

It no doubt is true that, in the world of adults, the exchange of material gifts at Christmas-time receives too much emphasis; there really is much more to the spirit of Christmas than the materialism of the time. The true meaning of a gift is that it is not found in the market place... gifts that neither tarnish nor decay.

The Birmingham Eccentric

PART TWO

SIXTY-EIGHTH YEAR—NO. 39

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1945

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Christmas Flowers

- * Poinsettias
 - * Cyclamen
 - * Prim Rose
- CUT FLOWERS**
Make Your Selections Early
- H. P. DOYING**
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Near Pierce School



Bits of Birmingham

Charles J. O'Connor, of Avon Lane, president of Reichhold Chemicals, has just returned from a nine-weeks air tour of South America and Mexico. He has made several such trips in recent years, but the last one allowed him to observe first-hand operations of "revolutions." "I saw them in Venezuela, Brazil, and the Argentine," he said the other day. "Taken all together, the three revolutions did not present the problems that the General Motors strike is causing."

Next spring, as a bit of relaxation on another trip to South America, Mr. O'Connor is interesting a group of piscatorial friends to join him in the mountains of Chile where, Mr. O'Connor asserted: "The rainbow trout run as heavy as 20 pounds."

relation to him, G.R.A. publisher of The Eccentric, said yesterday: "No, Walter C. Averill, Jr., is no relation to me. I have met him numerous times, first when he was connected with Fairdale public schools years ago. He was then interested in politics and, as I recall it, was present at Michigan Republican rallies. After the New Deal came in, he was more in evidence as a Democrat, in which party he has risen to high, though apparently unenviable, places."

Now last year the snows came about Dec. 11 and Birmingham really had its share of snow all winter long. There was not such a big lot of snow but rather a steady drizzle, the Wanderer is told. This year the first big snow came on Tuesday evening, Dec. 13, and the weather man explained that just about everybody else in the Great Lakes region got their first big snow at that time. There had been some snow in the deer country earlier, but no great amount. But Thursday night, the 13th, was the big snow time here. And for a lot of motorists it was a rather trying date, with wheels spinning and slipping and sliding in the wet snow. Last year someone said cars resembled big chocolate cakes, each frosted deep with white. The Wanderer has been told, Fuel dealers report busy times trying to keep tanks and coal bins filled.

Several persons have appeared in police department the past few days to settle on tickets for speeding and one settled for a charge of leaving the scene of an accident. Ticketed for speeding were Ralph Redmond, Owasco; William Holdsworth, Pontiac, and Constance F. Orchard, Huntington Woods, while Harold Kinney, Flint, paid a fine of \$50 on a charge of leaving the scene of an accident in which his car was involved.

The U. S. Army has loaned five trucks to the city of Birmingham for use in mail delivery during the Christmas season, according to Postmaster Joseph Byrne. High school boys will handle the trucks, delivering parcel post. Last Sunday many families found bundles of mail had been delivered to their homes. Still others made use of the Sunday service available at the post office for persons mailing out Christmas packages. Looks to this Wanderer like Birmingham is going to have another busy Christmas season.

A change in store location and the enlarging of a second store are among the interesting bits of news coming out of Birmingham's business district this week. Burr's shoe store will shift its home from 166 West Maple the first of the year to the store formerly occupied by the Valdera Tea Room at 255 North Woodward avenue. The tea room suspended business some weeks ago. The store occu-

plied by the shoe firm will be used by Williams boys' and girls' apparel store, now in the room adjoining the shoe firm on the west. The store front will be modernized and the entire interior of the store rearranged, with new fixtures and several departments. Stories about town convey news to this Wanderer that there will be several more shifts in location during the early part of 1946.

The weatherman promised winter days for early this week and surely coming. He listed it like this: "Cold, cold, cold, cold," and every word of it was just as cold as could be. The mercury dropped to 7 below zero at Big Beaver Sunday and Monday it was not much warmer. Monday night was another cold one. Lovers of winter sports were singing "Happy days are here again."

Two more Birmingham boys plan to spend Christmas at home with their parents. Sgt. Robert Moody has won his discharge from the Army medical service after two and a half years in the South Pacific and is home with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Moody, 847 Purdy. His brother, Earl Moody, Chief MM in an LST boat in the west area of Europe, the Mediterranean and the South Pacific, is due for his discharge at Toledo, Ohio, and is expected home any day. He had three and a half years service. Earl wired from Seattle the good news to his folks here in Birmingham.

The Birmingham milkmen say they just know a lot of homes are having company, and have a feeling from clothes they see on the (Continued on Page 2, Part 2)

Merry Christmas To You All

John W. Knecht
Realtor
1692 E. Woodward Ave.
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Greetings at Christmastide

When Snow Lies Softly on the Hill

Now, when the fir trees wear white collars, when the birds make tiny stitches in the snow and our footprints hurry towards the warmth of home and the companionship of loved ones, it's time to wish all our friends the fullest joys of the Christmas season. So, hello everybody... and Merry Christmas!

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Merry Christmas
And A Happy New Year

To all the good friends we have served in our 28 years in the Birmingham-Bloomfield Hills district.

May you enjoy a holiday of Coasting on the beautiful hills in our area

— or —

Skating on the many lakes around us

— or —

Steighing on the quiet country roads

— or —

Just resting in your pleasant homes which make this location so attractive

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Season's Greetings and Good Wishes for The New Year

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(USE ECCENTRIC WANT ADS FOR BEST RESULTS)

Merry Christmas

This is the merriest, gayest and most joyful Christmas we've had in many years. At last there is world peace, homes are complete with sons, daughters, husbands and fathers back to re-unite families once again to celebrate this joyous season.

How wonderful it is for us to again say "Merry Christmas" to you—and mean it more than ever before! And with it comes a heartfelt wish that the future holds many more such joys for you and yours. Merry Christmas!

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a Jolly Christmas

To One And All

CHILDREN looking out of the window at a desolate landscape try to catch a glimpse of a mythical sleigh drawn by mythical reindeer. But there is naught that is mythical about the spirit of Christmas that transforms the commonplace. That Christmas of 1945 may be for you the happiest Christmas of all is our sincere wish.

HOEV, BENJAMIN & STEPHENS
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259 So. Woodward Phone 4129 Birmingham

CHRISTMAS comes like balm to a weary world. Its Spirit, undismayed by strife and turmoil and hate and greed, blesses and warms the heart eager for peace and simple happiness. In an uncertain future—and who would seek a certain one—those things destined to endure are intangible... faith and hope and friendship. Old friends and new, good friends, and true... on your hearth may the embers of memory glow with warmth and comfort. This, we believe, is the real spirit of our Community and one of the important reasons why living here affords such genuine happiness.

SNYDER BUCK & BENNETT