

# BACK FENCING

By A MAN ABOUT TOWN

Santa Claus has really arrived in Birmingham, one can really say, "It won't be long now". Already folks are hurrying about the local streets with packages which do not look exactly like Food-stuffs for the daily table. Local stores have not been rubbed, except in spots, say, but the old Christmas spirit is beginning to make itself known again, as it usually does along about this time of the year... good times or bad.

Speaking about our local ladies telling about her trip, which she had just completed, to the Big Stores in the Big City to the south of us. She told about fighting her way through the crowds to the elevator; fighting her way in and out of said elevator and then struggling valiantly to get to the section of the floor which was her objective. Then there was the same procedure to get back outside the store and a grand mess of traffic to drive through before she finally made the open spaces. Shopping under such conditions certainly MUST be a pleasure!!!

Did you ever see or hear a wilder crowd of Kiddies than that which was on hand to greet Santa Claus last Saturday afternoon? Had to relate the local merchants missed on their guess as to the number of boys and girls who would put in their appearance at the reception. The police seemed to be helpless... the candy supply ran out several times... and poor old Santa Claus was surely given some pretty rough treatment. It was too bad that so many of the older boys and girls who give the wink at Santa were on hand to rush the smaller kiddies (and their parents) into the background. The treatment was a bit of a fish, too, as many of them received their treat from Santa or his helpers and then ducked back around the crowd and came back once, twice—yes and even three times for more sweets. Experience is a good teacher, they say, and we have been told that the merchants have already discussed a plan for next year, if the same procedure is carried out, whereby the disorder will be avoided and the little folks who wish to whisper in Santa's ear will be given a real opportunity.

William Dove, the nine-months old son of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Dove of West Brown Street, has, we believe, the distinction of being the youngest holder of a Social Security Number, properly registered in Washington and all, in these parts. It seems that Mr. and Mrs. Dove were asked to place their young son at the disposal of the James Handy Souders in Detroit, for a number of years in a campaign by a well known Baby Food concern in their advertising campaign. The youngster performed his part well and several fine pictures were secured of the lad as he was enjoying the delicious Baby Food. When the "takes" were completed and found to be satisfactory, Mr. Wm. Dove, Sr., was called in and informed that the same procedure is carried out, whereby the disorder will be avoided and the little folks who wish to whisper in Santa's ear will be given a real opportunity.

Times have changed. We were running through some copies of The Eccentric of September, 1928, and came across the old First National Bank. It was a half page Ad, and the heading read as follows: "We have an unlimited supply of funds to loan in and around Birmingham on 1st Mortgage Loans on improved property"... "4% on Savings"... Etc. In an issue of a few weeks later we read the advertisement of the First State Bank, which announced a Mortgage Loan under the following provisions: "15 years to pay"... No principal payment for 3 years". Yes, times have changed... Thank goodness!

We drop in on the party held by the Quadrille Club last Friday night and feel sure that a good time was had by all in attendance. It was great to see Vic Peck "swing his partner"... and the fellow really can execute a mean EWING. We also saw another incident which did our heart good: Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Cammare, their son Tony, and a sweet little lady who seemed to be Tony's best girl, were there and had a big time. The nice part of it was to see Tony and his Mother dancing together, while his Dad and the girl friend tripped off the light fantastic together... and all seemingly having the time of their lives. Such a comradeship between parents and their children certainly is a fine thing, and it's just too bad that more of it does not exist in this present day and age.

Several people have been heard to inquire about the new theatre which was announced as coming to Birmingham some time ago. To date we have not been able to find a single Realtor who knows anything about the new theatre. To their knowledge, no ground has been sold or leased by the Theater magnates nor do they know of any negotiations under way which might result in the new show place. The fact that there were not only one, but two new theaters in Birmingham's greatest newspaper was authentic—but that seemed to be about the end of the whole thing. It stirred up some excitement for awhile, and there are still folks around town who are asking, "When is that new theater going to open?" And when they ask us we just have to say, "We just don't know a thing about it."

There's one thing we do know, however, and that is that it is high time we folks were getting around to "Doing Our Christmas Shopping". A Sunday School boy or girl is saying, "Just two more Sundays until Christmas". A fellow who gets his pay every Saturday is saying, "Let's see, there's just three more pay days until Christmas". And those days will slip by very, very fast. So... We guess that we had all better get busy so none will be missed... none overlooked, when the Big Day arrives and Old Saint Nick has made his round. During the War they said, "Give 'til it hurts", and we'll bet our old folks has that a lot of us folks will do just that again THIS Christmas. That's the modern Christmas Spirit... and it's not so bad, either.

## Society To Hear Talk By Miss Krum

The December meeting of the Detroit Society for Genealogical Research will be held Saturday, December 11, at 2 P. M. in the Assembly Room of the Public Library, Woodward at Kirby. Miss Gracie B. Krum, secretary of the Detroit Historical Society, will be the speaker on "What the Burton Library Can Offer the Genealogist." Miss Krum has been chief of the Burton Historical Collection since July 1, 1914, and as such has had charge of the development of this major division of the Public Library. Her paper, in connection with the records and research committee, will be of considerable interest and value to the large number of students who avail themselves of this collection, as well as to members of the Genealogical Society. Meetings of the Society are open to the public. At the conclusion of the business meeting, the members will be given the usual opportunity of exchanging data and securing the assistance of the records and research committee.

The Same. "You see this stuff breaks down when exposed to light." "Politician—"Hub, just like a reputation!"

### Smile In The News

James Lanchester, of March Chunk, Penna., won American citizenship papers recently despite an erroneous agreement in naturalization court Lanchester answered all questions correctly until he was asked: "Who elects the President of the United States?" He thought a moment and replied: "The W.P.A." Judge William G. Thomas smiled, corrected him, and then approved his papers.—United Press.

### Happenings of Long Ago

Fifty Years Ago Birmingham now sends quite a delegation of business men to Detroit every morning, who return home the same night. They are Messrs. Slade, Akin, Edmiston, Randall, Merrill, Raymond, Quick, Alexander, Taber and Misses Uiter and Drake to hear from. There is no use of talking, anarchy must go—no room for it in this great, great country. Herr Most has had a fair trial by a jury of his own selection. Good! Let the work go heavily on. John N. Bath, of Southfield, drove into town last Sunday evening and captured the entire Methodist choir, and took them to Royal Oak. There they sang a choice selection of songs, to the delight of the Royal Oakers, and doing great credit to themselves. Our blue pencil arrived this morning from Chicago, by telegraph. You should see its beautiful symmetrical proportions, and its beautiful azure hue. Do you get into its color on this paper?

### Twenty-five Years Ago

Regular meeting of Bride of Oakland-Rebeccah Lodge next Wednesday evening. The degree captain requests that all members of the staff be present to practice. James B. Cooper, of Hubbell, Mich., is now King Bee subscriber on The Eccentric's list. He made this office a good old-fashioned visit and paid enough cash in to set him ahead until October, 1915. Surely, such visits are like angels, unexpected and welcome. All this just before tax time and Christmas, too. Some people are asking why it is that so many other people will put ashes and ash piles on the street. Who has a coat, size 42, for a young woman who is working her way through school. She is in great need of one. Or who will help with money? An appeal has just come from a minister's wife in the cold north, telling of a Christian's struggle for an education.

### Five Years Ago

Board May Reach bond compromise, tax drive opened. Women's committee to urge early payment of school levy. Call public meetings. Board hopes for cooperative agreement with bondholders. Re-jects first proposal. Library anniversary near; board adopts curtailments. Celebration for new building planned as directors announce cut in hours. Tax payments set \$2,000 here in three days. Statements to Bloomfield Hills are held up by Edison approval. Collection in doubt. Utility to darken 83 village lamps on Woodward, Maple, Civic Center. Concert aids dental clinic. Ypidant Normal Choir will sing here at Christmas festival. Angle parking on Woodward wins sanction. City committee grants business men's petition for 60 day trial. 51 join in request.

# Christmas at Cummingsham's

SHOP THIS

## WOODWARD AVE. AT MAPLE

ABSORBINE, JR.	\$1.25 Size	76c
ANACIN TABLETS	25c Size	14c
FROSTILLA	HAND LOTION 50c Size	29c
VICKS VAPORUB	35c Size	21c
JULIA MAY TISSUES	500 SHEETS	19c

### Christmas Cards BOXES OF 21 39c & 69c

Beautiful cards with appropriate sentiments for everyone. Gift Wrappings, Paper, cord, etc.

### TOY TRUCK 12 INCH 98c

Rolls along the floor on quiet composition wheels. Perfect replica of Cummingsham trucks. Brought to you at a special price so every youngster can have one.

### 24 INCH DOLL 98c

- She CRIES
- She GOES TO SLEEP
- She WEARS BABY CLOTHES

Soft fabric body, composition head, artificial hair, etc. Beautifully dressed with clothes you can take off.

### STREAMLINE TRAIN 98c

Locomotive, 3 passenger coaches, 8 curved and 2 straight sections of track. Reversible—moves backward or forward.

### WIND-UP TOY 98c

### 5 YEAR DIARY 98c

Marathon index pages for addresses and cross index. WITH LOCK AND KEY

### 4 Piece Glass DRESSER SET \$1.19

Assist. 4 Colors. Powder Jar, 3 perfume bottles and mirror tray. Ribbed design.

### MUSICAL POWDER BOX WITH PUFF \$2.49

Plays a tune when lid is raised. Spun aluminum.

### FALCON CAMERA & Carry Case \$2.98

Takes clear pictures 1 1/2 x 2 1/4 inches. Gift box.

### GILLETTE LECTRO SHAVER \$15.00

The only shaver with the smooth round head. Shaves instead of cuts. Get his auto-graph—we'll engrave it on the shaver FREE!

## TOY DEPT. ELECTRICAL DEPT.

HUMMING TOP 12c	Colorful Spins a long time.	TOY DIAL Typewriter 98c	Really types.
NUT BOWL 98c	Rustic Finish. Cracker and 6 Nut Picks. Natural bark finish. 3 1/2 inches wide. Varnished wood inside.	SNOWBIRD SLED 98c	Speed! Action! Varnished wood with heavy runners. Movable steering bar. Built for long hard use.
BEE-O-LIN 98c	WITH KAZOO. Half-size violin with real bow.	SHOOTING GALLERY 98c	2 Guns. 98 Darts. Harmless noiseless.
LIFELIKE CHARACTER DOLL 98c	28 Ins. Tall. Jointed arms, legs and head. Cummingsham face. Daintily dressed in removable clothes.	MECHANICAL BIPLANE 59c	18 IN. WIDE. Wind-up toy. Motor toy plane made of metal.
PARLOR CROQUET SET 25c	For 4 Players. Set this up on table-top or floor.	SOFT PLUSH MONEY BEAR 29c	Squeaky Toy. Cummingsham toy for little youngsters. Soft, silky.
TWO-SLICE TOASTER \$1.49	Lowering doors. Turns toast. With cord and plug.	2 1/2 Pound TRAVEL IRON \$1.19	Streamline chrome iron for ironing. Pressing.
CURLING IRON 49c	Tight grips. Heats quickly.	HAIR DRYER \$1.49	Dries quickly with steady blast of air.
Xmas Tree LIGHTS String of 8 with long cord and plug. Permanent Lights Stay on even if one burns out. MAZDA BULBS 2 for 5c.	HEATING PAD (3 Heat Switch) \$1.79	HOT PLATE 94c	Handy for quick cooking.
WILLIAM'S MEN'S SET 89c	Aqua Velva. Shave Cream. After-Shave. Talc and 5 Blades.	Treasure Chest of TEN BOOKS 49c	Colorful illustrated books for kiddies.

## DRUGS FOUNTAIN FEATURE TOILETRIES

\$1.00 Aderika Evacuant... 62c	60c Amolin Powder... 36c	60c Angelus Rouge... 36c
75c Baume Bengue... 46c	50c Barbosol Shave Crm... 29c	60c Corega Powder... 36c
60c Benzadrine Inhaler... 39c	50c Glastora... 29c	25c Golden Gint... 15c
35c Bromo Quinine... 18c	35c Ingram Shave Cream... 21c	50c Ipana Tooth Paste... 29c
\$1.25 Caroid & Bile... 73c	60c Italian Balm... 36c	50c Jergan's Lotion... 29c
75c Carter's Pills... 43c	\$1.00 Quip Hand Crm... 79c	50c Phillip Dental Crm... 29c
75c Doan's Kidney Pills... 46c	50c Syrup of Figs... 37c	\$1.00 Vitalis... 62c
\$1.20 Father John's... 71c	35c Tonsiline... 21c	
50c Grove's Nose Drops... 29c		
85c Mellin's Food... 59c		
60c Minit Rub... 37c		
60c Syrup of Figs... 37c		
35c Tonsiline... 21c		

### SPECIAL LUNCHEON 35c

Hot Chicken Sandwich With Coffee

### 1937 CROP GEORGIA PAPER-SHELL PECANS FULL POUND 24c

Shells so thin you can crack them in your fingers and get the big meats out whole.

## TOILETRIES

60c Amolin Powder... 36c	60c Angelus Rouge... 36c	50c Barbosol Shave Crm... 29c
60c Corega Powder... 36c	50c Glastora... 29c	25c Golden Gint... 15c
35c Ingram Shave Cream... 21c	50c Ipana Tooth Paste... 29c	60c Italian Balm... 36c
50c Jergan's Lotion... 29c	\$1.00 Quip Hand Crm... 79c	50c Phillip Dental Crm... 29c
\$1.00 Vitalis... 62c		

## FREE DELIVERY FROM 10 a. m. to 8 p. m. Phone 2133