

There is an evaluation and an estimation to be gained by the doing of good to others—and I think that the height of these attitudes is found in doing good where it is vitally needed. One of the most difficult of human activities is to be wise while being generous, and thus not debase the beneficiary.

SIXTY-EIGHTH YEAR—NO. 49

The Birmingham Eccentric

PART TWO

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1946

\$2.00 PER YEAR (In Oakland County)—SINGLE COPIES, 5c

YOU'LL FIND ONE YOU LIKE!

- 1. AN ENGLISH COTTAGE** on a third of an acre, near the school. It's newly decorated and the furnace was new this winter. There's a fireplace in the Living Room, the Dining Room is wainscoted and the kitchen is bright and cheery. In addition to the three big upstairs bedrooms there's an additional nursery or study. Possession may be arranged in ninety days. Here's a lot of living for \$15,500
- 2. BUILD IT HERE!** A high, scenic lot on Lake Park Drive, overlooking the City Park and Quanton Lake. Gently sloping, 80 x 225, only four blocks from Quanton School and a short walk to Woodward Ave. This is a real investment at \$2500
- 3. A RAMBLING ONE-FLOOR RANCH HOUSE** built against a background of some of the most beautiful natural wildwood you've ever seen. The home is new, both Living and Dining Rooms have log-burning fireplaces, the kitchen is a dream and the three bedrooms and two baths are interestingly planned. 5 Acres allow lots of play-room. The price is \$24,500
- 4. A SUPERBLY BUILT BRICK RESIDENCE** on the highest hill in Franklin. Nearly 6 acres of land with wooded banks sloping to a sparkling stream. There are four family bedrooms and 2 baths, plus servants rooms, and both Library and Recreation Room are partly paneled. Heated by G-E oil-hot water, with a huge walk-in type Deep Freeze room. The price is \$39,500
- 5. THIS IS FOR THE METAMORA WEEK-ENDER.** It's a lovely old remodeled farmhouse on over two acres with stately trees and a lot of atmosphere. The 2 Living Rooms make for gracious entertaining and 6 bedrooms and 2 baths permit plenty of guests. The stable has four stalls for the hay burners. Even if you don't ride you can't help liking the rolling countryside and the quaint old town. It's a lot for \$12,500.

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Bits of Birmingham

Unusual reports often find their way to the police docket and during the past few days there have come three complaints by Birmingham residents that magazine salesmen have been anything but courteous to women in homes where the salesmen have called. Police indicate they informed the offending salesman or salesmen that they would do well to absent themselves, permanently, from this city.

It is reported from Lansing that the state is seeking quite a group of men who have studied ways and means of making fishing better in Michigan lakes and streams. Birmingham fishermen hope that the state finds some really good men for this department and that fishing does take a quick turn for the better. Numerous Birmingham sportsmen report they have spent many, many days on lakes and streams which formerly yielded some pretty good catches of trout, bass and other game fish and pan fish, and that of late years their luck has dropped almost to the vanishing point. What the state hopes to find is fisheries biologists to supervise fisheries surveys and recommend management techniques. This Wanderer is told that many Oakland county lakes could stand a lot of improvement as far as fishing is concerned.

This Wanderer received a phone call from Pontiac the other day asking if he knew anyone in Birmingham who possessed one of the rare Stridivarius violins. The gentleman understood there was one in Birmingham, and said he would like to contact the person who has it; we, at the Eccentric, acting as middleman, it seems. Can anyone volunteer any information?

Mrs. Robert C. Williams, of 779 Southlawn boulevard, last week was watching the sparrows at her feeding station in the back yard when she noticed a stranger in the group. It was a female cardinal, the first of that species she had seen since last fall. The weather probably fooled the lady cardinal just like it is fooling the rest of us.

Here's one on a returning Birmingham serviceman: He went to Detroit a few days after his arrival home from the wars and tells how he had trouble keeping himself out of the various lines. "So used to getting in line for food, clothing, trains, boats, and even my discharge, that when I noticed a line forming I just naturally stepped in. I just didn't want what they were handing out at that ladies' store, though. It wasn't nylon."

For most homes Christmas came at the usual time and the happiness of the season has passed along, thoughts of spring taking its place, but at the Boomer family residence at 252 North Saginaw street, Pontiac, Christmas did not come until last Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. John C. Boomer and family (they formerly resided at 816 Pierce street in Birmingham) held their Christmas dinner and celebration until all three of their respective sons returned home. This time arrived this week and a great turkey, with all the trimmings, greeted the returning servicemen as they gathered for the celebration. The occasion, says Mrs. Boomer, was a happy one. "In addition to being a late celebration of Christmas we celebrated the safe return of our sons, Edmund, who came from Japan, Melvin, who served in the Air Corps, and Jack, who was with the Navy. This Wanderer and all friends of the family join with them in their happiness over the return of the boys who were in Uncle Sam's service."

A returning Birmingham serviceman tells of once Army experience when a private, first class, was in command of a long plane flight in Germany, with a captain as pilot and lieutenant as co-pilot, and a corporal as guard. "I was ordered to carry messages to the front line command," relates the private in telling the story, "and was given a big plane in which to fly our jeep, a guard, who was a corporal, and a captain and lieutenant to handle the plane. I was the lowest man in rank in the bunch, yet was in full command. We made the 150-mile flight to the field nearest the front, unloaded the jeep, ordered the

captain and lieutenant to await our return; drove with my corporal guard to the front line; deposited the jeep and returned safely. We drove our jeep into the line, roped it down and flew back to headquarters safely."

"He who laughs last laughs best" is still a pretty good adage. This Wanderer came into the office the other morning complaining he was going to fashion a rust-proof license plate holder that could be changed in a Jiffy. Hal Buerge, The Eccentric advertising manager, then claimed he could change license plates in two minutes. Came the next day when Hal went to put on his new plate. Finally, with hacksaw in hand, Hal got the old plate off in about fifteen minutes. This Wanderer, naturally, stood by and laughed heartily, while Buerge went after an aspirin.

A second national holiday was observed in Birmingham (as if most of the residents were Rio Van Van) on Friday, Feb. 22, Washington's Birthday and a legal holiday, only four American flags were seen in front of the city's many businesses. It was reported that even the local Federal post office was negligent in this respect. Homes, too, for the most part, remained unadorned with the American flag. It is hoped that now the way over we won't forget these little but mighty important customs.

Among "miscellaneous income" which the Birmingham schools receive each year is that from fox hunting and padlock deposits, payment for damaged or destroyed school books, and auditorium and gymnasium rentals.

This Wanderer continues to receive reports that foxes appear to be on the increase around Birmingham and all over Oakland county. Not having much chance to get out into the country this winter, this Wanderer had little to go on until late he received official word of the yearly take of foxes. The conservation department reports more foxes taken in Oakland than in any other county in Michigan. While the figures for 1945 are not yet compiled, those for 1944, released today, indicate bounties were paid on 859 animals in Oakland county that year. Oakland pays a \$2.50 bounty on each fox.

B. E. Francis, formerly of 459 Willis and more lately with the U. S. Navy in Japanese waters and in China and Korea ports, is just home from service and is teaching in Highland Park Junior college. The Navy man says if the home folks think they have had trouble with the mail they should have been in the service during the war, and experienced some of the delays the men in the Army and Navy had to contend with. One special item he says he will always remember is the condition of the mail that went through the Oklahoma storm. Bags of mail were blown all over the place; some into the ocean, some into other waters, and thousands and thousands of pieces of mail just pounded to a pulp by the beating it received in the storm. One bag of mail for Francis' outfit followed

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- 2. GOOD FOR ANTIQUES** All white and near the center of the Village, this comfortable old home has lots of possibilities for antiques or remodeling. 2 bedrooms. Attached garage. Large site with outlook upon the River Rouge. \$9,950.
- 3. SUBSTANTIAL BRICK** English design and in good condition, the large family who wants quick access to high school and shops can be comfortable here. 4 bedrooms, attic and 1st floor den plus glassed 1st floor sun room. Automatic heating. 2 car. Extra large site. It's the nicest home in the area. Price much below original cost.
- 4. QUARTON SPECIAL!** Rich in comfort and dignity this interesting white clapboard home on Pilgrim at Pine really has "it." A beamed living room ceiling, cozy library with fireplace, sumptuous dressing room equipment in the Master's suite are features. 5 bedrooms, 3 baths, lavatory. Large yard! And possession at once!
- 5. BEVERLY HILLS** Solidly built with hard-burned face brick and brick 2-car garage, this is a good buy. 100 feet of frontage, low taxes and economical stock heat. 3 bedrooms, sun room and 1st floor lav. \$15,800.

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