

of life with less desire than he did in youth. The Spirit of Christmas demands not upon what money may buy, (though that is vice and desirable), but rather upon the possession of real friends, upon the added understanding of spiritual values of life.

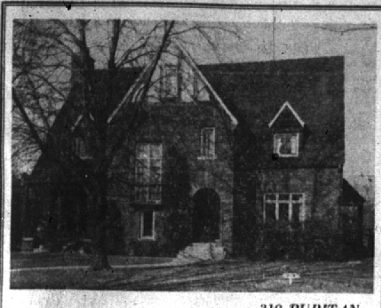
SIXTY-NINTH YEAR—NO. 39

The Birmingham Eccentric

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1946

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PART TWO



319 PURITAN

It's Refreshing . . .

to find a home as well built and so superbly maintained as the one pictured above. Mechanically and structurally every detail is the finest possible.

The wide entrance hallway leads invitingly to all three principal rooms; the Living Room with fireplace and adjoining screened porch, the paneled Library and the gracious Dining Room. Also on the first floor are Breakfast Room, Lavatory and Kitchen. Upstairs are five very comfortable Bedrooms and three fine Baths, served by both front and service stairs. The third floor is large and finished off for play or storage. There's a Recreation Room in the basement.

Available for immediate possession, this is a residence which may be purchased with confidence and lived in with pride. There is no finer address than the Quanton District—and this is an exceptional value for any neighborhood.

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You'd Be Surprised



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Bits of Birmingham

For the month of November, Birmingham exceeded by several times the number of building permits issued by any community in this area north of the 8 Mile road, this Wanderer has learned.

Has anyone tried to push a basket through an aisle? While this Wanderer doubts it can be done, that's what shoppers in a local chain grocery are directed to do as they approach the cashiers in two of the five aisles.

Many a motorist has groped his way through a fog to his car after his day's work was through, only to find his battery dead—he had left his lights on when he parked there eight hours before. Such was the case during last week's fog, the Wanderer is told. Parked out behind the National Bank, at 4 p. m. that day the headlights were barely visible. Passers-by would have turned them out early in the morning, but the car was locked. It only takes one episode like this for the forgetful motorist to always remember it in the future.

Remember years back when people discussed the tendency of drug stores to feature all sorts of merchandise that had to do with anything but drugs? So this week comes the reliable report that a local hardware merchant was adopting a merchandise line that was wholly unfamiliar to his regular trade. It was a package of four rolls of toilet tissue. If we're not careful, the country will be back to the good old days of the general store—only we'll have a hundred times as many of them.

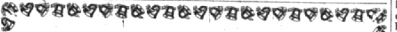
Some Birmingham resident called up a city official last week to object to the 29 per cent increase in taxes this year. That's

like okaying a purchase at a store then objecting to the price when it is delivered at home. 'Way last spring both city and school held hearings on their proposed budgets—and the tax rate was then indicated. That was the time to make known objections had any individual thought such tax boosts were unnecessary—not after the horse is out of the barn.

This Wanderer's life appears to be a little more worth living since he came across a cheering bit of news this week. It seems that popcorn manufacturers have invented a popcorn bag that is entirely noiseless. That will be one relief for harassed movie-goers, anyway. Now all they have to do is invent an odorless popcorn so these same movie patrons won't be asphyxiated every time they enter a picture palace. Simpler, of course, would be for all movie houses to absolutely forbid popcorn in any form. In this Wanderer's opinion, popcorn is something that should be eaten only out-of-doors while a strong wind is blowing. Incidentally, we like popcorn as such, too.

All these women who lately have been coming out of a local chain grocery with huge paper bags in their arms don't necessarily have them filled with items of food; this wanderer has discovered. They can be quite empty, but it was the only type of container available at the time to use for carrying items out of the store. Our investigation revealed that they were large, heavy, waterproofed bags, undoubtedly surplus formerly used to pack Army and Navy material for shipment. "Necessity is the mother of invention," haven't we all found these days?

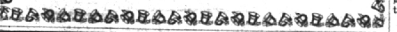
Some Birmingham merchants are very co-operative in placing in



A Merry Christmas To All

And a Prosperous New Year

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their shop windows the placards advertising some particular project being undertaken by some local group. While this Wanderer has no intention of criticizing this spirit, he has noticed that quite often a number of these same placards remain in view long after the event has taken place, sometimes even weeks afterward. Your guess is as good as ours in why this is so.

A number of persons complained to this Wanderer concerning the large volume of water which fell on Birmingham, and vicinity last Thursday. All we imagine like to point out is, just because water is falling on you, would people rather walk around puddles or wade through deep snow drifts?

One of Birmingham's residents—who started off the conversation with this Wanderer by commenting on the number of people who responded to appeals made through this column—wants to remind you that at Christmas time the letter carriers, garbage men, and men who come to collect ashes are all forgotten men. These men, she reminds us all, serve faithfully all year round, and while we rarely see them, they do the job well. Some little remembrance would not be amiss, she feels.

A Birmingham man who recently held conversation with one of the thirty newboys in town, called in an interesting bit of information. Each newboy makes an investment in the papers and is to deliver on Thursday or Friday night, if the people are not at home and have not left the money for him in the mail chute or under the mat, he is short just that much money for that next week. As he rarely frequently, the man asserts, the newboy will find only four families at home on collection night. To buy next week's papers, he must borrow the money from his family, dip into his savings, or get it some other way. To avoid this, our defender of the newboys suggests that everyone who has a newboy arrange with him where they will leave the week's payment if they are not home. Sounds like a good idea to us and one which will save the newboy considerable time in route, he says over his route two or three times to collect.

Pvt. John Gregory Peck, son of the Robert C. Pecks, 1440 Birmingham Blvd., an Army enlistee as of September 23, recently wrote of his new experiences to Sgt. Al Sundell of the Pontiac Army Recruiting Station, who canvasses the Birmingham territory for Army enlistees. Said Pvt. Peck, "To be honest with you, I think it is (joining the Army) was the best move I ever made. At the time I went in, all of the chips were on my side. I had very easy basic training and am now at a

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POE (Port of Embarkation) but don't think I'll ship over. I'm on a transfer to the Medical Corps; until then I'm working unofficially at a dispensary. The food is okay, you get plenty of sleep, and when you get into the routine of Army life, you feel as if you have a place and a job. To me that means a lot, I don't know exactly how to put it, but in the Army you have a future that you know about, and that John L. Lewis can't interfere with. You are always sure that your job will be there for you tomorrow, and that your \$75 is going to come through at the end of the month, strike or no strike. I don't know what the other fellows feel, but as for me, I'm honestly glad that I enlisted when I did." Pvt. Peck's new address is: Pvt. J. G. Peck, 18204012, General Delivery, Fort Lawton, Wash., in the event any of his local friends wish to write him.

For the first time in his life, this Wanderer the other day actually heard a woman make the following statement: "I honestly don't care what shape I'm in." Heavens to Betsy! such forthrightness.

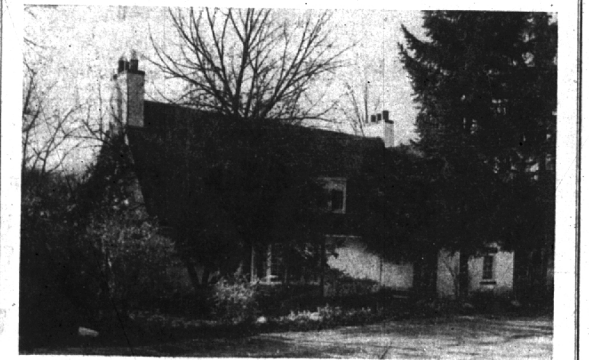
To the editorial desk this week came a copy of the "Sac Sun," published 'way out in Sac City, Iowa. It was a typographical error which this Wanderer reprints just to show that in spite of all precautions errors do appear in typographical errors that are not harmful or cause embarrassment on the part of the staff. The "Sac Sun" on a society page stated: "Mary E. Drey Married Thursday to Roland Jansan." Two columns over was the headline: Mary E. Drey Married Monday to Francis Morgan." The stories revealed, however, that the two girls were cousins who were

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ALWAYS a distinctive address, is noted for the interesting architectural character of its homes. The issue shown above is typical. Situated on the valley side with the Rouge River coursing through the glen, an owner has undisputed claim of nature's wonders.

Exotic is the living room (19 x 31) with its planked flooring and beamed ceiling, also the (15 x 12.6) dining room on the Rouge side. Kitchen, just modernized, leaves little to be desired. There is, a den, lavatory and service stairway. Oil-fired, hot-water heat, insures comfort. 5 Bedrooms, 3 baths are upstairs—one suite with a fireplace.

For a home that can always delight you — see this.

SNYDERBUCK & BENNETT
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THEATRE BUILDING
239 S. WOODWARD BIRMINGHAM 1400

married to these respective groups but that one's middle name was Elizabeth and the other's was Catherine.

Our local high school's production last week of "Turnabout" really demonstrates that Birmingham (Continued on Page 2, Part 2)

ON THE FRANKLIN RIVER

Very attractive home on one and one-half landscaped acres, overlooking and sloping down to this beautiful stream.
Living room 27 by 15, Dining room, kitchen, bedroom or library, and tiled lavatory down.
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