness

Largely attended funeral services were held in the Birmingham Baptist Church Tuesday afternoon for Mrs. Floyd S. Buck, wife of Justice of the Peace, who died at 6 P. M. Sunday in Detroit after a long illness.

Mrs. Buck, who was 64 years old, had been ailing for several months, but had withstood the effects of her malady courageously until her weakened condition finally broke down on Sunday.

Santa Letters Printed

The first lot of letters written to Santa Claus by Birmingham boys and girls will be found on page 5, part 2 of this edition of The Eccentric. Others will be published next week.

Oscar Peterson Heads Exchanges

Oscar Peterson, assistant cashier of the First National Bank, was elected president of the Birmingham Exchange club Tuesday afternoon.

MAAN HIT BY AUTO, KILLED

Brother Of School Teacher Fatally Injured Crossing Woodward

Lester Tothacker, brother of W. S. Tothacker, science teacher at Baldwin High School, was killed when struck by a car while crossing Woodward avenue just north of Fourteen Mile road.

TAX PAYMENTS TOTAL \$29,592

\$8,942 Received For Schools; 'Committee Of 100' Active

A total of \$25,652.43 had been received at the Bloomfield Township offices late yesterday in payment of 1931 winter taxes.

Committee To Study Advantages Of City Government Named

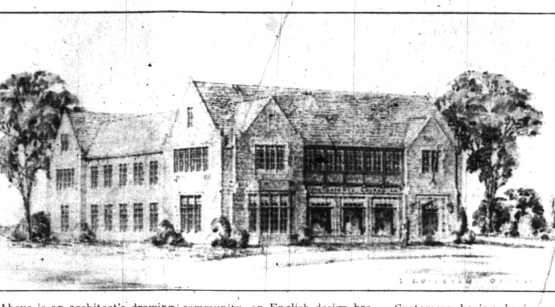
A. C. Utter, 872 Southfield road yesterday was appointed chairman of a committee from the Property Owners Division of the Birmingham Real Estate Board to investigate the relative advantages of city government.

Santa Dumps Toy Pack In Birmingham Stores

Playthings, Old And New, Shown Here To Make Child's World Brighter

By MARJORIE E. PORTER The Christmas season is upon us and with it the excitement of the toy hunt. A circus wagon, with honest-to-goodness cages possessing bars, between which are stuffed prizes, is propelled by the circus elephant, who, when wound up, will start the wagon rolling.

Detroit Edison Company Discloses Plans For New \$100,000 Two-Story Office Building On Merrill Street



Above is an architect's drawing of the new office building to be erected by the Detroit Edison Company on the south side of Merrill street, just west of Woodward avenue.

Customers having business to transact with the company will do so in comfort regardless of the weather, for the first floor is to have "conditioned" air.

EARLY EDITION

In order to give Birmingham advertisers an opportunity to advertise their merchandise once more in the Christmas trade, the next week's issue of The Eccentric will be published on Tuesday morning instead of Thursday.

FUNERAL TODAY FOR MRS. PALMER

Wife of School Board Head Dies Unexpectedly After Long Illness

Funeral services will be held at 2 P. M. today for Mrs. Elizabeth Allen Palmer, wife of Ray A. Palmer, president of the Birmingham Board of Education, who died unexpectedly at her home, 725 E. Maple, at 6:20 A. M. Tuesday.

GIRL CHARGED IN BANK THEFT

Darice Rowley, 25, Denies Guilt In \$1,400 Embezzlement Count

Darice Rowley, 25 years old, 1136 Villa road, is to be examined by Judge Russell Holland in Pontiac Municipal Court Wednesday on a charge of embezzling funds from the Birmingham Savings Bank which she worked as a bookkeeper and teller for three years.

DOG-OWNERS TOLD TO RENEW LICENSES

Notifications will be sent out to every dog owner in the village within the next few days by Miss Irene Hanley, village clerk, calling attention to the ordinance adopted by the commission last summer providing for village licensing of canines, and pointing out that all owners of dogs must renew before Jan. 1. Formerly the licenses had been sold by the county.

CONFER TODAY ON PHONE TOLL CUTS

Bell Officials To Meet Committee Of Local Business, Professional Men

A group of from 12 to 15 Birmingham business and professional men, headed by William W. Raymond, president of the Birmingham Real Estate Board, will confer with officials of the Michigan Bell Telephone Company here today over the possibility of securing phone toll reductions from Birmingham to Pontiac and Detroit.

Argument On \$10,000 Suit Against Village To Be Heard Today

Argument of the suit brought by William W. Raymond against the Village of Birmingham for \$10,000 is scheduled to be heard in Oakland County Circuit Court today.

STORES OPEN EVENINGS FOR XMAS SHOPPERS

Several Birmingham merchants are now keeping their stores open evenings until 9 P. M. in order to give more time to Christmas shoppers to select their gifts. Others are expected to follow suit next week.

ONLY 7 MORE SHOPPING DAYS

Let Birmingham Eccentric Advertisements Guide You

Tuggey Petitions Seek Dismissal Of Village Manager

Administration Foe Would Secure 1,000 Signatures Asking Parry's Immediate Dismissal

COMMISSION SPIKES RESIGNATION REQUEST

Petitions were put into circulation in the village yesterday requesting the Village Commission to demand the immediate resignation of Village Manager James W. Parry.

"Parry Needs No Defense," Village President States

"I think Mr. Parry and his work as manager needs no defense," said Harry Allen, village president, in a statement issued yesterday. "We hope to obtain from 500 to 1,000 signatures."

THE PETITIONS WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE COMMISSION AS SOON AS THE SIGNATURES AMOUNT TO 1,000.

The petitions were presented to the Commission as soon as the signatures amounted to 1,000. The Commission, he declared, he said that no real move was being considered against any village official, and that the petitions were simply presented to the Commission and further action left in the hands of the voters.

COMPLICATED DUTIES

"Coincident with the change of Birmingham from the status of a country village to that of a residential suburb of Detroit, the duties and works of the village manager have become complicated and difficult beyond appreciation of anyone lacking close touch with the details incident upon the administration of the village affairs."

TUGGEY PRESSES FIGHT

The request was made after some discussion, and the next week Tuggey took up the fight by petitioning the village commission to demand the salaries of village employees be cut and several employees discharged.

PARRY HAS BEEN THE CENTER OF THE OFFENSIVE WAGED BY TUGGEY AND LOWMAN AGAINST VILLAGE POLICIES AND PAYROLLS SINCE LATE OCTOBER WHEN LOWMAN REQUESTED THAT THE SALARIES OF VILLAGE EMPLOYEES BE CUT AND SEVERAL EMPLOYEES DISCHARGED.

THE GROUP WAS APPOINTED BY MR. PARRY AND MET AT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AT ITS ANNUAL MEETING LAST THURSDAY AGREED TO ACCEPT THE INCREASING LOWMAN'S CLAIMS OF VILLAGE TO ENTER THE FIGHT FOR TOLL CUTS.

The telephone company will be represented at the meeting by Chad Ritchie, local manager, and state engineers from Detroit. The group will also be represented by Mr. Raymond, Charles J. Shain, J. B. Howarth, Village Manager, and others.

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