

FIRE CHIEF WARNS XMAS DECORATORS

Warnings against Careless Use of Trees, Candles During Holiday

Warnings against the careless use of Christmas decorations, especially lighted candles, and a plea to keep the holiday season free from unnecessary fires were issued yesterday by Fire Chief Vernon Griffith.

"If the doctor has to be called, leave for the boy or girl who has eaten too much and not for the child suffering from burns," Chief Griffith pleaded.

Among the suggestions he made were: 1. Fasten Christmas trees firmly to the standard or holder. Keep them a safe distance away from the fireplace or any open fire. Keep matches away from children and trees.

2. Never use lighted candles on Christmas trees. Use electric lights. Do not use cotton, wool, tissue paper or celluloid ornaments. Use only metallic tinsel or other non-inflammable material. Asbestos fibre may be used for snow.

3. Remember that when trees are cut they dry out very rapidly and become more inflammable each day they are in the house. Dispose of trees not later than the first of the year and do not store in basement but put outside of house. Let the home church, school or store be warm but watch out for overheated stoves and pipes.

Every one can join the fight against tuberculosis in Michigan. Pennies, nickles, dimes, dollars—sent for tuberculosis Christmas seals—all help.

STAMPS

"An Interesting Gift Idea" Special Assortment includes 500 different stamps from all over the world. One World Stamp Album with space for 3,600 stamps... and 1,000 Universal hinges imported from England.

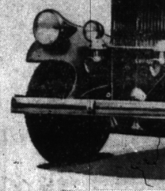
All for \$1 For sale starting Saturday, Dec. 19, and the following week as long as they last.

RODLIFF BROWN Stamp Dealer 524 Oakland Avenue, Birmingham

Good Things Santa Mustn't Forget Spiced cakes, Scotch shortbread, fruit-cakes, and Christmas cookies are a necessary part of the holiday festivities. We're Santa's agent in this part of the country... Kerstein Bakery 326 E. MAPLE

SPECIAL WEDGWOOD DINNERWARE 25% off No Exceptions All Costume Jewelry Rings 1/2 price La Belle's "Birmingham's Shop of Books and Gifts" 137 W. Maple Telephone 1225

1932 Pierce-Arrow Models Displayed Here



Pictured above is the model 54 Pierce-Arrow five-passenger club brougham, one of the cars featured in the introductory display of 1932 Pierce-Arrow models which went on exhibition Tuesday in the Birmingham branch of the Pierce-Arrow Sales Corporation, 820 South Woodward avenue.

Among the new features of the 1932 Pierce-Arrows are the box-grid frame which gives the car an additional rigidity that eliminates weaving; the ride control, which by means of levers at the instrument board, governs the operation of the hydraulic shock absorbers; the automatic starter

which eliminates the starting pedal. And the revised and simplified steering free wheeling transmission. The model shown above has a 137-inch wheelbase and is powered by a straight-eight motor developing 125 horsepower.

Villager Revealed As Man Who Gave College of City of Detroit Its Name

That Dr. Hugo Erichsen, 415 Harmon avenue, Birmingham was at least partly and perhaps entirely responsible for the naming of the College of the City of Detroit is revealed in an article published in a recent edition of the Detroit Collegian, official student publication of the college.

"I think it was in the early part of 1923," the article quotes Dr. Erichsen, "that I read in the Detroit News that the new university of the city was having trouble in finding a suitable name."

"I thereupon addressed a letter to Frank Cody, superintendent of schools, in which I suggested the following names: Wolverine University, Cadillac College, and the College of the City of Detroit. "In presenting the last-mentioned name I cannot do so, of course, lay any claim to originality and the merit of the whole proposition lies plainly in the timeliness of the suggestion. I am glad, however, that even this slender thread identifies me with an educational institution in which I have always taken the keenest interest."

The college has benefited through Dr. Erichsen's interest and generosity by the gift of more than 1,000 phonograph records, two phonographs, several records

ROTARIANS TO FETE CRIPPLED CHILDREN

All crippled children of Birmingham and community will be entertained in the Community House next Monday with a Christmas party given by the Birmingham Rotary Club. Santa Claus will be present, and there will be gifts and candy for every child. The club enjoyed a feather party at its meeting last Monday noon.

OBITUARY

NORVAL H. DAVENPORT Norval H. Davenport, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Davenport of 1083 East Maple road, who died in Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 6, was buried Saturday in Crooks Cemetery in Troy, following funeral services from the S. O. Wylie Bell Home for Funerals. The Rev. Henry S. Evans of the United Presbyterian Church officiated. Mr. Davenport, who attended the Birmingham High School, went to California 13 years ago for his health. In addition to his parents, he is survived by a brother, Deyo Davenport of Birmingham, and five sisters, the Misses L-litha and Ella Davenport and Mrs. Edward R. Smith of Birmingham. Miss Mabel Davenport of Battle Creek and Mrs. Garrie Cox of Flint.

Christmas Ice Creams at SHAIN'S W. Maple and Pierce "ORDER NOW"

for holiday cheer Fireplace Wood lengths to meet all requirements Advice of our expert is available without charge or obligation if your fireplace does not function properly. BROADFIELD FARM Phone 1169, Day or Night

Comedy, Sombreness Furnish Contrast For Latest Performance Of Players

By A. T.

Two rollicking comedies and a suggestive drama of stern New England provided the Village Players with a program of striking contrast for their performance in the Playhouse Saturday night.

The first offering, one of the comedies, found talented Waldo Fellows setting the pace as the would-be husband-of-tolerance in a skit entitled "Not Smart" by Willis Daniel Steele. Tolerance gives way to pity, however, when it is brought to the test by the supposed indiscretion of anyone so close at hand as the dough-faced cook in the kitchen, played most effectively by Mrs. Helen Newton. The sophy goes completely to pieces when the husband appears to be content involved in the scandal. While the husband sweats, his wife (Mrs. L. A. Morgan) and

flustered young neighbor (Mrs. C. H. Weatherhead), the latter worried by the alleged waywardness of her own mate, look quizzically on until complications unravel themselves on the entrance of what had not hitherto been supposed to exist—the maid's husband (Loren Stutch), who promptly spikes by both word and manner the growing superstition that his spouse was "not smart." Roles in the drama, a piece by Lita Creighton Smith entitled "The Rescue," were splendidly portrayed by Mrs. Edwar W. Shattuck as the elderly Elvira Warran, still clinging desperately to the worn traditions; Mrs. Russell Lewis as her attractive and still life-loving young niece, Anna; and Mrs. Margaret Strangham as the brusque but understanding maid, Kate. Anna would find escape in New York from the morose walls and musty atmosphere of the Warden household, but tradition and her aunt's selfish pleading deter her from breaking the bonds. Her situation grows worse when she is suspected of having crossed the Warden's some generations back. Kate, the extreme, Anna from her dilemma, but the process proves fatal to Aunt Elvira for it entails dragging the family skeletons from the closet and disclosing that, through a lapse in morals which the Warden could never speak of, even to one another, Anna is not after all, one of their number.

3 PHONE RECEIVERS ARE THIEF'S LOOT

The thief who broke into a house on Lot 195, Dove lane, sometime Saturday night, is evidently preparing himself to set a lot of listening, for his loot consisted of three telephone receivers, valued at \$50. Entrance was gained by breaking a basement window from the rear of the house, police said.

VICTIM OF TRAIN CRASH RECOVERS

Frank Elbertz, 45 years old, of Lake Orion, is recovering in St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Pontiac, today from the effects of injuries received when car he was driving in an attempt to escape from a Bloomfield Hills police car was struck by a southbound passenger train at the South Paddock street crossing in Pontiac early Monday evening. The police car was driven by Sergeant Delos Anderson, accompanied by Chief William Putnam. They were just leaving headquarters in Bloomfield Hills center when Elbertz passed in a high-powered machine traveling at a terrific speed, Chief Putnam said. They took chase and on two different occasions nearly caught up with Elbertz when the latter was forced to stop for red lights, but both times the signal changed just in time to allow Elbertz to get away, the Chief said. The two cars heared the railroad crossing together. Sergeant Anderson noticed the train and speeded across the tracks just in time to avoid a collision. Looking back, the two officers saw that Elbertz' car had halted, but did not realize it had been struck by the train until they saw Elbertz, bleeding profusely from cuts in the head, lying beside the road.

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

- Friday, Dec. 18: Poor Richard Dance at the Community House. Saturday, Dec. 19: Young People's Dance at the Community House. Monday, Dec. 21: Rotary Club to entertain crippled children at luncheon at noon; Lions Club to give children's party in the evening at the Community House; Miss Evelyn Smith to give party for class at Community House in the afternoon; American Legion Keno party at the K. of P. Hall in the evening. Tuesday, Dec. 22: Birmingham women's club to give Christmas party at Community House at 7:30 P. M.; Teachers Club also to give dinner party.

CALLS BLAMED TO "CHECK ARTISTS"

Housewives Complain Of Mysterious Requests For Banking Information Fear that "check artists" had descended on the village to work their rackets during the holiday season was expressed by Chief of Police John P. Hackett yesterday afternoon after it had been called to his attention that at least two housewives had been called on the telephone within the past few days by strangers who asked for details of home and business habits. According to the two women, their callers represented themselves as agents for a new directory of Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills and requested to be published soon. They asked the names and ages of members of the family, and then asked as what institution the husband did his banking and where he worked. "Banking information is always desired by 'check artists' because it enables them to write out checks on the proper bank and receive with less danger of detection," Chief Hackett said in expressing his intention of tracing down the mysterious callers if possible. Christmas time is always the favorite period for activity of this sort, he said.

THE ECCENTRIC

The Eccentric, which has published all previous editions of the Birmingham and Bloomfield Hill directory, is engaged on no such enterprise at present, and neither is anyone else so far, as known

"'Twas the Night Before Christmas, And all through the house . . . ."



THE BUSY MURMUR of the work-a-day world ceases. It is Christmas Eve . . . and over all the country there falls a soft blanket of peace. Eager, wide-eyed children are packed reluctantly out to bed, to await the advent of a miraculous Santy, who crawls through keyhole and chimney alike. White tissue-paper packages are piled waiting on the mantel. Games and toys are placed before the fireplace, or beneath the Christmas tree.

The breathless rush is over. We have time to sit by our hearths and reflect upon the things which the last year has meant to us. We pause and think of the pleasantness of our acquaintances. We realize that associations are the happiest things in life . . . and in the peace of this Eve of Christmas we wish joy to all, and increasing prosperity during the new year!

We come to know again that there is nothing in all the world more beautiful than the Holiday Spirit. This wonderful Spirit of Good will and good cheer which is ever prevailing at Christmas Time, brings out the best that is in us. It makes us more appreciative . . . kinder in our relations with our fellow men. It overwhelms us with a desire to live better, nobler lives . . . to think of others first instead of self. What a wonderful Spirit it is!

But wait! . . . Christmas is not yet here. And in one way, we are glad of it, for many things must be done in the meantime. We still need time to do our Christmas gift-buying and we want to do it leisurely and enjoyably.

For Christmas is, above all, the time of remembering. We keep this definitely in mind as we think of the gifts and greetings we'll send, remembering those who have been kind and friendly to us. We are careful not to forget anyone.

"Christmas Eve . . . white tissue-paper packages are piled waiting on the mantel . . . ."

Where, in these next few days, are we going to select the gifts that will be in those packages?

Are we going to spend hours of tiring search among the crowded stores of the city, and then discover later that many of the gifts which we drove miles for could have been selected in the stores and shops of our own village?

Or are we going to go to our own tradespeople first, to those who maintain their businesses close to our homes, whose friendly services mean so much in the happiness of our village and home life, and who need, now, the business we can give them?

Why not visit the Birmingham stores now? We will find them (this Christmas, more than ever before) quite in tune with present-day markets. We will find that their stores and shops are abundantly stocked with practical and beautiful gifts which will win appreciation from our friends. We will realize, as we visit our own stores and shops and show-rooms to enjoy knowing-what's-new, that there is little need to go elsewhere!

And then, as the Christmas Season ends in a spirit of friendliness and good-will, we will be satisfied and glad because we gave our patronage to the tradespeople of our own village, who are here to serve us every day in the year.

Read the Christmas advertising messages in The Birmingham Eccentric