

SIXTY-THIRD YEAR—NO. 32

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1940

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# “Tea for Two”

By NELLIE HURLEY MINIFIE

IT WAS to Bloomfield Hills that I went this week where I heard from the lips of one of its most active members the work that is being done right here in Birmingham by the Hills branch of the Detroit Junior League. Although the local unit is actively associated with the Detroit League, Bloomfield members have their own private work project that takes them no further than the Community House right here in Birmingham.

At the fall of 1937 members who lived out here had been driving into Detroit to give their services for Junior League activities but that year they approached the Community House officers with the suggestion that they request to open the Thrift Shop which had been closed since early spring of that year.

**Miss Otter New Chairman**  
It was Doris Otter, newly elected chairman of the Thrift Shop board, who told me the story this week. It was from her I learned that before the Shop closed temporarily in 1937 it had been run by one individual with whatever volunteer service she was able to obtain.

"And of course," Doris continued, "the job could not be handled by one person. There is a considerable amount of work connected with operating the Shop and to run it successfully more than one person is necessary."

"That the Thrift Shop is operated in an extremely business-like fashion is shown in the figures which Doris released to me this week. During that first season that the Junior League handled the Shop \$717 was turned over to the Community House to be distributed for charitable purposes. Last year's figures, not quoted to me exactly, were between \$1,200 and \$1,500.

These figures are particularly edifying. I believe, when you consider that articles received for sale at the Shop sell at figures as low as one, two and five cents. In view of this it is really amazing why the Thrift Shop has from 25 to 30 steady customers who come week after week in search of clothing and household articles.

On Tuesdays and Saturdays there are at least 30 people lined up awaiting the moment when the doors are thrown open for business, Doris told me.

**Began at Century's Turn**  
In an extremely chic mustard-colored jacket over a black woolen tailored dress and with only a single strand of pearls to offset the severity of the ensemble, Doris sat in the lovely and colorful Regency sitting room of her parents' home out in the Hills explaining to me the aims and ideals that were founded in New York City in the early 1900's by the cream of that city's debutante season. These girls were tired of the social froth and were looking for projects which they could take up in their own neighborhoods.

In 1914, Doris continued, a Junior League group was organized in Detroit and their first project was the canteen which was established to serve always and better meals for Detroit's working girls.

Since that year the League's activities have broadened until today they embrace numerous pet projects including the Detroit League for the Handicapped, the training cottage for blind children and the volunteer placement service, to name only three.

**Two Aims**  
Since its organization at the turn of the century, an elaborate program by-by-laws and a constitution have been drawn up around the two aims of the Junior League: (1) To foster interest among its members in the social, economic, educational, cultural and civic conditions of their community and make efficient their volunteer service. (2) To raise funds for the maintenance of such work as is undertaken.

And from this beginning in the first part of the 1900's, Doris continued, the Junior League has grown until now it extends from Long Island to Los Angeles. Today its membership runs into high figures and the charity work that it does from coast to coast and from the Great Lakes to the Gulf assumes gigantic proportions, she explained to me.

In Bloomfield alone there are 40 active members and about 12 sustaining members who work practically all the time on the shop project. Their work in this vicinity is gradually increasing, Doris told me, as shown by the fact that the library which they have put into St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Pontiac. This library was put in at the hospital's own request and is particularly in charge of Mrs. Benjamin Brewster.

**Parliamentary Law Course Is Offered**  
A law teacher has been added to the Adult Education staff according to the announcement of Howard D. Crull, superintendent of the Birmingham Schools. The new instructor will be available without cost to officers and members of clubs, civic organizations, church groups and individuals who desire to acquire a knowledge of and experience in parliamentary law.

The new teacher is Otto E. Tuttle, who has a degree of LL.B. from the Detroit College of Law. According to Mr. Crull, the new teacher is offering a course in Parliamentary Law covering all the phases of the period. Questions are in order at all times. The instructor is also available for personal consultation.

Information regarding other classes for Adults may be had by calling the Board of Education office.

**Change of Management**  
Item three concerns this column, which from this day forward is in the capable hands of Outstanding Eagle Scout Bill Roberts. Due to engagements of a more pressing nature, we will be away from him on almost every publication date from here on. However, Bill has our blessing and surely ought to turn out a column more frequently than we have been able to do.

**B-12 Changes Placed**  
Troop B-12 has been offered the auditorium of the new St. Hugo of the Hills Country Day School in which to hold its meetings. The boys and leaders of the troop felt themselves crowded in the basement room of the Community House, and so moved to the hall of Holy Name School where the floors were too waxy so much drilling or playing of "steal the bacon," so Holy Name was also unsatisfactory. At this juncture in stepped the Rev. Daniel Whelan of St. Hugo of the Hills, who offered the use of his school's auditorium which he did joyfully and immediately accept.

The Scout Room in the Community House has a record of Scouts and Scout troops that have vacated it as soon as possible. Hardly a major troop has not occupied it at one time or another, but only when they could find a better place, of which there are many. Troops B-1, B-2, B-3 and B-4 of the San Scouts have all used it in times past. (Just why they left we could never see; we always liked it.) The latest troop to move in is troop B-7, which for some reason or other has moved from its comfortable quarters in Pierce School.

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## ... Visits with Birmingham and Bloomfield Hills Women ...



Doris Otter

of seeing that two members of the League are working at the Shop each day it is open. Also active in the affairs of this organization are Mrs. John T. Huntington who, by virtue of being chairman of the entertainment committee, is in charge of the League's luncheon in the spring and the bundle teas.

Mrs. Fred M. Dorris is in charge of publicity. Mrs. George T. Bogard represents the group on the Community Council and Mrs. Fred Schirmer is in charge of the marketing committee.

**Prices Set Weekly**  
This last committee is an interesting one for the women working with Mrs. Schirmer. Doris told me that it is a very busy one and every article that comes into the Shop, meeting each Friday at the Community House, they set the price on everything.

Also important members of the League are Mrs. Vernon B. Myers, who is in charge of donations, and Mrs. Carl A. Underhill is chairman of the motor corps. Mrs. Underhill, as her title would indicate, sees that donations that are not taken directly to the Community House would indicate, and too, there is Mrs. Paul B. Hoffman who is chairman of the Thrift Shop project the first year that it was started out here, and Mrs. W. O. Briggs, Jr., who is annually active in the League and who is also a member of the board of directors of the Community House.

These are but a few of the women who have given to Birmingham its Thrift Shop. They have given and will continue to give unstintingly of their time, talents and energy that those less fortunate may have a few of the necessities.

## 2 Brennan Youths In Two Crashes

Two drivers who didn't see each other until it was too late were involved in a crash Friday. Arthur Brennan, 16, 5165 Long Meadow drive, was going north on Oxford drive, while Mrs. Dorothy Minor, 309 Pleasant, was going west on Henley drive. They collided and Mrs. Minor received a bump on her head.

Robert B. Brennan, 23, also of Longwood drive, was driving west on East Maple at 4:34 a. m. Sunday, when he dived off and struck the abutment of the Grand Trunk underpass. He was not reported as injured.

Eccentric classifieds pay!

**Highlights**  
See these now:  
515 MADISON \$8000—15%  
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1217 WASHINGTON \$6750—10%  
Why miss the boat? Tomorrow may be too late.

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# WASN'T IT A Grand PARTY

Remember all those other Fathers and Mothers and your children's playmates you saw last week at Birmingham's Hallow 'em celebration?

Wasn't it a corking good solution of a difficult problem? It was hard to tell who had the best time—Mothers, Fathers or Children—or maybe it was only the Fathers joining in the parade with all the kids—Seems like everybody in town was there—not just to chaperon either.

So we say with gratitude and enthusiasm it was a Grand Party and a swell job, well done by the very public spirited hosts.

When you think of Birmingham as your home—your community—do you recognize its unique community advantages? It still has all the charm of the "village" of 20 years ago! But it has even more today. Take time out—drive about for an hour or two—see how it has developed.

**BIRMINGHAM** has so much to offer that we may be prone to pass it off lightly. You can help sell Birmingham in a tangible way by telling your friends who ought to live here—these things.

Birmingham taxes average 3% lower than Detroit's. Driving time to Birmingham has been cut 10 minutes via one-way streets. You can commute to Detroit for 47c per ride—bus 25c. Large 80 foot bldg. sites are available with all improvements near schools for as low as \$10 per foot.

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