So many in each generation, seeking the easy paths of life, wander along the tropical, warm beaches, lolling in the sunshine, frolicking in the waters; in latitudes like these, when the hurricanes of their indolence sweep upon them they lose their almost everything . . . Life is no thing of constant ease, ever!

The Birmingham Eccentric

PART TWO

SIXTY-EIGHTH YEAR—NO. 37 | BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1945 | $2.00 PER YEAR (In Oakland County)—SINGLE COPIES, 5c

WE HAVE WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR . . .

1 A new, one-floor, brick ranch home in Franklin. Built on a high hill with views over the rolling countryside for miles around. Living room 34 feet long, with dining alcove, two big bedrooms and tiled bath, sunny kitchen. Nearly 2 acres, lots of old apple trees, a huge out-door grill near the badminton court $19,500

2 A two family colonial near the Community House. Each side of this double home has Living and Dining rooms, kitchen, 2 bedrooms and bath. Separate furnaces. Large lot, close to shops, transportation and schools $8,500

3 Just outside Birmingham, on 2 acres. A stucco cottage with big Living room, dining room, kitchen, bedroom and bath on the first floor. 2 large bedrooms on the second floor with room for another bath. Poultry house and kennels, fruit trees and plenty of room for gardens $9,500

4 In Bloomfield Village, just off Cranbrook Road and in the Quarton School district. Masonry construction, big Living and dining rooms, first floor bedroom and bath, three large bedrooms and colorfully tiled bath upstairs. Brand new gas air-conditioning furnace. 150-foot lot $21,000

5 In the 13 Mile-Lahser Road district. A rambling ranch house, all on one floor, new and sparkling. 5 acres of fruit and beautiful hardwoods with an attractive guest house in the orchard. Owner transferred $24,000

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Bits of Birmingham

Most every football fan in Birmingham expected the Army to win last Saturday's big gridiron classic from Navy, but hardly a fan here anticipated Great Lakes would wallop the Irish of Notre Dame. "Still can't believe it," roared one local fan, who witnessed the Michigan-Great Lakes battle won by Crisler's boys very handily. But Coach Brown seems to have brought up his sailors a long way since that September Saturday afternoon. The victory puts Brown up near the top among successful coaches of the year and the former Ohio State coach is singing "My dreams are getting better all the time."

—o—

Poor Mr. Jack Rabbit and Mr. Cotton Tail run for their lives these days. They are just about all the game there is left to hunt in the open areas around Birmingham and are getting hunted and hunted and hunted. But not too many are being brought home for Mr. Hunter's table. Mr. Deer Slayer has ended his quest for a buck and has his gun all cleaned, oiled and put away until next November. Mr. Pheasant Hunter likewise has given up the quest for this fine game bird until next year. So Brer Rabbit has to bear the full brunt of what desire there is left for wandering the fields and woods. And some of these rabbits have decided town is the safest place for them for this Wanderer saw several within a block of the Bloomfield theater and several more or less than a stone's throw from Hunter boulevard not far from Oakland.

—o—

One Birmingham housewife declared today that while she was very happy that the football season was about over, she still thought maybe such seasons were a good thing. They gave Mr. Husband something to think and talk about. "It has kept many of them home many an afternoon while they listened to the radio instead of wandering off hunting or someplace else. "Of course, some Sundays we wanted to drive out someplace where the radio would not reach us but if we stayed home we could keep track of Dad. He was over by the radio."

—o—

Over at the last Sunday afternoon meeting, honoring local citizen Russell Barnes, when he was answering questions from the audience, following his speech, this Wanderer overheard someone say, during a lull in the open forum: "Say, there's Mayor Moody up on the platform with Mr. Barnes; would it be o. k. to ask the Mayor some questions about Birmingham's street improvement program?"

Those four Hale boys from over on Merrill street are all out of the war service and mostly are hale and hearty. Anyway, they are all home and so happy to be back in Birmingham again. The last to arrive was Earl William Hale, U. S. Army, discharged from Fort Sheridan after three years of service. He arrived in Birmingham yesterday morning. Earl served in North Africa, Sicily, Italy and Okinawa. Stewart A. Hale was with the Army on Luzon where he accumulated a lot of troubles which he wishes he did not have, but he has been discharged from Camp Atterbury hospital, Indiana. Still a third of the Army's boys is Shirley J. Hale who served for nearly three years, being through the battles of the European theater. His discharge came at Camp Atterbury. The Navy's representative from this family was Richard Hale, who was in the submarine service for two years. He served in the thick of the Jap war area and has some thrilling tales to tell of his ship and its crew. The Wanderer has been informed that plans are already being made for a very happy Christmas at the Hale home.

—o—

Here's an accident that might be used as a warning, not only to children but also to grownups. James McMahan, seven-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. McMahan, 652 Maple street, was attempting to cross Brownell street Sunday afternoon at dusk. He ran out between two parked cars and into the side of a slowly moving car and finished up with a bad cut on one side of his head and a cut on one leg. The lad was taken to St. Joseph Mercy hospital for treatment. The car was driven by Harold J. Michael, Ferndale, who told police he did not see the lad but heard him strike the car. He stopped and found the boy under the rear of the car. Many children and some older folks are noticed stepping out from between parked cars and attempting to cross streets. The Wanderer remembers the sign at railroad crossings, especially out in the country where no signals are in use. It urges one to "stop, look, listen."

—o—

A. Stoddard White, son of Lee A White, 652 Brookside, who got his first reporting on The Eccentric, and prior to his entering the U. S. Army was a member of the staff of The Detroit News, is currently reporting the Nuernberg trial in Germany for Stars and Stripes, the Army newspaper. He is thus provided with a "front seat" in history's greatest criminal trial; his assignment, of course, is outstanding evidence of his reportorial ability.

—o—

"It just don't pay to violate the regulations, and then keep right on doing those undesirable acts," was a remark heard up in Bloomfield Hills police court the other day when two Negro motorists were brought into court for violation of the automobile rules and regulations. Travis Blakey, Detroit, who has previously lost his driver's license because of a conviction on a reckless driving charge, was caught on a similar charge on Woodward avenue in Bloomfield Hills. Police clocked the speed of his car at 58 miles per hour. He was carrying a driver's license belonging to his companion, Howard Hughes, Detroit. Blakey was given a fine of $25 and costs or 20 days on the bad driving charge and Hughes was fined $15 and costs or 20 days for permitting his driver's license to be used by some other person than himself. Blakey was taken to the county jail but Hughes said he believed he could raise the money for his fine. "No, it just don't pay to trifle with the rules and regulations."

—o—

Lew F. Haynes, 579 Henrietta, who operates the elevator in the Wabeek Building here, annually decorates the interior of the lift with appropriate Christmas bells, tinsel etc. Coming down in that elevator Monday afternoon was this Wanderer, Mr. Haynes, and the wife of a local doctor (who swore us to secrecy as to her identity) and, viewing the decorations, exclaimed: "It looks very nice, Mr. Haynes, but there really is something missing." "What" asked the genial Mr. Haynes, "can be missing?" Whereupon the lady smilingly replied: "Why, Mr. Haynes, a sprig of mistletoe!" Whadda you think, Folks?

—o—

Again the Wanderer has been asked to remind Birmingham folks that when they go out into somebody's woods and cut Christmas trees and bought they should secure a bill of sale from the land owner, or at least his written permission before moving the trees on the highways. Already this season there have been 42 prosecutions by the state for violation of the Christmas tree law. Another surprising bit of news, just received, that already 20 carloads of trees and 300 tons of boughs have been brought into Michigan from other states and Canada. Evergreen or other trees with roots attached are classed as nursery stock and must be government inspected on the premises on which they are growing before it is lawful to move them.

—o—

Bloomfield Hills tax collection department has visions of a nearly 100 per cent collection of its city taxes for the year 1945. The collection is already past the 97 percent total and still growing. "It might reach 100 per cent, or very close to it by March 1, when we turn the books over to the county treasurer," the Wanderer was told last Friday. The roll totals $43,161. Notices for the fall county and school taxes are now being mailed out to Hills property owners. This roll totals 76,743, and a collection of better than 90 per cent is anticipated. That's considered very good collecting for any city or town.

—o—

I'll give you a buzz next spring," said a Birmingham honeybee as she headed into her hive for her winter rest. And the man for whom honeybees have no love, declared he didn't care if the bee never buzzed again.

—o—

We tried it, too, and it worked Monday, but today it wouldn't work and the Wanderer was told it just wouldn't work again until January 23, 2045. The whole worry came because of an announcement made Sunday that "on Monday you will be able to write the date numerically so that there are five digits in sequence—12/3/45."

(Continued on Page 3, Part 2)

ANNOUNCEMENT . .

Many of my friends and customers have urged me to keep flowers during the winter months, and I have decided to do so, beginning with this week.

I shall, therefore, have many fine plants and a variety of cut flowers at all times.

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A *HOME* FOR CHRISTMAS

Here are two worthy offerings for sale that you can move into before Christmas . . . and that is news!

ONE. A *brick* Colonial in Bloomfield Village—but close to Quarton School. 4 Bedrooms, 2 baths and service stairs. Recreation room with fireplace. Oil heat, softener and hard surfaced drive. The site, 80 x 150, is on Waddington Rd.

TWO. New England . . . but in Birmingham's Piety Hill section. Perched on the Rouge Valley with about an acre of ground this all white Connecticut Farm house is charming. 4 Bedrooms, 2 baths for the family; a maid's room and bath beside the Kitchen. The porch has a grand 3-way exposure and the sun room looking to the Valley beyond is a perpetual joy.

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