The Year in Review -- What Happened in Birmingham in 1941

JANUARY 9

Frank S. Pickard, veteran member of the City Commission, submitted his resignation, explaining that his new position in defense work would keep him in Baltimore, Md., for some time.

Second Lieut. Garritt L. Mack, 25, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Mack, of Yorkshire road, met a tragic death the previous week in an airplane crash in Texas. Lieut. Mack was an instructor at Kelly Field.

George Bingham Boutwell, prominent Birmingham citizen, passed away at his home on Lakeview avenue last week.

Kenneth Calhoun, 17-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold M. Brown, of Waddington road, was notified that he had received an appointment to Annapolis.

JANUARY 16

Fifty-six students were named to graduate with the mid-year class from Baldwin High School. Doris Franklin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Franklin, was named valedictorian for the class and Marie Russell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Russell, salutatorian.

William Cox Allee was appointed a City Commissioner to fill the vacancy left by Frank S. Pickard, who resigned the previous week.

James W. Taylor was elected president of the Birmingham Federal Savings and Loan Association at the association's annual meeting Monday evening.

H. Kenneth Bayman, prominent Insurance Agent and prominent member of an old Franklin family, was buried in Franklin Monday afternoon.

Mrs. L. C. Howe was re-elected president of the Birmingham Branch of the National Farm and Garden Club.

JANUARY 23

Jim Thomas, Randall Johnson, Carleton Patterson, Jr., Edward Sumera, Charles Stanley, Edward Brewster and William Brewster received Eagle Scout degrees at the annual winter district Court of Honor held at the Community House.

Malcolm W. Bingay, editor of the Detroit Free Press, spoke at the First Presbyterian Church for the annual Church service sponsored by the Men's Club.

Shirley Ann Ruffner, 9-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Eldred, 1160 East Ruffner, was injured in an automobile accident at Lincoln Avenue and Woodward.

JANUARY 30

Barbara Beecher and Dick Neely were chosen Queen and King, respectively, for the second annual Birmingham Winter Carnival to be held at Quarton Lake.

George R. Averill, publisher of The Eccentric, was presented with a plaque at the Annual Typographia of the Michigan Press Association, as the first award for general excellence for weekly newspapers over 3,500 circulation.

A floodlighting system for Field football gridiron was ordered by the Board of Education. The project, costing about $3,200, would be self-liquidating from increased gate receipts, it was determined.

FEBRUARY 6

James S. Offerstad, vice-president and treasurer of Michigan Seamless Tubing Co., died suddenly of a heart attack.

Shelton Wright was awarded the Silver Beaver at the annual Scouters' Banquet held at the General Motors Building in Detroit. This honor is awarded for exceptional service to scouting.

City Manager D. C. Egbert suggested construction of a new 2,000,000 gallon storage tank to meet peak summer needs.

FEBRUARY 13

Mrs. Clinton E. Sears, of Ridgedale Avenue, was elected president of the Community House Board of directors for the second year at the annual vote held at the Community House.

An important test case affecting several thousand Birmingham taxpayers in different special assessment districts had been filed in the Michigan Supreme Court by a bondholder group seeking a new tax levy to pay off bonds in default.

FEBRUARY 20

Outland Riding Stables on West Maple Road, were completely destroyed by fire in the early hours which made it impossible for firemen to curb the blaze.

Thomas Reaney, 664 West Lincoln, foreman at the Ford Motor Co., received severe cuts from an unidentified prowler who tried to enter his home.

FEBRUARY 27

Leonard Pickering, 12-year-old scout received a gold medal and certificate of heroism conferred on him by the National Court of Honor for saving the life of 5-year-old Richard Morrow in December.

Kellie E. Groves, of Hanna street, a trustee on the Board of Education, was named chairman of the Birmingham Better Schools Committee.

James D. Cox, proprietor of a tavern in Berkley, died of a skull fracture and internal injuries received when his car hit a guard rail on the center parkway of Woodward avenue.

MARCH 6

Plans were completed for the special pre-opening show of the new Bloomfield Theatre, with the entire proceeds going to benefit the Community House fund.

Anne Savage and Perey Guest were chosen for the leading roles in the all-school play, "Tish."

The Lions Club appropriated $50 for repair work at Camp Holy Boy Scout camp in the area, at its luncheon meeting at the Community House.

MARCH 13

Elaine Newhall, 11-year-old daughter of the Elbridge C. Newhalls, snipped the ribbon in the pre-opening ceremony of the new Bloomfield Theatre.

Federal aid was being sought for the widening of Maple Avenue.

Willmer E. Moody, Birmingham City Commissioner, was named general chairman of the St. Joseph Mercy Hospital drive, taking the reins from Henry Scripps Booth, forced to go South for his health.

Betty Lou Thurman, Jacqueline Buck, Doris Minks, Norma Hasgkins, Jacqueline Peluso, and Marianne Hershaw, local girl scouts, received the highest award in scouting—the Gold Curve—at the Court of Awards.

MARCH 20

Strong opposition to the city's planned erection of a new 500,000 gallon water tank at Hunter Boulevard and Wimbleton drive was voiced at the City Commission meeting on Monday night.

"Tish," the all-school play, was scheduled to take place at Baldwin High school on Thursday and Friday nights.

Baldwin High school grounds, base of Lindon Park, in 1941, was made more beautiful during the week as the result of a cooperative venture by a half a dozen Birmingham landscape men and others. Norway spruce trees were donated and planted—cost of which would otherwise have been around $2,000.

MARCH 27

Pay raises, which meant approximately $1.85 a week more for the average Birmingham teacher, were instituted by the Board of Education at its meeting Tuesday night.

Mid-year promotions, adopted in Birmingham schools 18 years previously, were to be abandoned in favor of annual promotions, according to a decision by the Board of Education.

Mrs. W. Whiting Raymond was recently elected president of the Birmingham Musicale, and was to take office in May.

Mrs. Hugh D. McLeese was named president of the Birmingham Branch of the American Association of University Women.

APRIL 3

Carolyn Kane, 15-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Kane, was judged winner in the patriotic essay contest sponsored here by the VFW Auxiliary.

It learned this week that Birmingham's Post Office was to be decorated with a mural painting. Michigan artists have been notified of a competition ending in June, at which time a jury will select the sketch to be used.

A new mark of $158,000 in building permits was reached in Birmingham during the month of March. This was the biggest monthly total for several years.

Mrs. Roy B. McCutcheon was elected president of the City Council of the Parent Teacher Association in Birmingham.

APRIL 10

Dr. George A. Marin was elected president of the Birmingham Rotary Club at the meeting on Tuesday.

One hundred high school students were to leave on Thursday afternoon on the annual Washington trip.

A feeble vote was cast in Birmingham on Monday, at which time John E. Martz and William Henry were re-elected to the City Commission. Florence B. White and Howard D. Crull were elected to fill two vacancies on the Library Board, and Erwin H. Neff was re-elected constable.

APRIL 17

David Levinson was re-elected as Chairman of the Oakland County Board of Supervisors at the board meeting in Pontiac Tuesday evening.

The Birmingham National Bank and the Wabeek State Bank were holding open house on Thursday evening as a part of the state-wide "Know Your Bank Week" campaign being carried on.

City Manager Donald C. Egbert was authorized by the City Commisson this week to purchase a site on the East side of Hunter Boulevard between Ridgedale and East Maple avenues for the erection of a new water tank.

More than $2,000 had been received in pre-campaign contributions for the annual Community House drive, which was to begin the following week.

The printing department of The Birmingham Eccentric had been awarded first prize among 11,500 publishing-printing plants, competing the annual National Editorial Association.

APRIL 24

Arbor Day celebration in Birmingham was to be observed on Friday afternoon, at which time a large Malus Floribunda Crabapple tree was to be dedicated at Hunter Boulevard and Woodward avenue, representing the 1,124 flowering crabapple trees which had been planted in Birmingham during the spring. The flowering crabapple tree campaign had been sponsored by the Birmingham Branch of the National Farm and Garden Club.

Mrs. George T. Hendrie had been named state chairman of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

The annual Birmingham Community House drive, in which 250 workers were participating, opened officially at the Kick-Off dinner at the Community House Wednesday night.

MAY 1

Girl Scouts of Birmingham officially adopted a ten-year-old girl living in England this week.

A house to house canvass to acquaint Birmingham voters with the suggested two-mill tax increase proposal was to be staged from May 7 to 22, according to Mrs. F. H. Mellinger, president of the City P.-T.A. Council.

Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Wilkinson were named commander and president, respectively, of the VFW Post and Auxiliary.

Dulcie Krasnick, 13-year-old Barnum student, won the district title in a spelling bee held at Quarton School. This was the second consecutive year that Dulcie has obtained this honor.

MAY 8

Guy C. Smith was elected chairman of the American Association of Advertising Agencies at the annual meeting of the organization held at Hot Springs, Va.

Funeral services were held Wednesday for Mrs. Loren T. Robinson, former Birmingham resident, who passed away Monday at her home in Detroit.

The Rev. Theodore Wuggazer, Jr., pastor of St. Pederson's Lutheran Church, announced this week that construction on a new colonial-type church building for his congregation would be started in the near future.

MAY 15

New building in Birmingham, valued as a quarter of a million dollars, came to standstill when carpenters, bricklayers, plasterers, electricians and other building trade workers became idle in a sympathy strike over the teamsters union in Detroit.

Around two hundred persons were expected to attend the first Oakland County rally to be held Thursday evening at Cranbrook.

Carol Jean Watt and Michael Carney, juniors at Baldwin High School, were selected to represent Birmingham at the Junior Award Day at the University of Michigan.

MAY 22

Mrs. William DeGraff was elected president of the Piety Hill Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Dick Gilberd was chosen valedictorian for the June graduating class, and Marion Gilbreath and Barbara Burton tied for salutatorian honors.

Taxpayers of Birmingham were to have the opportunity to express themselves on the city's expenditures on Monday evening at the annual public hearing.

A woman, still unidentified at 1:30 a.m., Thursday, was killed instantly last night when struck by a truck on Woodward Avenue in Bloomfield Hills, near Quarton road.

Baldwin High's A Capella Choir was to give its third annual concert in the school auditorium on Monday.

MAY 29

Plans for a Birmingham-Bloomfield drive for the U.S.O. were being formulated by local citizens. Charles J. Shain was general chairman.

Mr. and Mrs. Krejci, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Krejci, and Robert Peck, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Peck, were awarded scholarships to the University of Michigan.

Maurice H. Fouracre was appointed new principal of Quarton School upon resignation of Miss Madalene Frederick, acting principal.

JUNE 5

The Rev. Glen W. Harris, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham, was to receive his Doctor of Philosophy degree from the University of Pennsylvania the following week.

Bloomfield Hills High School graduated 14 students for 1941.

The most hotly-contested election in Birmingham since 1939 faced Birmingham voters on Monday when they were to vote on the two-mill tax increase for support of the local schools.

JUNE 12

When the Rev. Joseph A. Mears, pastor of the United Presbyterian Church of Birmingham, was called to a new pastorate in New Jersey, members of the congregation decided to close the church until further plans could be made.

Birmingham voters rejected the proposed income of two mills with a vote of 975 to 446 in the election on Monday. Lee E. Joslyn, Jr., and John H. Rosso were re-elected to the board of education.

Spencer Peck, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Peck, was awarded his Eagle Scout Badge at the Scout Court of Honor.

The Birmingham Lions Club was the first local club to subscribe to Defense Bonds. They purchased a $75 bond.

Three traffic fatalities occurred within three days in and near Birmingham during the week. William Barnes, 12-years-old, was killed when his bicycle was struck on Tuesday afternoon near the Post Office. George L. Jones, 69 years old, died Tuesday of injuries received Sunday in a collision on Hunter Boulevard. Arthur F. Estes, Jr., 26, died Sunday following a motorcycle fnishap northeast of Birmingham.

JUNE 19

Lillian Silk, Mrs. Frederick Holtz was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Humanities at the annual commencement exercises of Wayne University. At the same time Michigan State University awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws upon Charles P. Wilson.

Birmingham's Summer Recreation Program was to open on Monday under the direction of Lloyd G. Chapman.

Seniors of Baldwin High School, numbering 150, received their diplomas at commencement exercises held in the school auditorium on Thursday evening. Dr. Carroll Sibley, of Los Angeles, was the featured speaker.

Draft registration for men who had attained their 21st birthdays since Oct. 16, 1940, was to take place on Tuesday, July 1, at the Municipal Building.

JUNE 26

Funeral services were held on Monday for Frank L. Main, prominent citizen of Birmingham and vice-president and sales manager of the Thermoid Company, Detroit.

The Rev. D. B. Jorgensen, of Highland Park, had been appointed new minister of the Embury Methodist Church.

The Wabeek Building parking lot was opened to the public by action of the City Commission on Monday when the Commission accepted the offer of the corporation, giving the public the use of the lot in exchange for an application of calcium chloride, cheap dust-layer.

JULY 3

Paul Abbott Andreae, 4, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne A. Andreae, died last Friday evening as the result of injuries received when he fell from a second-story window of the Andreae home on Harmon drive.

Only 27 men signed up in the second draft registration, which included all men who had reached their 21st birthday since the first registration last October.

Bonds in approximately $1,000 was established to the property of R. E. Kearn, on Bluebird, last Sunday morning in the first general alarm fire in Birmingham since November.

JULY 10

Taxpayers gained a victory as handed down by the Michigan Supreme Court declared the tax sale suit brought by bondholders to force the City of Birmingham to levy special assessments on property that had gone through tax foreclosure. Approximately $100,000 was involved in Birmingham alone, it was estimated by treasurer H. H. Corson.

Plans for a parade were held on Monday morning for Richard W. Lawler, lieutenant of the Birmingham police forces and oldest man in the service, both in years and service.

Russell H. Fisher was recently named Commander of Edward Post, American Legion in the annual election. He succeeded Carl W. Eley.

The Baldwin Public Library installed a new book charger this week.

JULY 17

Thirty six eligible voters attended the annual meeting of the Birmingham school district on Monday night.

A vote of 16 to 17 was cast in favor of continuance of the plan of furnishing text books for high school students.

At the close of the U.S.O. drive Charles J. Shain, chairman announced the total receipts to be $4,500. Money contributed but not yet turned over to the treasurer should swell the total to the original goal of $4,000.

Five city administrative officials were re-appointed and their salaries raised at the City Commission's meeting on Monday. All were given salary increases of from 3 to 4 per cent.

JULY 24

Collection of old aluminum was to take place in Birmingham on Saturday morning. The aluminum was to be used for defense purposes and the collecting was to be done by the Boy Scouts.

All officers of the Student Loan Fund Association were re-elected for another meeting, and Mrs. Ruth Fenton was named president. For the third year, Cash on hand, as of July 1, 1941, amounted to $5,981.59.

Following a car-bicycle mishap last Thursday evening in which a 12 year-old boy narrowly escaped critical injuries, a warrant was issued by Justice Forbes S. Hall calling for the car operator, Mrs. A. M. Warner, with reckless driving.

JULY 31

A budget, tentatively approved by the board of education, for the operation of Birmingham Schools for the coming year, was $5,565 higher than the previous year.

Birmingham's Community Fund on Saturday, 1,600 pounds of metal were collected.

The City's wells yielded 2,750,200 gallons of water on Thursday, the highest for the year and nearing to the all-time record of 2,900,000 gallons stamped in 1939.

AUGUST 7

The silk stocking scarcity scare was at its height and some of Birmingham's stores were rationing hose to customers.

George A. Beecher was killed on Friday when his car was struck by the New York Central's "Mercury" in Dearborn.

Edgar D. Roper, 13, Big Beaver Boy Scout, and son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Roper, died early Monday morning from an automobile collision Sunday evening.

AUGUST 14

Birmingham's Police Department had requested the Automobile Club to make a traffic survey of the city.

The Automobile club was making a traffic survey of the city on request of the local police department.

New taxicab rates, to go into effect on Sept. 1, were adopted by the city commission. The new rate was to be twenty-five cents for the first mile and five cents for each additional quarter mile.

A jamboree on Friday evening was to end the summer recreation program in Birmingham. A water carnival was to be given on both Thursday and Friday nights, and on Friday evening there also was to be sports tournaments and a street dance.

AUGUST 21

Funeral services were held on Wednesday for Thomas A. Meraw, 37 year-old Birmingham business man who drowned while swimming in Lake Superior last Saturday evening.

Assistance in patrolling Hunter boulevard will be given Birmingham police by State Troopers attached to the new Oakland County post, it was announced.

Registration of Birmingham and Bloomfield women for the American Women's Voluntary Services was begun Thursday in Sanders' store at Maple avenue and Pierce street, Mrs. N. Paul Hall, chairman of the Birmingham-Bloomfield branch of the Oakland County unit of the A.W.A.S.

AUGUST 28

Ground was to be broken Sunday morning for the new Redeemer Lutheran Church. The building was to be built in the fall on Lincoln avenue, just off fronting West Maple avenue.

Plans for the occupation of the new science and industry building at Baldwin High School were made. The new building was to contain laboratories, class rooms, etc.

Birmingham schools were to be given a slightly higher tax rate on operating fund this year.

Registration of Birmingham women for special defense services was begun with Mrs. Paul B. Hotchkiss and Mrs. Arthur Chase in charge of the registration.

SEPTEMBER 4

An organization to push the sale of defense savings bonds and stamps was announced by Mayor John Martz. Charles J. Shain was to act as chairman.

The finding of two unexploded bombs in early fall led to the authorization of $150 police pagers, by means of which Birmingham hoped to stamp out this menace to plant life.

Despite difficulties experienced by some builders in getting materials, building held steady during the month of August. Nineteen permits for new buildings were issued during the month.

During a recent meeting of the Birmingham zoning Board of Appeals, a planned development of 1,000 acres between Birmingham and the River Rouge was suggested.

SEPTEMBER 12

The most ambitious community recreation program planned in Birmingham was organized for the fall and winter with nine organizations cooperating as sponsors. Nine new teachers were added to the Birmingham School staff. The enrollment in the schools was the largest on record, totaling 5,277.

Paula La Tourette and William Murrow won the tennis championship of Birmingham.

SEPTEMBER 18

The old Fisher house, described as a structure at the north intersection of Woodward avenue and Hunters Boulevard, burned to the ground last Thursday. According to Chief Clint Nye, the fire was set during the third attempt to burn the building.

Depositors of the First State Bank were to receive a final dividend check. Checks were in amount of $98,167, winding up the affairs of the bank.

Children of the public school system purchased $2,082.50 worth of Defense Stamps during the summer months, a report showed.

About 50 directors and producers workers attended the quarterly dinner of the Oakland County chapter of the American Red Cross at Milford. Mrs. William H. Fowler was appointed chairman of the Birmingham Roll Call.

SEPTEMBER 25

Howard D. Crull resigned last Saturday as Superintendent of Schools to accept a position as Field Director of the Detroit Council of Boy Scouts. Mr. Crull had been a member of the Birmingham school system since 1923.

Night football was to be inaugurated on Friday with the dedication of the 90,000 watt lighting system and a game between Birmingham and Cranbrook.

Fifteen residents of Birmingham were arrested in the city during the week-end, it was disclosed last week.

Charles H. Shain, druggist, was elected to his second term as president of the Birmingham Retail Merchants' Association.

OCTOBER 2

Several members of the American Women's Voluntary Services met at Birmingham Community House to be fingerprinted for civilian defense.

Six Woodward Avenue communities "declared war" on reckless driving on the highway and announced a more rigorous enforcement of traffic laws.

A small bugaloo spree marked the day preceding the inauguration of new taxes. Consumers looked up on cosmetics, liquor, gas and several other items.

OCTOBER 9

Seven-year old Nancy Lou Ragan was killed, and four-year-old Stella Handyside was seriously injured in traffic accidents this week.

Shortage of materials caused new building to drop during September to $42,165 from the August figure of $158,293.

George M. Rounds, Jr., of North Woodward avenue, resigned his naval commission recently to enter naval aviation.

OCTOBER 16

Birmingham decided to ignore the new State law giving firemen an extra 24 hours off every 16 days. The Birmingham City Commission believed the law unconstitutional.

Thirty residents of the area from Holland, south to East Chapin, attended a meeting at Adams school for the purpose of planning a community winter recreation center.

Suggestion for another election in raising a two-mill levy for the benefit of the schools was made at the Board of Education when the 1941-42 budget was adopted. The budget had already provided for a raise in teachers' salaries, but this was not enough to cover the increased cost of living.

Professor Eugene Staley, noted economist, was to open the community lecture Forum at the Community House, Tuesday evening.

OCTOBER 23

A state-wide drive to enlist men for the Navy's new "Hook" was been started this week. Following a proceeding novel in the Navy's history, the Eccentric was to print exact advertisements paid for by the Navy Department.

Federal services were held Saturday afternoon for Norman S. Grubbs, prominent Birmingham resident, who died Thursday, after a year's illness.

The steel tower for the City's new F.M. police radio transmitter was to have been built in the backyard at the rear of the building.

Protests against moving stones on certain streets were registered today by residents of Pilgrim and Puritan Roads.

Robert J. Bregman of Longmeadow Drive, died early Wednesday morning after an illness of two years.

OCTOBER 30

Plans were all made for the annual Children's Halloween Party on Friday night. Approximately 3,000 children were expected to attend the event which was to include a dance for prizes, two dances, food, costume parade, games and a movie.

Baldwin High School's big all-school variety show, "Club 41" was scheduled, to be given for four successive evenings the following week.

Citizens of Birmingham were planning to hold their fourth annual newcomers reception at the Community House on Tuesday evening.

Luther Heacock resigned his position of a member of the County Board of Supervisors. Ralph I. Sayrell was appointed to suggeed him.

NOVEMBER 7

McBride's Tea Room, a landmark on West Maple for 22 years, closed last week.

Captain H. Thompson Binum, infantry, was ordered to active service under his reserve commission, Captain Binum is a military school in Fort Benning, Ga.

Representatives of 19 Birmingham groups and organizations met recently at a dinner meeting to attend the annual kids party, sponsored by the Retail Merchants Association each year.

A vacant store building on Ruffner, near Adams, had been rented and was being dedicated for use as the new Teen Age Recreation Center.

DECEMBER 11

William E. Dee was elected master of the Birmingham Lodge, No. 44. Free and Accepted Masons, at the annual election.

Lane Ramsdell, recent graduate of Wayne University, was engaged by the board of education to teach several classes at Adams and to direct dramatic work.

Three youths from this area were inducted recently into the U. S. armed forces in the Pacific when war broke out in this area. They were Clifford Porter, Alfred Nelson, Clifford Nelson.

Furgal services were held for Lt. Leslie Ruffner, life long resident of the area, on Monday afternoon.

DECEMBER 18

Registration of volunteers for civilian Defense was under way at the Birmingham Community House. On Wednesday evening more than 100 persons had registered.

Birmingham Lodge No. 44 F. & A. M. conferred the Master Mason degree upon five candidates on Tuesday evening.

Dr. Fritz Redl, assistant professor of social work at Wayne University, was selected as special speaker at the community Christmas party at the Community House on Tuesday evening.

The Men's Club of the First Presbyterian Church had made arrangements for entertaining the men stationed at Selfridge Field, K. B. Olson and Ralph I. Coryell were in charge of the program.

NOVEMBER 27

Federal and Academy, West Maple avenue was deeded to the City Commission Monday evening by the Rouge Realty Commission of the 99 ft. road frontage of the property.

The new building development on Maple avenue, between Adams and Wilkes, will be a Kroger store, manager was appointed this week.

In all outbreak of thefts, extortions, sex-assaults spoken in Birmingham and a number of other cities, but two were reported to the police as recovered.

After a year and a half of efforts, the City Commission announced that the proposed plans for State Highway Department to make a dozen changes and sign additions at both ends of Hunter boulevard to reduce traffic hazards.

DECEMBER 4

Dr. and Mrs. Herman L. Shibler were welcomed to Birmingham at a dinner party by 30 men and women representatives of more than a score of community organizations in the Community House.

Lyle Gaines, 21-year-old Birmingham youth, was arrested Sunday afternoon as the culprit who had shot 11 cats with a pellet gun, it was disclosed.

The Eccentric had received a radiogram from Santa Claus announcing that he would be here on Saturday afternoon to attend the Baldwin High School on Man- day evening and took initial steps toward forming a safety council.

NOVEMBER 13

Dr. Herman L. Shibler, principal of Euclid Central High School, Euclid, Ohio, was named as Birmingham's new superintendent of schools.

Individual members of the Lions Club pledged themselves to subscribe to a National Defense Savings bond—it was thought that this was the first service club in this country to subscribe 100 per cent for defense bonds.

Birmingham teachers requested the Board of Education for a boost in pay to compensate them for the rising cost of living and were promised a raise if the money could be had.

Plans were under way to widen the Woodward-Willits corner in connection with the new building being erected on that corner.

NOVEMBER 19

The safety council organization recently decided to absorb itself with the Community House, it was announced. It was a special committee way to come into existence during the building of Safety Planning Week, May 4 to 10, inclusive.

Baldwin High School for 25 years, resigned her position as principal a new post in another school system.

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Panda in Pacific

Somewhere in the war-torn Pacific, John Tee-Van of the Bronx Zoo, is a war refugee, guarding two baby giant pandas given by Madame Chiang Kai-shek as a gift from China in gratitude for war relief. He sailed from Manila a week before war with Japan broke out.

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To all of you with whom we are in such close touch every day, we take this opportunity to wish you the season's greetings. We have enjoyed serving you in the past . . . in the future we shall again endeavor to give you that high degree of service and quality which mean so much to you.

We will close at 6 P. M. on New Year's Eve.

S F I R E ' S

Quality foods -- Economy prices