

1944 is about closed; the days that it gave each of us have been a mixture of good and evil, depending upon what we thought, how we lived—for time, of itself, merely offers each of us the right to live. Whether we reckon 1944 as good or bad is the personal responsibility of each of us; so each decide just how we live.

# The Birmingham Tribune

PART TWO

SIXTY-SEVENTH YEAR—NO. 40

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1944 \$2.00 PER YEAR (In Oakland County) SINGLE COPIES, 5c

**ANNIVERSARY CONCERT**  
The 15th anniversary concert of the Scandinavian Symphony Orchestra is announced for Friday evening, Jan. 19, at the Scottish Rite Cathedral at the Masonic Temple in Detroit. Following the concert there is to be dancing and refreshments in the Crystal ball room.

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## Bits of Birmingham

Birmingham started its old-fashioned white Christmas with most of the rest of the lakes region Sunday and cold and snow swept much of the country from the Rocky Mountains to the Eastern Seaboard. The snow began Sunday in Birmingham; snow continued Monday but by evening the storm had passed on and left in its wake brilliant moonlight and clear zero weather. Temperature readings Tuesday morning varied from zero to 4 below throughout Birmingham while some nearby sections reported even lower readings. There was little delay in highway mail traffic, however. The main highways were kept clear and were considered fairly smooth in many locations. Especially was this true of the north and south roads in this area. East and west roads did not fare so well and were rough and icy in many places. The storm, hitting on the double holiday, sort of left city streets to be worn down by traffic rather than to be cleared by plowing. However, the Birmingham crews were out early Tuesday morning.

It was the day after Christmas and the phone at the desk of City Clerk Irene Hanley jingled and a youthful voice asked "Where do I get my bicycle license?" The city official judged that someone had received a bicycle as a Christmas gift and wanted to try it out right away. But those 1945 bicycle licenses, like a lot of other things, have been slow arriving in Birmingham this season and the licenses for the next year cannot be issued until they are received, Clerk Hanley says she expects them most any day.

The American Red Cross is sponsoring a campaign to secure more graduate nurses for enlistment in the army and the Oakland county chapter is to hold a meeting Friday night at county headquarters in Pontiac to figure out ways and means of reaching more graduate nurses with the story of how badly the services of these nurses are needed right now.

Plans for what new section to Birmingham school, which will house the cafeteria and also serve as a study hall are to be drawn by Frederick B. Madison, Royal Oak. The work of drafting the plans is paid for, half by the school board and half by the state of Michigan from funds set aside for use of municipalities and school districts for planning post-war improvements. Both the Board of Education and the pupils at Barnum school are anxious for the added room and equipment.

Chris Bailey, postman, dropped into the office Tuesday wearing his usual grin and stepped up to the Wandler to make a beautiful post-Christmas speech. On behalf of all the letter carriers, Chris wants to thank all the people of Birmingham for making their Christmas more cheerful. Chris thinks that he delivers to the finest people in Birmingham but managed to add that just about every postman in Birmingham would challenge his statement. They all think they have the best people. He also added that they appreciated the many fine gifts they received from their patrons.

Richard, age 5, did most of his Christmas playing indoors for the Christmas week and, leaving the coasting and skiing to boys with all the arms and legs. The lad, son of Mr. and Mrs. Marion Viets, East Maple, suffered a broken arm last week Thursday while helping his mother with the task of clearing the table after a broken Christmas dinner. The boy had been playing with some Christmas decorations had been made. Of course he did not like spending most of his time indoors and he did complain. Growns probably would have complained a lot more than did the five-year-old.

The Bloomfield Theatre Christmas party for children of Birmingham drew a great crowd Saturday afternoon for the showing of "Puss 'n' White and the Seven Dwarfs." In fact there were so many children that they couldn't all fit inside the theatre. Manager William H. Ahrens today expressed his regrets and said he was very sorry that some had to be turned away because of the large crowd. The children began assembling in front of the theatre before 1 o'clock. The doors opened at 1:45 and an hour later there were still a couple of hundred children waiting for a chance to get in. Manager Ahrens said his New Year's wish for Birmingham children was that they might enjoy a very happy and healthful new year. He announced that the New Year's Day feature picture would be "Arsenic and Old Lace."

A Greyhound Lines Bus driver, stopping at the Birmingham station Christmas evening told of having difficulty with the "cross over" on South Woodward and Hunter boulevards, where the snow had been piled by the snow into rather deep drifts. Cars and buses seemed to be taking turns getting stuck there or hitting the spot with a bit too much speed and then sliding back out into Woodward ahead of oncoming traffic. The Wanderer knew just what he was talking about for he had just stopped at the station with some passengers after bringing them through the deep drifts, and seeing a car and its stuck there.

A Birmingham girl just home from the University of Michigan for Christmas week tells us this highly interesting bit of general news: A Chinese-American girl student preparing on Friday to return to her home in New York lost her round trip ticket. She had placed it on her writing desk and it just disappeared. After a frantic search of the entire dormitory it was decided the envelope containing the ticket must have been brushed into a waste basket. These had been emptied and the accumulation had been taken away by the DPW crew. A call to the DPW superintendent brought the offer to drive out to the situation which would constitute a search for the missing ticket. In less than an hour he returned with the ticket, and would you believe it, with a second lost ticket as well. He returned the one to the New York Chinese girl but said he had received no calls for the second lost ticket. The girl just disappeared when he received the first call that his task would be like looking for a needle in a haystack. But he proved that sometimes the needle is found.

A story has been released from the long flight of an army B-24 bomber from the altitudes which, due to lost fighter protection/due to the distance involved, attacked the northern islands of Japan recently. Among the crew members was Lt. Roger W. Blackmore of Birmingham. The officer is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred H. Blackmore, 515 Tooting lane. His wife and baby are now reside at Ashland, New Hampshire. The son was born last November 3 in Boston while his father was off on a bombing mission over the northern Japan islands.

Those Birmingham residents who had been hoping for an improvement in the tire situation the

first of the year seem doomed to disappointment. News came from Washington this week that the local war price and ration board that they will be about 200,000 fewer tires available in January than this month. The OPA said the month's supply will be 1,850,000 for the entire country. In addition to this cut it was announced that the price and ration board will be very hard to get. The war is taking a lot more heavy truck tires than had been anticipated a few weeks ago so there will be a real shortage of this kind of tires in January. The county's small truck tire quota was cut from 280,000 to 210,000. The heavy truck tire quota was slashed from 120,000 to 110,000. Looks as though Birmingham will have to get along on fewer tires next month.

The Wanderer was quite impressed with the lovely doorway arrangement of the C. Allen Valleys, 335 Balmie, Flanked with Christmas greens is a large red sign lettered in English script with the inscription "God Bless Our Boys." The Valleys' son, Al, is stationed in France.

Poor kid, Tuesday when the Huston Hardware opened up and the badly beaten Christmas displays were rearranged, among the toys on one of the toy counters lay a fox and a foxglove. Staffer says it wasn't a new toy and it did look like a place among all the other stuffed pets that were left spanning new in their places after the Christmas stampede. It was probably gray to begin with but it developed a bit darker shade with each evident mopping of some playroom floor. One ear showed evidence of having been chewed a bit and its tail—you should know all about this handy accessory that all pets (stuffed or real) have in the most convenient place to grab—well, he said kity one more twat would have made a bobble out of it! The look on the forgotten fellow's face bore evidence that it was lost and lonely. As we stood there and gazed upon the pitiful scene we could help but realize that somewhere Christmas wasn't quite the gay day it might have been for some boy or girl because the old stamby cat was lost when he or she went who the styre with a mima to buy a new pet, that never, never could locate the place of the battered and faithful puss that was left by mistake on Huston's toy counter. It's a sad case from start to finish. Maybe the kity has a given up hope that its master on mistress will find it again and is still waiting for them to come and reclaim it. Mrs. Dick Dewey at Huston's is taking good care of it.

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**HAPPY NEW YEAR 1945**  
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**HAPPY NEW YEAR 1945**  
IT IS INDEED A PLEASURE Right now, on the eve of New Year's, when 1945 is ready to make its bow, it is indeed a pleasure to extend hearty greetings and good wishes to the people of this community. We are at your service—always.

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