

I would rather live in a mud house in a free nation like our own, where we may speak and write freely, than to live in a house where we are subject to the rule of a few, not to the honest judgment of the many.

SIXTY-NINTH YEAR—NO. 34

The Birmingham Eccentric

PART TWO

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1946

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Houseman-Spitzley Corporation offers you a wide selection of desirable home-sites in the Birmingham area. All are still reasonably priced to your advantage. See them soon!



Bits of Birmingham

"My heart leaps up when I behold a rainbow in the sky" is true enough—and so does it when I behold a policeman wending his way toward me with a traffic violations book in his hand, one Birmingham motorist undoubtedly thought last week. The Wanderer saw her from a distance—the visibly started when the blue uniformed man suddenly appeared in front of her car where the parking meter's little red flag was plainly in sight. As the Wanderer drew nearer, he and she were talking excitedly—especially she, talking the arm of the law about that parking meter which she had put a nickel in and it wouldn't work. We walked by: but on our return trip it was easy to see who had won that round. On the windshield of the bright new car was a bright new violation ticket. It indicated he had told her to "explain it to the judge."

The Wanderer overheard a bit of conversation between two hoboys on the City streets in the middle of the afternoon which reminded him of his own school days. Said one young miscreant: "I think I'd better get back to school—Miss Blank is pretty strict." "Oh, too," said a companion, "always worrying. You're half an hour late now; stop in at the drug store with us and quit screwin'!" Miss No. 1 acquiesced and they tripped along a few more steps until the third young lady who had been crossing her head solemnly declared: "You know what the matter with you, Barb? You've got just enough conscience to keep you worrying all the time, but not enough to keep you from doing the things you worry about!" We thought: "How true, how true, and Barb, unfortunately, is not the only one."

One indignant Birmingham parent told the Wanderer this week that while he believes a teacher is entitled to his or her opinion concerning amendments to the State constitution, he is not obliged to take time out of the regular school day to get their classes to address postcards to their parents favoring the adoption of a State constitutional amendment. "I understand that on the regular mimeographed sheet of instructions-for-the-day handed each teacher at the high school one day before the November 5 election, that the teacher was instructed to have her class address cards to their parents, cards which asked support of the sales tax split. School officials professed no knowledge of the plan beforehand, as far as I could determine. What I would like to know is this: are Birmingham schools going to permit this type of propaganda in the future?" he asked.

Last week the Wanderer noticed a man equipped with an antenna and earphones, similar to a man from Mars, come strolling slowly down the street, stopping here and there and listening. Seems he was from the Edison company and was using his "minelocator" device to discover any breaks in the cables which run beneath the sidewalk. Looks like that old adage "one ear to the ground" will be lost—no more such new gadgets as this in use.

A report came to the Wanderer this week that the VFW Post No. 2645 is contemplating a new home, to be built just south of the city.

Birth announcements—particularly those which appear in a week-end or small daily newspaper—are always read closely, and society

editors have always tried for various new presentations of the fact. While The Eccentric probably will never get away with it, the Wanderer heard this week of a Montana editor who did succeed in thinking up a novel way to inform his readers of the new arrival. It went something like this: "Mr. and Mrs. John Jones have a new son, born Nov. 22nd at Elk Creek hospital. They call him Pete. Now you know what happened to Jim Smith's daughter, Ruth."

While no one reported seeing any bare-legged men in town just before it happened, Dickinson's report the theft of a pair of men's trousers worth \$146. "They insist he didn't leave his old pair, either."

At a local restaurant the Wanderer was enjoying an afternoon coffee when a small black and white kitty suddenly rubbed up against his leg. The restaurant owner picked him up and took him in the kitchen, apparently fed him a few scraps and put him out. That would be all, except that the kitten found his way in... about the same size No. 1, but yellow and white. Maybe cats do communicate with one another, spreading the word about the best places for handouts.

A Birmingham woman suggested to the Wanderer this week that the City Commission should establish a parking lot for Austins in the parking meter zone.

The Wanderer hears that Santa Claus has a yearly trip to Birmingham all planned already this year. Reports have it that he'll come in via airplane, landing at the Bers Airport on E. Maple at 8 a. m. Saturday, Nov. 30. A convertible will be there to meet him.

HOMES

For Xmas Occupancy

Comfortable 3 bedrms. & bath up, fireplace, H. A. heat, garage, trees, nr. Woodward \$14,500.

Attractive brick farmhouse of 2 bedrms. & bath up, bedrm. dn. Fireplace in L. R. & D. R. paneled K. & Bkfst. rm. gar. att. automatic heat, Kennels, stable, 8 ac., 6 Miles east \$19,500.

Spacious 4 bedrms. & bath up, attic, H. A. heat, garage, nr. Adams school & R. R. Trans. \$20,000. Cozy Cape Cod of 3 bedrms. & bath up, fireplace, lavatory, oil air heat, garage att., nr. Quarton school. \$20,850.00.

Modernized Colonial, par excellence of 2 bedrms. & bath up, also complete apartment, automatic heat, nr. High school \$21,500.

Brick Colonial, 4 bedrms. & 2 baths up, fireplace, library, lavatory, oil steam heat, gar. att., nr. Quarton school \$29,500.

Quality personified, Farmhouse of 1 bedrm. & bath up, 2 bedrms. & bath dn., library, fireplace, L. R. bay, spacious storage & closets, oil air heat, softener, incinerator, gar. att., metal screens & storm sash, cor. lot beautifully landscaped \$29,500.

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SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION

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Member of Federal Home Loan Bank System and Federal Savings & Loan Insurance Corporation

and drive him to Birmingham's business section to register for a day on a throne one of the local shops is preparing for him. Get your lists made early, kiddies—November 30 will be here before you know it!

Americans evidently still have a case of war nerves, undoubtedly due to governmental restrictions which have a tendency to make the average citizen feel the country is still participating in a war. Or how would you explain the nervous reaction of several Pontiac-bound bus passengers Monday when they suddenly hear Birmingham's regular Monday noon street? The woman who reported this incident to the Wanderer said several startled passengers jumped out of their seats and seemed about ready to seek air raid shelters when they were reassured by a couple of Birmingham residents.

With the 1946 edition of "Prominent Life Underwriters" of America just off the press, comes word that Lantz L. Mackey, 18577 San Jose, has been included. The Wanderer understands that this book is a Who's Who among life insurance men, giving life sketches of the leading 600 men from among approximately 125,000. Mackey was affiliated with several insurance companies, and finally decided to settle in Birmingham. He led Home Life in 1945, is a life and qualifying member of Life Insurance Leaders of Michigan and is a member of the "Million Dollar Round Table." He has lectured extensively on business life insurance throughout Michigan and Canada.

Mrs. Chet Brown, chairman of the Americanism Committee of the (Continued on Page 2, Part 2)

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