

When I started for the woods before dawn Nov. 12 the temperature was 28 degrees; a heavy frost had coated everything white, including the grass and foliage; not a sound in the woods until dawn—then rifles seemed to crash from every direction. But all I saw were trees that day.

SIXTY-NINTH YEAR—NO. 35

# The Birmingham Eccentric

PART  
THREE

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1946

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

## In 'Model Company'

Private Malcolm Browne, son of Dr. and Mrs. F. O. Browne, 661 Bates, was one of the men in the company selected as the "model company" for all-around efficiency and cleanliness at Fort Belvoir, Va. He is in Company A of the Third Battalion at the Engineering Training Center.

## Going Overseas

Private John L. Risch Jr. stopped off at his home recently for a week enroute from Aberdeen, Md. to Camp Stennis, Calif. The son of Mr. and Mrs. John Risch of 910 Chestnut street, he was drafted into the Army last Sept. 4. He is with the Ordnance branch, and expects to be shipped out very shortly.

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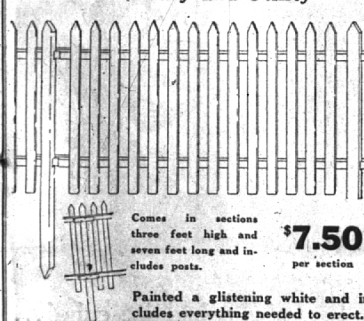
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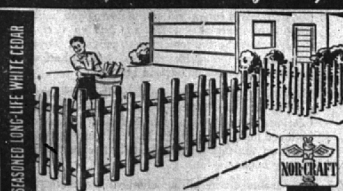
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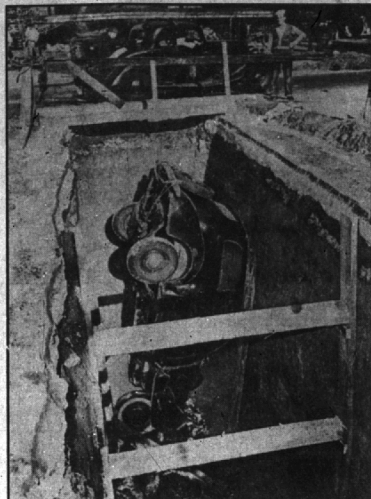


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## Might Be You



It dropped 18 feet into a sewer pipe excavation at Philadelphia, Pa., but driver William T. Elliot, Jr., 31, walked away with only minor cuts. However, drive carefully—you might not be so lucky.

## Proceeds Of Party To Be Given To Troy Polio Victim

The Troy Township Civic League, newly organized group of residents of Troy, is sponsoring a dance and Christmas party for the benefit of a family in the Township, the father of which was stricken with infantile paralysis last month.

It will be held Wednesday, Dec. 18, at 8:30 p. m. at May's Barn.

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3261 Rochester road. The man afflicted is Earl Klusendorf, 1128 Boyd street, the father of six children.

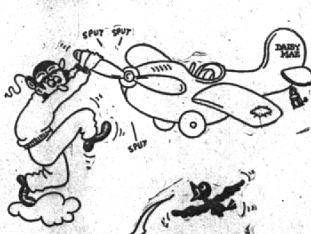
Mrs. L. Kenney, secretary of the League, said, "This dread disease strikes terror to the hearts of the family affected, and the approaching holidays, which mean joy to many, serve only to intensify the grief and distress of the sufferers. In addition to the pain they must endure, the cost of hospitalization for months is a burden few are prepared to meet.

"Any contribution to this family will be happily received. They will lighten the financial burden and assure this unfortunate man he is not forgotten."

Contributions may be sent to Mrs. L. Kenney, 1925 Crooks Road, R. No. 4, Birmingham.

## Gets Army Discharge

Richard Craig, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lyman J. Craig, Orchard Ridge road, arrived home Wednesday, after being discharged at Camp Meade, Va. He entered service last June and has also been stationed at Indian Town Gap, Pa. Before his discharge, he was a corporal.



YOU WON BE LEFT UP IN THE AIR. LOOK IN THE YELLOW PAGES OF THE TELEPHONE DIRECTORY FOR "WHERE-TO-BUY-IT" INFORMATION.



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## Survey Indicates Parents Want Driving Age Raised To 16; Teen-Agers Say 'NO'

By Helen Bishop

While the Automobile Club of Michigan has announced its intention of spearheading a campaign in the 1947 legislative session to raise the minimum driver's license age from 14 to 16, opinion in Birmingham seems to be divided. One parent feels that parents are the ones who should judge if their 14-year-old is capable of exercising mature driving judgment.

Judge John J. Gaffill and Police Chief Hackett, on the other hand, feel that in general 14-year-olds are too young to drive.

"Generally speaking, these youngsters are too young to drive," Hackett said. "Many actually lack the physical stature; they are not yet big enough to drive, and most of them lack mature judgment. There are exceptions, but on the whole I would say that 14 is too young an age at which to be driving."

"Forget Courtesy," Judge John J. Gaffill stated: "There is no question in my mind that 14-year-olds are not capable of mature driving. There are more traffic violations by teen-agers than by any other group, and the majority of accidents in the United States occur with drivers between the ages of 14 and 20."

"I know it is the local practice to grant licenses to 14-year-olds, and there are perhaps a few capable drivers at that age. But many of them are not. These seem to be a mania among young drivers to play tag with the law, and to overlook the climbing speedometer needle. Until 14-year-olds are capable of careful, courteous, mature driving, they should not be given licenses."

In order to present both sides of the question, The Eccentric surveyed several young people, both those 16 and over, and those who are 14 and 15 and already driving.

**More Careful at 14**  
Bob Aiken, 17, 1193 Pierce, said, "I believe I was a more careful driver when I was 14 than I am now. I try to be careful of course, but as a person gains experience and feels more at home in a car, he is apt to do everything in connection with driving at a more rapid pace. I think they should issue licenses to 14-year-olds."

Pete Hartuff, 15-year-old sophomore, 3968 Ridgedale, said, "I think definitely that they should grant licenses at 14. I've been driving since I was 14 and have never had a ticket and believe I'm a careful driver."

Pat Wall, 14, 569 Oakland avenue, believes he is absolutely capable of driving and said he would certainly hate to see such a law go through. He feels that the 14 and 15-year-olds are not the ones responsible for many accidents, but that the older teenagers were the guilty ones.

**Parents Should Decide**  
Mrs. Tod Reed, mother of 15-year-old Tom Reed, 3123 Wimbison, believes that whether a 14 or 15-year-old is granted a license is up to the parents.

"A parent knows his child," she stated, "and whether or not he is capable of handling a car. If there is any question in their minds, they should not allow the child to drive."

Gerry Hughes, 16-year-old junior, 1467 South Bates, takes the other side of the question and said, "I think the age limit should be increased to 16. At 14 a boy or girl is more apt to be reckless and to try to impress people by driving fast and showing off."

Janet Flahack, 16, 763 Dorchester, said: "It's strictly up to the parents to decide if their child is too young to drive at 14. Some kids are more mature at 14 than

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## Kicks 'Em Barefoot



Halfback Johnny Nauman kicks 'em barefoot for U. of Southern California. Coach Jeff Cravath predicts big things for the Hawaiian this season.

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