

In this strangely spitting world nothing of man's making is permanent—nothing except some Universal Truth which he may manifest in life; and then history will call him a Socrates, a Plato, a St. Francis of Assisi, a Saviour, a Joan of Arc.

The Birmingham Eclectic

PART TWO

SEVENTIETH YEAR—NO. 28

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1947

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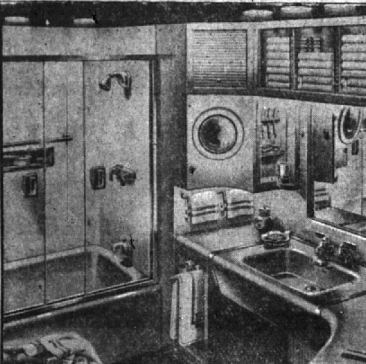
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Bits of Birmingham

Wonder how long it will be before the Birmingham men come out with that "new" look? According to a recent press release from a well known men's wear manufacturer and designer, it certainly will be "new." How are you girls going to like it when your heart-throb shows up in a one-piece suit, all ready for that big date? Yep, the latest is a zipper-front, one-piece job—just like Dad wears when he takes the ashes out of the cellar, except the pockets will be nicer.

If, when you are in the southern part of the city some afternoon or evening, you hear Christmas carols, do not think your ears have been influenced by the Yuletide lights your eyes have seen, and are playing tricks on you. There actually are carols ringing through the cold crisp air each afternoon from 3:30 to 5, and each evening from 7:30 to 9. These holiday airs, old and new, are being broadcast from the tower of the Walter-Diamond

Lamp Studio, through their public address system, as their Christmas greetings to the City of Birmingham.

Birmingham skinned a skin Tuesday to the beautiful flower show of the local branch of the Women's National Farm and Garden Club. This is their 11th annual Christmas show, to which the entire city is invited, and which has become so much a part of the Yuletide season that the great majority of the residents look forward to it as eagerly as their children await the arrival of Santa Claus. The city joins, as one, in extending congratulations to the members for the beauty of their work, and the size of the exhibit. They are also congratulated on the way in which they carried on through the war years, bringing a city-wide touch of beauty into the Christmas season.

Because the ramping of the Woodward-Asia intersection will require the movement of more than anticipated traffic over Lincoln avenue, Adams to Hunter, city commissioners have approved the recommendation to widen Lincoln at this point to 44 feet.

That Pierce School 8-room addition is expected to be finished prior to the opening of the school term next fall, Superintendent of Schools Dwight B. Ireland has revealed. "In fact, the company which will construct the new Pierce wing has guaranteed it, Ireland said.

The old-fashioned snow shovel is on its way out, apparently, a local citizen observed to this Wanderer the other day. "More and more of our residents seem to be neglecting the duty of shoveling snow off the sidewalks in front of their houses," he pointed out.

"Then, when the snow turns to ice, it becomes too hard to remove. Yet plenty of falls are continually resulting on these uncleared portions of walk. When, if ever, will these persons show enough consideration for the pedestrian by removing the snow?" he concluded.

Reports indicate that a number of Birmingham youth will be attending the 16th annual Allied Youth New Year's Ball to be held at Detroit's Masonic Temple the evening of December 31.

J. F. Gray, of Pleasant avenue, who has spent the past two months in South America on a business trip, has returned home after visiting six countries there. He says business conditions are good, and that all countries are going forward rapidly. Food and clothing are extremely costly, he reported. Gray went to South America by way of Florida, returning to New York, where Mrs. Gray met him. Among the many interesting South American experiences he enjoyed was the plane trip which took him across the Andes range. He reported flying through a mountain pass, barely high enough for the wings of the DC-4 to get through, while the peaks of the mountain towered above, hidden in clouds and snow.

"To the Wanderer: I read with interest (as do many thousands of others) your helpful column each week. And after talking to many of the young men on mail deliveries—especially those who deliver COD packages—I have discovered how disgusted they are with a good many Birmingham women who come to the door with large bills (\$10 and \$20s) and expect the driver to take all of his change to break the bill. The drivers tell me the women seem to have the idea that all they have to do is cash that bill and run clear back to the bank for more change. This time of year, especially, those boys are delivering sometimes bill way late at night trying to keep everybody pleased and happy. Well, it sure doesn't help any when you come to the door with a big smile on your face to accept a small COD delivery which your know is coming and say to the mailman, "Here is a ten or twenty dollar bill—the smallest I've got." You know it's hardly being fair to the driver; if they have that large a bill on hand, why can't they have a few singles on hand as well? You hear the same thing applies to the little newspaper boy. He says he works all week, through all kinds of weather, to get your paper there on time; then on Saturday when he's striving very hard to get enough together to pay his bill, somebody comes to the door with a ten or twenty and says to him, "That's all I've got—I hope you can break it." The poor kid's face drops a mile in disappointment because all he wants is 45 cents, or whatever it may be. It just doesn't make

good sense. Let's all try to THINK just a little more and get those big bills changed at the bank. I hope this letter will help both the mail carriers and the newboys to save a few steps." (Signed)

LET'S BE CONSIDERATE.

This Wanderer wasn't there, but it has been reported to him that last Saturday evening's pre-holiday dance, staged at the Community House, attracted about 150 adult couples who greatly enjoyed the social evening.

This Wanderer still notices that a number of persons every week are to be seen depositing pennies and nickels in the parking meters either before or after hours of operation. According to the parking ordinance, these meters are to be used between 9 a. m. and 6 p. m. except Sundays. However, it can be assumed that the persons who are conscientious enough to put in the money when they don't have to are careful enough during hours of operation so they don't get dollar parking tickets.

City officials still permit motorists to violate traffic regulations in connection with left turns from Maple onto Woodward avenue, this Wanderer observes. He would like to know why some yellow paint has not been applied to this intersection—other less congested intersections have been so painted.

A local woman called The Eclectic the other day to ask if merchants legally can refuse to accept more than 25 cents in pennies as payment on any article of merchandise. It seems she landed the merchant \$1.03 in pennies, which he refused with the statement that he was not legally bound to accept such an amount in pennies. The woman asked if he was right. After some checking with the Federal Reserve Bank in Detroit, this Wanderer has to back the merchant as being within his rights. For, according to the Federal Reserve, Federal laws stipulate that pennies or nickels may be considered legal tender only in an amount not to exceed 25 cents. (More BITS on Page 2, Part 2)

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