

Childhood's summers lengthen out into long and happy memories when you are grown up, don't they? Childhood trusts, believes, expects, deserves! Why should grown up folks lose these attributes?

# The Birmingham Eccentric

SEVENTIETH YEAR—NO. 39

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1947

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## Bits of Birmingham

An estimated 1,000 Birmingham youngsters invaded the B'ham Theater Saturday morning to witness the sixth annual Merchants Association "Kiddies' Christmas Party." After seeing a technicolor movie about Cinderella and getting a special message from Santa Claus himself, the boys and girls each got a bag of candy as they left the theater.

Most people think nothing of leaving a considerable "tip" for the waitress when the family dines out, but this Wanderer has been informed that the young girls who serve the regular Thursday evening family dinners at the Community House are not so fortunate as their coffee shop "sisters." While the young ladies at the House receive a commendation from the House itself, the tips they could also receive would add greatly to their weekly income.

According to City Manager Donald C. Egbert, the current building "boom" in Birmingham has put the DPW somewhat behind on the water connections into the various projects. It will take some time to catch up, he points out.

Vic Ulrich's Baldwin High School a cappella choir gave a near-professional performance of Christmas carols before the Birmingham Rotary Club Monday noon. This Wanderer has heard

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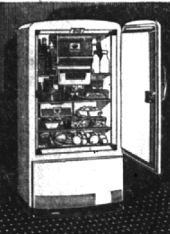
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the high school choir of other years, but maintains that Vic's present group is, figuratively speaking, head and shoulders above previous aggregations. Such professional caliber continues—and we have every reason to believe it will—we expect to hear that the choir has won one or more high school state awards, if there are such.

The five judges for the annual Merchants Association Home Lighting Contest have been revealed this week. To be chairmaned by Mayor Ralph A. Main, they include Mr. Charles Bell, Mrs. Donald S. Bell, Howard Holah and Clifford West. Prizes to be awarded contest winners, this Wanderer notes, are now being displayed in the lobby of the Birmingham Theater. Deadline for entries is this Saturday, Dec. 20. An entry blank is printed elsewhere in this week's issue of The Eccentric.

Delton L. Miller, 1351 Humphrey street, has been given a \$100 savings bond because the buck he shot in the Upper Peninsula during the recent hunting season weighed more than any other deer entered in a Pontiac contest. Miller's entry dressed 245 pounds.

Looking back over the answers which Birmingham women gave to the recent Eccentric survey on whether churches should have to provide parking lots, this Wanderer notes a very unusual reply: "I should say so! I tell you it is worth your life to park at a church on Sunday! I hardly ever go anymore as it is such a problem." As a contrast, here was a very emphatic negative: "NO! The city should straighten out its own problems before it starts telling organizations and schools what to do! (At this point the conversation ended when the receiver was slammed back on the hook.)"

The YMCA volleyball group which meets each Thursday evening at the Quarton School continues to grow as more and more Birminghamites take up this game. Among those enrolled are Herman Erke, F. Burnett, Walter Morgan, Wayne Mortimer, Jack Andrews, Don Egbert, Russ Berger, Mike Quinn, Al Gurey, Hal Simms, Chuck Elder, Lloyd Den, Andy Merrill, Chuck Latham, Y. C. Smith, Bill Kennedy, John Lusk and Jack Lyons. Anyone interested is invited to contact Andy Merrill, Wayne Mortimer, or

Jack Andrews. A house league of six men each will be formed after January 1. The group meets this evening and then adjourns until January 8.

Word has been received here that Mrs. Faye Anderson Bennett of Birmingham was one of several American Red Cross girls, stationed in Frankfurt, Germany, who were honored at a formal retreat parade held in front of the European Command Headquarters on October 17th, marking the withdrawal of Red Cross clubs from that city and their transfer to Army Special Services. Mrs. Bennett, formerly on the staff of the Red Cross Schumann Club in Frankfurt, is remaining in Germany to be with her husband, John Bennett of Worcester, Mass., the provost marshal's office of the U. S. Army in Frankfurt. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Anderson of 1140 Lake Park Drive, Birmingham.

For the first time this winter, the city's snow loader got a stiff workout Tuesday morning as downtown streets were covered with several inches of snow the night before. Police and DPW crewmen were kept considerably busy chasing down the drivers of cars parked where the loader was about to go by.

An anonymous Birmingham resident Monday afternoon purchased and gave to the Community House for distribution, 100 tickets for the annual Birmingham Theater children's Christmas Party on Dec. 26. "The tickets were given in memory of the late S. O. Wyle Bell, who was always very interested in children and their welfare," stated Mrs. Carol Pinnstedt, assistant director of the House.

The Birmingham Musicals has selected the Community House as the benefactor of its annual benefit concert this year. The concert will be given Jan. 28, when the local group will feature the playing of Charles Turner, local young violinist and Stanley Lock, pianist, formerly of Royal Oak, Michigan. This is the annual benefit concert which the Musicals sponsors each year. The entire proceeds will go to the Community House funds, and the patronage of the entire city is solicited. In announcing the concert, an officer of the Musicals said, "We could think of no worthier cause than

the support of our own Community House, and surely there is nothing which gives more pleasure to more people than this lovely, hospitable place. We feel sure that everyone in Birmingham will want to give it their wholehearted support."

The young lady was young and very attractive, and the bus driver was not unaware of her charms. Her smile, in the crowded Pontiac-bound bus, filled almost to capacity with commuters, was like a ray of sunshine. For a split second she stood silent, and then asked, "How much is it?" The driver smiled and parried her question with one of his own, "Where to, Miss?" Still smiling she replied, "To my mother's house."

The Eccentric is happy to be able to give you a more comprehensive knowledge of your new neighbors and their families. The additional information which are receiving from the Birmingham Welcoming Service makes this possible, and we sincerely hope you will enjoy it as much as we enjoy being able to offer it.

Have you met the Christmas tree racket yet? In a nearby com-

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community, youngsters are going to homes with lovely trees, and stating that the trees have been ordered by some member of the family, or in the case of apartment houses, by some tenant, and that they are not paid for. They collect, leave the tree, and vanish, like the little man who wasn't there.

## Birmingham YMCA Intermediates Win

Keeping their winning streak intact, the Birmingham Intermediate YMCA team defeated Northern Boys, 36 to 12, on the Highland Parkers floor. With Alton Fremody, Bobbie Jackson and Chuck McIntyre dropping in baskets from mid-court, the locals led at halftime 18 to 2 and coasted to a win in the final minutes of play.

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