

TODAY, Birmingham's Goodfellow army is on the march. But this is a different kind of army, not interested in shot nor shell; not carrying out the whim of a dictator in some mad venture in which the lives of mere men are of minor consequence.

This Goodfellows army is not like that. Not one of the soldiers has been enlisted against his will. Each one is serving for the pure joy of doing something worthwhile—for the pleasure of knowing that the few hours he spends will bear dividends many fold to a hundred families in Birmingham which would otherwise miss the thrill of a happy Christmas. This is the kind of soldiering which exalts the individual; the other kind is that which reduces a man to the status of a petty automaton—to shoot a gun or to be shot at.

During the Christmas season a spirit of gentle kindness seems to take possession of most people, and they "go about doing good." This proves that people CAN DO GOOD on a mass basis for a few days, and holds the promise that some day they may be able to spread that spirit over an entire year. Let's know they can!

SIXTY-SECOND YEAR—NO. 37

This Goodfellow army has a different goal. These men are not interested in conquering anything but hunger, disappointment and despair. They are not out to grab anything for themselves or for any one else. If the Doughboy thought he was underpaid at \$1 a day, a Goodfellow soldier could complain about getting a daily wage of exactly nothing. But he doesn't. In fact, he feels richly rewarded in the knowledge that some underprivileged child, some struggling mother or father will get a lift at Christmas time and in the wintry months which are to follow.

The Goodfellows' is not a one-day job—not merely a basket for Christmas day, but rather aid when needed all during the winter. In fact, most of the \$1,500 which they hope to assemble today will not be spent on Christmas alone, but during

the ensuing months, for an empty cupboard is just as serious on Jan. 25 as on Dec. 25. The Community House, the Boy Scouts, the many other public-spirited organizations—together too numerous to be mentioned here—are all partners with the Goodfellows in this yearly campaign to spread Christian goodwill.

There are no generals in this army—no one seeking any glory. But there are many leaders who have done their part year after year to keep the project going. In the old days, it was Vern Griffith and the firemen who assumed the leadership. In recent years, Jim Taylor and Rice Howell have been leaders, and with the aid of the Exchange Club and other organizations, have been responsible for keeping the movement alive and growing.

In any community, the men and women who really count—the people who really are somebody—are the ones who serve where they don't have to. They are the people who look beyond their own little lives and personal interests, and give of their time, money, and ability for the advancement of the whole community. They are the ones who serve on committees; attend meetings, give speeches, solicit contributions and toil in many other ways where they aren't required by anyone or by a job to do it. These are the big men and the important women in Birmingham or any other community.

And so, today, remember the Goodfellows! Be generous with your support. If you are an "armchair humanitarian," make up for it with a liberal contribution.

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THIS and THAT

By G. R. A.

Taxes: a collective noun. Taxpayer: an exclamation point. Period: interval between tax collection. Commas: average state of mind of taxpayer. Quotation Marks: those various "X's" etc., uttered by irate taxpayers.

Governments: sometimes a state of society in which the government may more and more get less and less.

Politicians: almost always people who make a career out of administering necessary and unnecessary taxes to the people ought to administer for themselves.

Highways: a stretch of dried cement so wide that some people can't afford to take chances on being reckless drivers.

Wars: a period between two ends of peace where the "leaders" tired of playing both ends against the middle, play the middle again.

Peace: a goal shot at by people who make speeches on the subject, and finally shot all to—by those who make armaments of war.

Battleship: a huge, floating fortress, kept in the water by staying afloat except when it encounters torpedoes or mines big enough to make it sink.

Europe: a place on Mother Earth where the ground sticks up high enough to keep the sea away and thus provide space where wars may be fought every few years.

What War Does to a Newspaper Office



The news, like the show, must go on. If war comes to America, the news may look like United Press headquarters in Paris do today. Air raid alarm has been sounded; the correspondents are prepared, but still on the job. Miss Henrietta Covo looks out window. Others, left to right, are: M. S. Handler, Richard McMillan, Andre Desbureaux, and Paul Keesemet.

Polite City Commission Hesitates to Tell Them No

Birmingham has a very polite and exceedingly diplomatic City Commission. For example, Monday night, it took the City Fathers two hours to say "no" on the Baldwin Court matter. Even then, they got the idea and went home. The controversy arose over the development of Baldwin Court, a 1.9 acre parcel of land facing south on Harmon avenue, between Lakeview and Greenwood, where a Detroit concern plans to build nine houses.

Principal protester was Frank J. Orman, of 743 Harmon, an attorney, who disliked that many houses on the lot, and declared that the zoning ordinance, according to his interpretation, does not permit "more than one house on a lot." He quoted the ordinance: "Sec. 601. No land or building within any district designated in this ordinance as a single-family residence district shall be used for other than the following specified uses: Dwellings for one family only."

That, Orman insisted, means that only one family should be allowed to live in the 1.9 acre lot in question.

"What about Robert Perritt's 46-acre parcel and Smith & Poppleton's big piece? Do you mean that only one family should be allowed on each of those?" Orman was asked by Commissioner Packard.

"We are not concerned with that at this time," Orman countered.

Whiting Raymond, 772 Willis, real estate man who negotiated the Baldwin lot, said:

(See **POLITE**, Page 2)

Collection of Taxes Is Begun in City

No definite figures on the amount of money already collected in taxes is available yet on the 10,500 statements mailed out on Dec. 9, Harold H. Corson, said Wednesday. Because of regular office routine, figures will not be available until 30 days after the tax statements were first issued.

Total levy for the city is \$289,106.17 at this time. County operating expenses are \$4,42, county debt is \$1.10 and the county drain-at-large is 27 cents which totals \$5.79 per thousand dollar valuation. School operating tax is \$7.50 and that school debt is \$6.50, totalling \$14 per thousand.

After Jan. 10, a four per cent collection fee will be levied on all those paying their taxes and after Feb. 29 they will be payable in Pontiac at 4 1/2 per cent. Mr. Corson stated.

Saarinan at Work On Finnish Relief

Eliel Saarinan, of Cranbrook has been appointed chairman of the Finnish Relief Committee for the Detroit area and is busy with details of its organization. Herbert Hoover is the national chairman.

Mrs. William A. Shaver, Warren court, has been active in Birmingham and had an announcement made in local schools that wearing apparel for the Finns may be brought to the schools, where it will be collected and forwarded.

Persons wishing to make contributions may mail their checks payable to the committee to Mr. Saarinan, at Bloomfield Hills, for the office has not yet been established in Detroit.

Sales Force On Job Today Is Listed Here

A long list of super-salesmen is on the job today, hawking newspapers on behalf of the Goodfellow Fund.

Following is a list of the toilers who have been invited to help the cause; included also are clubs and organizations which are sending help. However, the list is not presumed to be complete, according to Chairman James W. Taylor.

Junior Chamber of Commerce, John McTee, Hugo Cloutier, Dwight Baldwin, Charles D. Matthews, K. L. Bronson, Bill Merz, Maurice Lowman, S. Wm. Howitt, James J. Kelly, D. A. Green, George S. Scott, Sr., Chas. H. Holmes, Clarence R. Cummings, Wylie E. Groves, Edward H. Laird, S. O. Wylie Bell, Donald G. Ebert, Raymond H. Peck, Merritt Olsen, Richard H. Dewey, Glenn S. Bell, Arbon V. Dennis, Charles Mink, Earl Boice, Chas. Bridges, Glenn H. Bingham, John B. Camp, Jr., LeRoy D. Weiler, Matthew Cammareri, Manley Bailey, Joseph C. Grinnell.

R. C. Spencer, Roy K. Lewis, Fred Samuelson, Ralph Corryell, Forbes Haskell, K. B. Olson, Robert Allen, Art. Wingerden, A. C. Mason, Jim Spence, Wm. Renton, Earl Bisco, Arthur Holmes, Edwin Mink, Earl Boice, Chas. Bridges, Robert Adair, Earl Mudge, Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, Masons, Exchange Club, Rotary Club, Lions Club, Boy Scouts.

Post Office

Donald C. Voorhees, Charles W. Frederick, Edwin J. Harris, Bailey Chris, Joseph F. Macgregor, Harry E. Smith, Fred A. Roffes, Ralph Capling, John Mellama, Harold M. Clifford, Clifford D. Hunt, Joseph A. Dixon, Earl Parks, Gordon T. Westerly, Lawrence A. Westerly, S. H. Wikstrom, Donald E. Terry, O. W. Richard, J. S. Cobb, Grover Mell, E. C. Beers, Bert Fuller, A. H. Ellison, C. L. Stinson, D. C. Ellenwood, A. C. Peterson, C. C.

Forgotten?



Check Recreation Program in Three Nearby Cities

If Birmingham's present recreation program is inadequate, what sort of expansion should be cost? How much is it likely to cost? Should the City meet the entire cost? What about the Y. M. C. A.?

These and other questions will be discussed tonight in a meeting at the Community House, at 8 p. m., with the public invited to take part. The League of Women Voters is sponsoring the gathering.

What have other cities done? The programs of Ferndale, Mount Clemens and Royal Oak, three nearby cities of somewhat the same size as Birmingham, were investigated by The Eccentric and the report follows:

FERNDALE

Ferndale, whose population was 20,855 in the last census, 10 years ago, spends budgeted items totaling about \$6,850 a year. A full time recreation director is employed by the Board of Education at \$2,850 a year. The school board also appropriates \$3,000 for the summer playground program and the City of Ferndale appropriates \$3,000 for the playgrounds. The city also bears costs of flooding and maintaining five skating rinks, and supervision is expected this year through the WPA.

Otherwise, the year-around program is largely self-supporting. The scout basketball league has six classes, supported by merchants and gate admissions. Saturday mornings, there are boys' leagues with two WPA referees. One WPA time-keeper and one teacher who is paid \$2 a morning. Other self-supporting ventures are the five softball leagues with 28 teams, each of which pays an entrance fee of enough to meet umpire expense, etc. There is also a women's gym class and badminton class. Seven badminton clubs which operate under the auspices of the recreation commission. Friday's evening, there is a community program with 3 WPA workers for youth from 7 to 25 years of age. Social dance, games, handicraft, etc., are featured.

Highlights of the year are the playgrounds, of which nine are operated at a total cost of \$4,000. Supervisors and assistants are paid \$20 and \$18 weekly for the eight months of the year.

(See **RECREATION**, Page 2)

Charter Presented to Jaycees Here

Birmingham's newest service organization, the Junior Chamber of Commerce, formally came into existence at the Community House Tuesday night when fitting ceremonies attended the presentation of its charter to president William Smith by Thomas Reid, executive vice-president of the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce, of Chicago. Mr. Reid, in a forceful speech, pointed out the value of the Chamber in the development of young business men between the ages of 21 and 35, both in their respective vocations and in community service activities.

"Perhaps we can get an idea of what a Junior Chamber of Commerce is when we say that it is an organization of young business men learning civic consciousness through a program of action," declared Mr. Reid. "Our organization seeks to develop the talents and abilities of young men so that when they reach the age of 36 they can assume their rightful places among the more mature leaders of the 750 communities in which our membership of 110,000 young men carry on."

Make Good Citizens

"One of our basic objectives is the bringing to the minds of our members not only their civic rights, but their definite civic duties in the maintenance of a democratic free government," stated the speaker. He cited numerous activities which a Junior Chamber

(See **CHARTER**, Page 2)

Old Newsboys Hope to Push Sales to \$1500

110 Needy Families Here to Be Aided By Local Groups

With the goal that no family in Birmingham shall go without a merry Christmas, the city's Goodfellow Association is holding its 12th annual sale here Saturday.

Christmas baskets for 110 families are planned this year, according to Mrs. Julia K. Lally, of the

GOODWILL STORES OPEN

TIL

Beginning tonight, Goodwill stores will be open to 9 p. m., every shopping day until Christmas.

Community House, which is coordinating the Christmas Giving program. Excess toys collected by Boy Scouts will be sent to a needy Detroit district.

Funds raised by the Goodfellows will be open to 9 p. m., every shopping day until Christmas.

Pointing out that football and the newspaper sale, but all civic clubs, veterans' groups, policemen, firemen and mailmen, and just plain, ordinary private citizens are joining forces in selling newspapers.

Taylor has called for more (See **NEWSBOYS**, Page 2)

Lions Club Fetes High School Team

Final honors were paid to Baldwin High School's champion football team Wednesday night in the annual Lions Club dinner at the Community House. James M. "Bingo" Brown, a senior at Michigan State Normal College, was the principal speaker.

Foretold that your early cultural triangle is made up of the home, the church, and the school, many people say show me a reasonable fee for this type of business may be decided upon.

Beauty Rest Mattresses Replaced. Royal Mattress Co., These Phone 1-7074 Maple

New Tree Dealers Must Pay \$25 Fee

The City Commission decided Monday night that new Christmas tree dealers must pay the \$25 initial dealer's license fee as set up in the City's recently-enacted ordinance. Persons who have been in business before are not required to pay the fee.

Next year, the Commission decided, a smaller and more reasonable fee for this type of business may be decided upon.

Artisan of Good Will

Boy Scouts Rush Gift Toy Repairs

A plea for an un-wanted bicycle printed in last week's Eccentric brought remials, and the bike, dilapidated as it was, will be made like new by Boy Scouts to be presented to the 16-year-old boy whose heart was set on it.

Not only that, Boy Scouts are reconditioning nearly 2,000 other toys, games, and such things as sleds, velocipedes, and toy autos. In addition, dolls are being dressed (not by the Boy Scouts) and clothing collected for needy families in Birmingham.

The cause will be taken to one of the poorest districts in Detroit.

All day Saturdays and Sundays, the Scouts have been tolling in their room at the Community House, which looks like the repair department of Santa Claus' own factory at the North Pole, crowded with it.

Scarcely anything is beyond repair. Local expert artisans are drafted for such work as the boys can not master, and their services are donated.

Saturday, the Goodfellows will bring their papers and collect money for the Christmas baskets. Many agencies of the City are joining in the cooperative mission of Christmas goodwill.

NEWELL WRIGHT, 15 years old, of 243 Aspen road, and a member of Scout Troop B-5, puts a spot or two of paint on a Charlie McCarthy toy. Scouts of the City are tolling like Trojans reconditioning toys for the Goodfellow baskets.—(Eccentric photo.)