

... and so another year is within  
night for human beings. Nothing  
new about the time it will contain  
—after all, New Year's is just a  
flip of the calendar. The days of  
1944 will be just as good as we de-  
termine to make them; it is every  
free man's inheritance, this right  
to make his own kind of life.

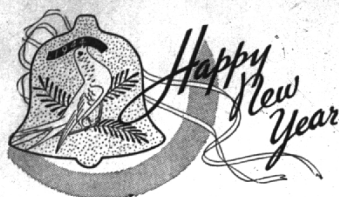
SIXTY-SIXTH YEAR—NO. 40

# The Birmingham Eccentric

PART TWO

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1943

\$2.00 PER YEAR (In Oakland County)—SINGLE COPIES, 5c



THE PAST comes before us in review... memories of peaceful New Years'; memories of rainy New Years'; and of New Year's Eves when the wind shrieked like a banshee and sleighbells jangled along country roads; memories of when this town was young. Yes, we have seen many a New Year's come and go.

To the oldest inhabitant, to the youngest, and to all the good folk in-between, we say now,

## HAPPY NEW YEAR

**MAX BROOCK INC.**  
REALTORS  
ESTABLISHED 1895

112 S. Woodward Birmingham 1212

## Best Wishes for 1944

1943 has been as busy for Realtors as for war production workers.

Yes, there has been a shortage in homes and moderate rentals are very scarce.

However, there are many opportunities, especially in lots and acreage.

Our long experience and service invites your call.

**Walsh, James & Wasey Co.**

431 S. Woodward Ave. Birmingham 1250

## Varicose Veins -- Leg Trouble

Think of these veins disappearing. Think of stubborn Ulcers healing. Getting rid of Inflammation, Swelling, Pains, Aches, Cramps, Numbness, Burning and Itching, usually in a few days. The usual results are that you walk again in comfort, and open sores and Varicose Ulcers heal quickly while you work. Today—FREE BOOK. P. O. Box 701, Department V5, Pontiac, Michigan.

**HOLIDAY GREETINGS**  
1944

To have served you in 1943 has been a pleasure and a privilege. We hope we have served you well enough to merit your patronage in 1944. Right now we want to say,

Happy New Year  
To You and Yours

**BIRMINGHAM FEDERAL SAVINGS & LOAN ASS'N**

243 E. Maple Ave.  
MEMBER RETAIL MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION



## Bits of Birmingham

Once again, as the old year draws to a close, an oft repeated event has taken place at Wilson's Drug store. There, in her boudoir among the surplus stock in the basement of the store, Georgina, the most maternally minded of all Birmingham felines, gave birth to three kittens. This was her final effort in her 1943 production race with Henry Kaiser, the ship building genius. It was Georgina's third litter of kittens of the year and the household employees of the Wilson firm will wager that in her tenure as head mouse exterminator of the institution she has given birth to more than 100 kittens some of whom have grown up to be the finest cats of the community.

This Wanderer was having his shoes shined in a local shoe repair shop the other day and overheard two little girls, who were peering into the shop's stock of shoe laces, converse thusly: "So this is where the kids are getting those fancy, checked shoe laces," said the first one, "I wonder if boys wear them?" "Sure they do," said the second, "Bobby wears them." "Yes," replied the first little girl, "but he's a big sissy." The moral of this story is that if you are in the third or fourth grade and want to impress the girls of your grade with your virility don't wear brightly colored, checked shoe laces.

A resident of Chesterfield between Oak and Maple called the Eccentric Office this week to say that she wished some of her neighbors would either feed their dogs more, or keep them under better control, because said dogs are constantly overturning garbage cans in their scavenging activities. The garbage cans are generally overflowing with the City having its difficulties with collections due to shortage of help. We referred her to the police department, where we think will render all the help they can, but it is the dog owners who must and should cooperate.

Including several published in this newspaper, dailies and weeklies in the United States print a total of 152,793 advertisements on the Third War Loan; in terms of money, this amounted \$5,639,540.05, the U. S. Treasury Dept. reveals. Five hundred thousand American business firms sponsored these advertisements.

Lack of snow at Christmas prevented lots of local kiddies from enjoying their sleds, toboggans, skis, etc. The drizzle of rain, too, made the several Birmingham skating rinks sloppy—many a pair of pants was dampened from falls of skaters, this column is informed.

Birmingham and Bloomfield Township responded generously to the call for Christmas gifts for the needy under the supervision of Miss Romyne Thompson, the area collected a large number of

attractively wrapped boxes which were sent to the Oakland County Red Cross Headquarters at Pontiac. For days the gayly packaged gifts piled up in the Motor Corps office of the Red Cross until more than 2,000 were finally collected for distribution.

Last Wednesday night a group of the younger boys decided to sing carols at the homes on the South-west side of town. Unexpectedly the boys were recipients of more than \$5.00 for their efforts. The boys, Charles Olin, Joel Ross, Gordon Merrick, David Frain, Tom Maxwell, Peter Plumstead and Barry Gray, have decided to donate the money to the Red Cross.

Owners of three of the six bicycles the Police Department had been trying to find for weeks turned up in time to prevent their vehicles being auctioned off. Paul Baugh, 341 S. South Woodward, bought two and Anthony Sphar, 320 Hazel bought the other. The auction netted the city's general fund \$19.50.

Another wave of bicycle thefts caused local police to remark to this Wanderer, that much of this type of thieving is only a prank of some friend who borrows the bike and rides it until he is through with it and then forgets to put it back. Many times they do not intend to steal the bicycle at all, but juvenile forgetfulness causes the owners of misplaced bicycles much anxiety and the police department much needless bother searching for it. The officer calls the efforts spent in hunting for them needless because, he pointed out, a padlock on the vehicle when it is not in use will prevent anyone from making off with it either as a prank or with definite intentions to steal it.

People living in the vicinity of Bates Street, just south of South-lawn Blvd., phoned the police department to inform them that someone had piled a quantity of brick too close to a fire hydrant near their homes. The builder of some homes in that area moved and immediately upon request of the officers.

Mrs. Eureka Foots, of 1307 Ruffner, found eight ration books the other day and promptly turned them in to the authorities. They belonged to Mrs. Fraser Pomeroy, of 1885 Yorkshire. Mrs. Pomeroy picked up her lost treasures and her family is living "happily ever after."

That big burly cop on the corner is as susceptible to the tiny flu germ as any one else has been proven during the past three weeks when nine members of the Birmingham police force have been stricken with the current malady that has had nearly 20 per cent of the populace out of commission recently.

Many times in the past this Wanderer has been besieged by people who make deliveries, by taxi drivers, postmen and others who have occasion, now and then, to find a certain address by depending on the numbers on the houses of Birmingham. Their big wall is, "why don't people put numbers on their house or why don't they paint them a contrasting color from the rest of the house," and in some cases, "why don't they cut the shrubbery away from the numbers so they can be seen from the street?" This seems like a reasonable request and it is something which should be a benefit to the home owner as well as the delivery boy, postman, etc.—don't you think?

When W. Calt Allen, City Commissioner, was asked what he thought about FDR's desire to change the name of the New Deal to "win the war" administration, he smiled wryly and answered: "When did the New Deal get an exclusive right on American patriotism?"

Seems there's a phrase in the Michigan State Constitution that says when a couple jointly owns a piece of property the "husband or the wife may vote." Seems as though that phrase should be changed by amendment, as reported City Clerk Irene Hanley to the Commission Monday night. She is chief local election clerk, and doesn't want any trouble to arise over that phrase. But the Commission collectively smiled and told her not to worry about it at all. (Irene's concern was developed by the suggestion from the State Association of City Clerks that maybe that phrase should be cleared up by Constitutional amendment.)

Corporal Robert Porter called his mother, Mrs. Lotta W. Porter, of 251 Baldwin, one day last week from his station in the South Pacific. The call came through while she was entertaining for Bob's sister, Mrs. Edward M. Tyler, of East Orange, New Jersey. The call made a real surprise party of the affair.

## What Your City Commission Is Doing . . .

December 27, 1943  
Bills approved totalling \$1,800,000. Resolution adopted requesting governor to include in his program for the ensuing Special Session, a request that the legislature propose a constitutional amendment amending Sec. 31 of Article 8 to provide that a Metropolitan District may incorporate for the purpose of acquiring, constructing and operating hospitals and making proper charges for such services. Contribution to Joint Hospital Committee of \$200.20 authorized for preliminary expense.

Manager's recommendation with respect to the water debt, making payments to the city in lieu of taxes for the use of streets. John Kirnich's Bill and license renewed.

Another Narcissus  
"Pa, what is an egotist?"  
"An egotist, my son, is a man who can look in the mirror and be satisfied with what he sees."

## Why Wait?

Let Us Do Your  
Housecleaning  
NOW!

Phone 1162

A C M E

Window Cleaning Co.

"Oakland County's Oldest Window Cleaning Service"

## Call of the Sea



No wonder boys join the Navy! with such WAVES as twins Ann and Jewel Bubnick of Carteret, N. J., in the service. Stationed at Opa Locka, Fla., naval air center, they're shown enjoying a day off at Miami Beach.

## AUTOIST PAYS \$25.00 FINE

Theodore F. McManus, Jr., of Stoneycroft, Bloomfield Hills, paid a fine of \$25.00 Monday when he appeared before Municipal Judge Forbes S. Hascall. Officers charged that, last Friday afternoon, he was found intoxicated, sleeping in his car at the intersection of Adams and Ruffner. McManus' car, according to officers, had damaged the car owned by Wayne J. Orr, 1672 Benaville, his own car also revealed damage done to it. No witnesses saw the reported incident.

## Holiday Cheer



1944

The future? Your guess is as good as ours—but, if our wishes count for anything, there is a lot of health and happiness in store for you in 1944.

## Har-Trom Hi-way Furniture Mart

1532 S. Woodward

## Best Wishes For A Happier NEW YEAR To ALL Who Serve...

At home — forever striving to keep the Faith and enriched by a fuller realization of our responsibilities . . . And to those chosen ones in the Services, here and abroad — Good Health, Good Cheer, and Good Luck!

At home — To SERVE is a privilege. It means only paying taxes — buying War Bonds, temporary inconveniences, slight abstinence from luxuries. Trivial indeed compared to the appalling human misery elsewhere in the world today.

"HOME" in truth is our most  
Magnificent Possession.

**SNYDER BUCK & BENNETT**

LOST? I SHOULD SAY NOT AS LONG AS I HAVE MY TELEPHONE DIRECTORY WITH THOSE YELLOW PAGES THAT TELL ME WHERE-TO-BUY MAPS



WANT ADS COST LITTLE AND GET QUICK RESULTS



PROGRESS IS THE KEYNOTE OF THE FUTURE. AND ON ONE POINT AT LEAST WE ARE FIRMLY RESOLVED. WE ARE GOING TO SERVE OUR CUSTOMERS STILL BETTER IN 1944. OUR EARNEST WISH IS THAT THE COMING YEAR MAY HAVE MANY UNEXPECTED BLESSINGS IN STORE FOR YOU AND YOURS.



## Save Fuel

Whether you are a customer of ours or not it will pay you to come to our office and get a Firing Card. Take it and study it. You will be surprised at the amount of comfort you will have in correct firing, besides the FUEL you will save.

POCAHONTAS saved John Smith and made history. "POCAHONTAS" again is saving America and making history. "POCAHONTAS" the finest of fuel, when fired as nature intended it to be fired, will save you and your family from the ravages of winter . . .

Place your order for a full load 2 or 3 weeks ahead of actual needs. Get a Firing Card, study it, follow directions and you will be pleased as hundreds of Birmingham householders are now.

POCAHONTAS has two characteristics, it will slack and it will mass together under heat. These are both assets when fired according to intentions of nature. The valuable fines, slack or "dust," keeps even heat and the massing makes it long-lasting when POCAHONTAS is fired and not just shoveled into the plant.

You don't have to have coupons, just call 2020. Be ready to take a full load. Give us sufficient time and we will keep you warm, too.

In order to save gas, tires and manpower we have to deliver in full loads, so please order full load lots.

## Parks Coal Company

YARD: 575 EATON ROAD - OFFICE: 369 E. MAPLE

Phone 2020

WE WISH  
ALL OF  
OUR FRIENDS  
A  
VERY HAPPY,  
PROSPEROUS  
NEW YEAR

**Mair's Market**

1844 S. Woodward

**PECK'S MEN'S STORE**

106 S. Woodward