

SIXTY-NINTH YEAR—NO. 40

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1946

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Leaves for Germany

Faye Anderson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter A. Anderson, 1140 Lake Park drive, has left for Red Cross Headquarters in Frankfurt, Germany. She expects to do rehabilitation work in Germany and many other European countries and will return to the States in about a year.

During the war, Miss Anderson served 15 months in the South Pacific area.

A U. S. airline plans to fly 60,000 lbs. of fresh fruit and vegetables a week to Alaska from California.



Bits of Birmingham

One disgusted Birmingham resident—this Wanderer understands there are many more—wants to know why under the sun the stamp window at the local post office wasn't opened up during the Christmas rush rather than require customers to stand in line for many minutes to buy them at the parcel post window. Only Postmaster Joe Byrne could answer this one. (On the editorial page this week a Birmingham woman voices her reaction to this situation in "The People's Column.")

The snows came to Birmingham, and so did the college set, judging from the way local drug stores are filled with fur-coated, jean-clad girls, and pipe-smoking young men. Seems that one (it varied in such things) can just about tell the college or vicinity a girl is being schooled at from the clothes she wears around home. Being in New York's fashion-wise area, most of the eastern colleges pick up new collegian styles quicker and to greater extremes than the local set.

A number of motorists still place pennies or nickels in the city's parking meters even though it's before or after the hours stipulated on each meter, this Wanderer has noticed. We can't believe all these "generous" individuals are from out-of-town, either. One person explains it this way. "They are so used to parking downtown when

the meters are working, that when they have occasion to park after 6 p. m. they just automatically put money in the things." Regardless of when they put money in the meters, it all goes toward paying off earlier the original cost so the city can begin using the revenue for other purposes.

Two dogs have died and one has been very sick during the past two weeks, each case attributed to the indiscriminate use of rat poison in the area south and west of the Adams school. This Wanderer was told this week that persons in that area have been attempting to rid the neighborhood of a number of rats and the dogs undoubtedly ate some of the poison. It was suggested that any person—whichever part of the city he lives in—notify his dog-owning neighbors BEFORE any poison is left outside, and for how long a time it will be left for the rats. In this way, several dog owners point out, "man's best friend" won't accidentally stumble across any of the poison. An advance phone call seems the only right, courteous thing to do, this Wanderer feels.

All former Baldwin High School band members are asked to attend a meeting tonight at 8 o'clock at the Community House to plan a party to honor Arnold W. Berndt, Birmingham schools' instrumental

music director, on his 20th anniversary in the Birmingham schools. The party, which is to take place next spring, needs the cooperation of all Berndt's former band members, this Wanderer was told this week. Of all the hundreds of instrumentalists who have worked under Berndt and who are certain to be home in Birmingham or visiting her for the holidays, a goodly number should have the opportunity to attend tonight's initial meeting, it is thought.

A Chicagoan advocates the abolition of the word "dear" in business letters. This Wanderer rallies to his support, for why address someone as "dear" when you don't even know them, or intend to bawl 'em out?

"Let It Snow, Let It Snow, Let It Snow," was last week end's theme song for countless thousands of Birmingham's youngsters who wanted a "White Christmas" yesterday.

Many Birmingham residents are continually fooled by that huge thermometer outside Shains' Drug Store on the corner of Pierce and West Maple. When one attempts to determine the temperature, he discovers the thing is broken. As far as this Wanderer can determine, the indicator of heat or cold, has been in that state for some years now. Has anyone ever thought to

get it repaired, or is it left there to fool the citizenry?

The parking meter which has been the biggest revenue producer for the City was one which collected approximately \$43 in the four months of its operation. This Wanderer has learned from Don Egbert, the city's manager. On the other hand, the meter which has produced the smallest amount is the most easterly one on the north side of East Magnolia. Seems that people just don't like to back into that parking space in the corner," Don remarked.

Slowly, but surely, Birmingham street signs are being transferred from the illegible to the legible through the use of silver, white and black paint, this Wanderer was told this week by City Manager Don Egbert. "Of course, the paint which we are using is not real good stuff yet," Don explained. "But the signs will be very clear to read for a good while anyway, and that is an improvement," according to Don's explanations, only about one-third of the City's street signs have been repainted so far. Seems that many city activities being done by present city personnel, the signs can only be repainted in between other more important jobs, he said. But as this Wanderer notes in his travels around town, what he sees is a new bunch of signs all dressed up with new paint.

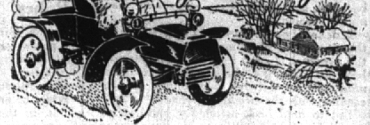
Observing numerous cars and trucks skidding about or stalled during last week's ice storm, Police Chief John P. Hackett this week got some "observations" off his chest and into this Wanderer's notebook. "It seems that many folks have to learn how to drive all over again each winter," said the Chief, "but that some learn the hard way. Most of us have experienced that sickening sensation of a skid on packed snow or ice, where your vehicle just goes right on ahead while you stand on the brakes, and remember to do something about it next time. Good citizens and economic drivers reduce speed and use tire chains to compensate for inadequate traction on snow or ice. They also minimize the other major hazard—reduced visibility—by maintaining good windshield wipers, defrosters and lights. More BITS on Page 2, Part 2."



May your Holiday be as bright as our Christmas lantern—that's our wish for you.

(YOU) SEE WHITE
Phone 3302

Old Fashioned Yuletide Greetings



It isn't always stylish to be old fashioned, but there are times when it's very genuine—and Christmas is one of them. Yes, folks, we wish you an old fashioned Yuletide season this year . . . the best of them all!

HOEY, BENJAMIN and STEPHENS

Realtors
259 S. Woodward Birmingham
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A Merry Christmas

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A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS

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The Season's Greetings

We wish to extend our sincere wishes for a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY and PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR to our friends and patrons.

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A
Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year

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It is good to know that Christmas is here again. Good to celebrate it, too, as in the past, with so many fine people whom we have been privileged to serve, and to whom we now send

Our most
Hearty
Christmas
Greetings.

SNYDER BUCK & BENNETT
INC.

239 S. WOODWARD BIRMINGHAM 1400



Merry Christmas
TO ALL OUR FRIENDS

Styles change, methods change, but Christmas—never! Beneath it all is the same old love of man for his folks and his neighbors, the same old dream of the day when peace and good will encompass all the earth.

So now in that changeless season of Christmas we greet our friends and neighbors, as so often before, with that time-worn message of cheer and good fellowship, MERRY CHRISTMAS!



One need not be told it is Christmastime. The glowing faces of friend and stranger alike bespeak it. It gives us the same thrill as of old to wish all our friends, and those who are still to become our friends, a very Merry Christmas.

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