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**Newcomers Praise City for Civic Interest, Friendly Stores, and Fine Schools**

**By Helen Bishop**

"We've always admired Birmingham, and finally living here is like a dream come true. We used to pass through town and stop to shop here. The stores have about everything anyone could want and the clerks are very nice without any of the bustle and bustle of a big city."

That is only one of the comments received by the Eccentric when conducting a search among newcomers to the City to find out why the population of Birmingham has climbed to new heights this year, hitting a high of 14,000, as compared with the 1241 figures of 12,500.

Dorchester, told us the above. Mrs. Frederick H. Hanson, 1375 Originally coming from Cleveland, O., the Hansons have lived in various cities connected with his work, and lived in a town outside of Birmingham years ago.

"The people," she continued, "are very friendly, neither too inquisitive nor too snobbish."

**Like Helpful Clerks**

She certainly noted alone in her comments. Most of the people who have recently moved here are apparently struck with the willingness of the people in the stores to be of help, while at the same time providing all of the articles generally to be found only in large cities.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Fielden, of 909 Chestnut, who came here from Wilmington, Del., last November, find that Birmingham is very similar to many Eastern towns, comparing it to Ardmore, Pa.

"There is one vast difference, though," Mrs. Fielden said. "The people in the East are a great deal more reserved, and we find them very friendly here. We have a little boy of two, and he certainly appreciates having a yard to play in and all the advantages of a smaller town. Birmingham seems like the best place on earth to raise children in."

**Quiet Atmosphere**

The atmosphere of a quiet, contented small town seems to appeal to most of the recent settlers here. Mr. and Mrs. D. L. Crews of Chestnut avenue had more to say on the subject.

"We have both lived in Detroit, but were brought up in small towns," they said. "Birmingham seems to be able to preserve the small-town atmosphere much more than any other town around. The businessmen and storekeepers always appear to have time to advise you about any home problem and don't seem so interested in selling you something you don't really need."

Five-month residents of Birmingham, Mr. and Mrs. Everett G. Walsh, 1537 Buckingham Road, also like the "atmosphere" of the town. They, too, come from Detroit, but think Birmingham a complete shopping center and appreciate not having to travel to Detroit to shop.

**Compliment City Schools**

Not only did Birmingham shops, stores, service companies and older residents get complimented—the Birmingham school system received its share of praise.

Newcomers Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Grace, 580 Frank, were outspoken in their comments on the schools of the City. They came here from Owosso, Mich., and while Mrs. Grace felt that the schools there did a good job, she said that "the Birmingham schools carry on far more outside activities, with emphasis on recreational programs, that build enthusiasm in children." Their two daughters, Patricia and Marlene, both attend school and "love it."

Mr. and Mrs. Sidney D. Carter, 928 Ruffner, also appreciate the education their children are getting in Birmingham, and placed the system here as far, far ahead of other small cities.

Other comments complimented Birmingham citizens for their interest in civic projects and in generally keeping Birmingham the fair little town they believe it to be.

From the tally of opinions of people just moved in, it would seem likely that all the old-time ear-ear coals and back in the City of "atmosphere," and watch it grow larger and larger. After all, 1,500 new residents in four years is a record to be proud of!

**White Chapel Plans Memorial to Dead of World War II**

Following Government decision that the bodies of war dead will be returned from overseas at no expense for burial in this country, White Chapel Memorial Cemetery this week announces the forthcoming erection of a huge memorial to commemorate the sacrifices here of those who lost their lives in World War II.

This monument will stand in an area of the cemetery reserved solely for those who died in service during the recent war. An adjacent area will be available for World War II veterans and their families to be buried together, or for relatives of those who lie in the memorial section.

Located in the Bloomfield Hills district on East Long Lake Road, since it is at White Chapel that the men of "Michigan's own" World War I Polar Bear Division, who lost their lives in Northern Russia, are laid to rest with their comrades.

**Annual Ceremony Planned**

Every Memorial Day, the sacrifices of these men are commemorated in services at White Chapel's Polar Bear Memorial. A similar yearly ceremony will take place at the new monument on an observance day to be designated by the U. S. Government.

The finished memorial will carry, inscribed in bronze, the names of all those in the White Chapel Cemetery who lost their lives in World War II service. Pending completion, the names will be carried in the Temple of Memories, the cemetery's beautiful mausoleum.

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**DATE SPECIAL**

Aircraft saw first use in active military operations with the 1915 Pershing Punitive Expedition to Mexico.

**PERFECT** for dress-up occasions... is this beige rayon crepe "Diminutive" for the girl five feet five inches or under. High neckline and skirt falling in soft folds in front top of the dress has just enough sequins to make it interesting, and the rayon fabric offers distinctive good looks plus serviceability, wear and cleaning. To obtain a useful free leaflet, "How To Judge Fit and Workmanship in Rayon Dress," send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the Women's Department of this newspaper.

**Art Exhibition at Cranbrook Museum**

A series of art exhibits, headed by the work of the internationally famous ceramist, Majia Grotell, will be shown at the Museum at the Cranbrook Academy of Art during February. It was announced this week. A number of the ceramic pieces done by Miss Grotell, head of the Ceramics Department at the Academy, have won high praise at other exhibits. Currently showing with her exhibit will be a special collection of lithographs by Adolf Dehn, Minnesota artist. These are primarily illustrations for De Munnassant's short stories.

Scheduled to be viewed tomorrow is a collection of "Vanguard" prints. These are prints from wood engravings and lithographs made by a group of young artists who have adopted the name "Vanguard" for their group exhibits.

All of these showings will continue through Feb. 28. Gallery hours are from 2 to 6 p.m. daily except Monday.

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**HE ADDED YEARS TO YOUR LIVING**

This man who was born one hundred years ago this week spent most of those years working to make our lives easier. Today, we are apt to take his achievements for granted—to forget the wondrous changes he made in our daily lives. The stenographer little realizes the drudgery of office routine without typewriter or duplicating machine; the saleswoman can hardly imagine a busy day without gummed wrapping tape.

The list of his achievements is long and varied, but most of us have some special obligation to Thomas A. Edison. Every worker who finds his lunch-time sandwich fresh in its waxed-paper wrapping—every G.I. who crossed an ocean safely with the aid of radar, and submarine detection devices—can thank Mr. Edison.

But these specific contributions of the man become small and insignificant alongside his other gifts to all mankind. For every one of us who sends a telegram or rides a street car—everyone who enjoys a radio, a phonograph or a movie—can thank Mr. Edison.

Some of these gifts have made our lives safer. Some have given us more pleasure. Most have made our tasks easier. But all are eclipsed by his gift of electric light. For with that one invention he, in a very real sense, added years to our living. Those years are made up of thousands of evenings... and since Mr. Edison's invention of electric light, evenings—with their hours of relaxation, of reading or games or good companionship—have become the best part of our lives.

Evenings have also become a time for study. Men and women today, fired by the example of Thomas A. Edison, are using them to continue his research for even better ways of living.



**IN HONOR OF MR. EDISON...**  
 The Detroit Symphony Orchestra this week inaugurates a new series of special concerts each Tuesday night at 7:30 over WJY.

And don't forget the Edison Institute Museum's special exhibit this week at Greenfield Village, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. daily, Admission 25¢. All Edison power plants will also be open this week from 11 and 54 p.m. daily, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday. Call RA-4444 2100 for details.

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