

# Two Contests, Children's Party Feature Merchants' Yule Program

When you extend Christmas gifts this year, why not take time to write something fine and personal on your name—something to attach to each gift? I'll wager that each of you can respond with sentiments that are as true and as heartfelt as mine that will linger with the recipient long after the gift is forgotten.

## The Birmingham Merchants' Yule Program

SIXTY-THIRD YEAR—NO. 35 BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN. THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1940 \$1.50 PER YEAR (In Oakland County)—SINGLE COPIES, 5c

# Forward Houses for 75% Tax Collection

## Stores of City Reveal Big Yule Program

A new and interesting "misplaced article" contest; a giant children's Christmas party; a \$100 prize competition for the best decorated homes are three features of Birmingham merchants' big Christmas Goodwill program which starts today.

Already, workmen have started to put up garlands of cedar on the front of houses and a decorative note to the Birmingham shopping district.

## Captives of War

Perhaps only the German leaders know how many captives there are who are holding in captivity, but they must number many millions. These are the burden upon the Germans, and unless released will become a major problem to Hitler's game. Try to imagine the almost complete breakdown of a sense of personal security and freedom among the millions of captives they must have Hitler! (And their own country's failure of leadership.)

## Now that the college football season is over, education will again become a major consideration in these factories of learning.

Professor S. A. Curtis, of the University of Michigan, told a local audience two weeks ago that "the church today has become routine, commercialized; it has lost all sense of the personal part that religion should play in all human activity." Without undue criticism upon the church, as an institution for good, I think every thoughtful person will admit that the professor has stated a weighty fact. But, aren't the people who attend church a part of the church? After all, people support that which they are at least slightly satisfied with; if the church might become really tried to thunder forth the elemental doctrine of Jesus Christ, do you think they would give up their lives at 51 per cent of his life as a Christian can join my company, just that the preachers would have jobs? (Would it be possible for the larger denominations, for instance, in a few metropolitan cities, to set up one edifice each where as near absolute Christianity is preached and practiced—just to see how the public will respond to the ultimate message of the church?)

## When Emotion Overcomes

Never in my life can I recall a time when I have had such a rush to my eyes as I stood with a multitude of people—at a parade or even a wedding. I have seen the people doff their hats, as our national flag was hoisted to the top of a staff. Neither can I observe without the same emotion overwhelming me. For it always impresses me with this great question: Why can't people, en masse, respond to the duties of everyday decency and cooperation as they do to such occasions as parades? People are, most of the time, desperately desirous of marching to the strains of harmonious human activity, when they have failed to develop, when they are type of leadership and following that can make a difference. So long as freedom remains, however, we'll certainly make strides toward that ultimate goal of this I am sure, as you are.

## 2 Contests and Children's Party Are Features

The "misplaced" article contest and "involve more than \$35 in merchandise prizes every week. In brief, every window of the 26 operating merchants will contain one item which is totally out of place in that store. For example, a ladies' store window may contain a man's necktie. On Page 1 of Part III, a ballot is printed. The idea is to get out the misplaced articles in each of the windows. List it on the ballot, and turn it in. The most accurate and earliest entries will get the five prizes offered, totaling \$35 in value. Turn to Part III now for your ballot and full details.

Wayne Mortimer is chairman of the committee arranging that contest.

"The big children's party will take place in a central spot—probably under the big municipal auditorium."

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## First Two Draftes Leave For Camp

The Selective Service act will become a reality this morning when two Birmingham youths report for induction into their year of service.

They are Everett Elmer Castler, 25 years old, 314 Hamilton street, whose name stood No. 1 on the official order list; and Richard George Shepherd, 21, of 1062 Birmingham street, whose name stood No. 14. They were to report at 7:30 a. m. at the Municipal Building, and were to be escorted by the first to go from this district. In company with a member of the local draft board, they were taken to the S. D. train for Detroit, and to finally report at the old Lightguard Armory. In company with other draftees, the youths, guided by an Army sergeant, will train for Fort Sheridan, Chicago, where they will be housed. They will be in the charge of WPA adult education here. The Board of Education is cooperating.

## Mr. and Mrs. Luther Allen Mark 50th Wedded Year

Mr. and Mrs. Luther D. Allen, two of the best-known residents in this area, celebrated on Tuesday their Golden Wedding Anniversary, and greeted more than 150 friends who braved the winter's first snowstorm to pay their respects.

Mr. Allen, of course, is known to thousands throughout Oakland County as Allen home on East Long Lake road. Among the guests were the Wandalettes and their daughter, Wendell L. Willis, club leader. They storm and rant because, say (See THIS AND THAT, Page 2)

## Old St. Nick Himself! Santa stopped in town this week and advised boys and girls to get busy on their Christmas letters. As an offer, every year, teachers will make the arrangements, and The Economic will print the messages.



## New Gym Rental Double the Charge In Other Schools

The School Board's new increased rate for gym rental in 1940 is \$35, double that charged in an average of 10 school districts in this area, the board was informed in a study presented to it Tuesday night.

## Old Toy Roundup Now Taking Place

This week—NOT next week—is earnestly urged by the Boy Scouts as the time for all Birmingham residents to gather today un-needed toys, games, books and clothing for collection and renovation by the Scouts, ultimately going to needy homes in this city and in Oakland county.

## English Speaking Class Offered

A class in English for foreign speaking residents will be given in Birmingham if enough are interested. It was announced Wednesday. The teacher would be the same as the one now giving citizenship instruction every Monday evening at the American Legion Home. Those interested should notify Mrs. Margaret Stringham, Birmingham library, who is in charge of WPA adult education here. The Board of Education is cooperating.

## Resident Asks City to Halt Gun Damage

Promiscuous shooting of BB guns and small rifles, and frequent damage to unfinshed houses, especially, was made an issue at the City Commission meeting Monday night when Mrs. Ernest Shipman, 1450 Maryland boulevard, asked that action be taken to halt this activity in Birmingham.

Her complaint listed perfectly with a more serious shooting incident Sunday when a 22 rifle bullet struck through the window of Byron Hostetler, 421 Madison avenue. Numerous other complaints have been received and several guns have been confiscated by police within the past week.

## Rifle and BB Gun Complaints Keep Police on Jump

Mrs. Shipman declared: "You would think I was living in Britain—I am almost afraid to turn on the lights in my own house."

She related that last Tuesday evening she was in front of her house when several boys began peering a kitchen window with BB guns, cracking it.

## Mothers Honor Gridiron Sons

The annual football banquet given by the mothers of this year's squad was held last evening at the Community H. use. Mrs. H. Ross Mack, chairman, of this event, announced that 180 persons, including high school and college athletes, were present.

## Sign Tom Harmon For Grid Dinner

Tom Harmon, America's No. 1 gridiron star for 1940, has agreed to speak at the annual Lions Club public football dinner honoring this year's Baldwin High School football team, to be held in Pontiac at 8:30 p. m. on Wednesday evening, Dec. 11.

## 'Hev-en-ly Products' To Be Made Here

"Hev-en-ly Products" are soon to emanate from Birmingham. The City Commission Monday night granted a new merchant's license to the Hev-en-ly Products Co., 314 South Eastwood avenue, for the manufacture of fancy preserves of imported fruit.

## Warm Jail Is Denied Mr. Sweeney

Tom Sweeney, 52, whose home is where he hangs his hat, kicked out a plate glass window in the Max Brock, Inc., office on Woodward avenue Tuesday morning, figuring that with winter coming on, three months' room and board, seven behind bars, would be a good thing. But police and Justice Forbes S. Hascall outsmarted Mr. Sweeney.

## Basketball League Now Being Formed

Despite the fact that gymnasium rental has been more than doubled this year by the school board, the YMCA basketball league will attempt to carry on, it was announced Wednesday.

## Best Mark Yet Is Set by 9th Week's Winner

An artist with a love for football is the winner of the ninth football forecast contest.

He is Gordon R. Craven, 2988 Fairway drive, and his ballot came the nearest so far to achieving perfection. Setting a record, the best in nine weeks, he correctly predicted the winner of each of 14 games except one, failing to foresee the upset of the Washington Redskins by the New York Giants in the pro football league.

## New Budget Finally Drawn by Officials

Birmingham school district's budget, four months overdue, was given a first reading by the Board of Education Monday night, calling for operating expenditures of \$266,230, and debt service of \$94,304.95, an increase over last year. All salaries will stay at the same level. A public hearing has been set for Tuesday evening, Dec. 10, for review of the financial plan which depends on an unprecedented 85 per cent tax collection to come out in the black.

## Christmas Mail Suggestions Given

The Christmas mailing season is near at hand, and Postmaster Joseph A. Byrne has issued his usual suggestions to post office patrons.

## Woman's Leg Broken When Hit By Car

Mrs. Mary Willis, 38 years old, of 731 Davis street, received broken leg at 2 p. m. Saturday when she crossed Woodward avenue near Highway 28 and was struck by an automobile driven by James Kanner, 511 George street. Kanner was held at a Detroit police while she was running across the highway and that Mrs. Willis, about 10 feet from the road, was struck by his car, traveling about 30 miles an hour.

## 3-U.S. Stamp

"Address your mail correctly, with three-cent stamps, and use three-cent stamps when possible, for first class postage insures forwarding or return to the sender if that is necessary."

## Manly early, also sorting clerks appreciate it when cards intended for Michigan are tied together in one bundle.

## Bonny Rest Mattress Repaired.

Bonny Rest Mattress Repaired. Royal Mattress Co. Phone D-1078