

If only we could stop this frantic hurry, hurry, hurry! It seems to me at times as though the greatest part of the earth's population were bent upon rushing many places, but getting nowhere in particular.

# The Birmingham Eccentric

PART TWO

SEVENTIETH YEAR—NO. 32

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1947

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

## Hilltop Modern..



...above the Stream

Those who want a contemporary home will recognize in this beautiful residence a perfect example of fine architectural design. Conservatively modern, every delightful detail and well planned feature will meet with the approval of the most discriminating. You'll like it from the minute you view it from across the valley and approach it by winding drive beside the meandering stream and curving up the hill.

The graceful stair in the spacious two-story entrance hall is a most fitting keynote for surprises that lie beyond. The Living Room has a beautiful picture window looking out over the valley and, at the far end, a living porch designed for entertaining. The Library is paneled on the fireplace wall and another spectacular picture window brings out-of-door beauty right into the lovely Dining Room. The Kitchen and Breakfast Room combination is a real right out of the magazines—it's the kind you've always wanted. A fine servant's apartment adjoins—Bedroom, Bath and Sitting Parlor. Colorful Powder Room and Lavatory complete the first floor.

On the second, the owner's suite of Bedroom with fireplace, Dressing Room and color-tiled Bath will satisfy the most exacting and views from every window are superb. Two additional fine Bedrooms have a beautiful tiled Bath between and a fourth room, either Nursery or Sewing Room, has a two-piece Bath.

The Recreation Room and Bar opens out of doors on ground level, ideally planned for children to use without coming through the main part of the home. Garage, Laundry and Utility Room are also at grade.

The 4 1/2 acre plot comprises hilltop, slope, winding stream and valley. The grounds are beautifully planted, rock walls flank the entrance walk and the vegetable and flower gardens will delight the horticulturalist of your family.

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## Bits of Birmingham

If you are a steady reader of The Eccentric's column on the editorial page, "Happenings of Long Ago," you'll come across this little item. In the event you don't read the column regularly, there's a little note this week that will send your blood to the boiling point: back 50 years ago, a local woman was advertising homemade bread at five (5) cents a loaf, or six (6) loaves for twenty-five (25) cents. This Wanderer thought our present readers would like to compare this price against that of today. Can modern progress be so wonderful after all?

Seen the "Newsette," the new little four-page bi-monthly publication of the Birmingham Community House? Edited by Mrs. Lee A. Way, publicity director for the House, the paper carries the latest information about House activities, and is distributed through the mail to every Birmingham household.

Two persons—one a woman, the other a high school girl—last week came into The Eccentric editorial office and asked if we had copies of a specific issue back in 1929. They were informed that we may have issued an Eccentric on those particular dates, but that the only copies readily available were in the found files never allowed to leave this office or at the Baldwin Public Library. It was suggested that they look in the bottom of old trunks in the million-to-one chance they would find the copy they wanted. By way of offering this information, we might explain that a newspaper will keep a few actual copies of each issue for possibly two or three years, but it is doubtful that anyone else has a copy of an earlier issue. Just think of the space that would have to be provided if a weekly, such as The Eccentric, kept 29 3/4 extra copies of each issue since we began publication 70 years ago. Would you have had to build a warehouse many years ago to keep them in. And that is not practical.

Here's something for Birmingham Fire Chief Vern Griffith to investigate: In Santiago, Chile, they don't like fires. In fact, they dislike them so much that if you do have a fire on your premises, you are promptly handed into court where you cool your heels till you can prove the fire was not your fault. Maybe the City could suggest a similar ordinance to the Birmingham city commission.

Birmingham received a bit of promotion in a recent service bulletin that the investment securities firm, which is moving to the Wilson building next month, sends its clients. Said the bulletin, "We look forward with pleasure to the opening of our spacious offices in Birmingham, and being part of such a thriving and beautiful city."

For the first time in the city's history, a line has been painted down the center of Woodward avenue, between Oakland and Brown streets. This yellow line, this Wanderer supposes, is designed to remind motorists to keep to the right of the center of the highway. But when these same motorists approach the Maple-Woodward intersection, they have to use their best judgment on how to make a left turn. Sometimes this judgment is not as good as pedestrians will tell you. And left-turning Maple motorists are forced by the city to violate a traffic ordinance which requires at unmarked intersections that the driver shall pass beyond the centerline of the intersection before making a left turn. Only a little yellow paint strategically applied at Maple and Woodward would make law abiding citizens out of traffic violators. What this Wanderer would like to know: Is it the plan of city officials to keep ordinances on our books that are not enforced?

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Only a few have begun to count the shopping days until Christmas but some of the Teen Canteen members are already at work on Christmas crafts which include cards, candles and Christmas decorations under the instruction of Amy Will, recreation director of the Community House. The Christmas class meets each Tuesday at 3:30 in the Ranch Room.

At least two people in Birmingham are heading the road to attend to Christmas shopping early. This Wanderer has a letter, which is being forwarded on to Santa in behalf of a little brother and sister. The letter reads: "Dear Santa: Please bring me a bike like Johnny's a watch, a flashlight and a record player. Bring Baby Sisi a doll buggy. We would like a paint set, paper airplane, bean shooter, blocks, a car set, some soldiers, Jack-in-the-box, a drum, truck, doll bed for Sis' house, a steam engine, fire engine, toy box, an Indian tent and suit and a shoe set and pull." The letter is signed "Chuckie and Sis." and will be entered in the proper channels immediately.

## Vesper Service Begins Nat'l Girl Scout Week Here

Joining the national observance of Girl Scout Week, members of the Birmingham troops held a vesper service Sunday at the Community House. Special exercises are being held throughout the entire country this year, which marks the 35th anniversary of girl scouting in this country.

The theme of "World Friendship" is the general topic of all meetings being held this week. The vesper service was opened by the Color Guard, which was followed by the Scout Choir procession, after which the audience joined members in the pledge to the flag, and the singing of the national anthem. Brownie and Girl Scout Promises were given by Betty Milligan and Virginia Barton.

Mrs. Donald Stanton directed the choir in singing the Hymn of Scouting. An original prayer, written by Sylvia Chaff, was given by her. The prayer is: "Our Father, who art in heaven, help us to realize that girls are the same the world over, whether we are in war torn countries or not. The you for directing us in work and play and for holding us together through thirty-five years of Scouting. Help us, O God, to live happily and cooperatively. This we ask in Thy name. Amen."

Greetings were brought by Mrs. Robert Kohr, who gave an interesting account of a little Polish girl. The youngster was unable to speak English, and no one in the large group could speak her native tongue. Among them was Lady Baden-Powell, leader of Scouting in England, and when all attempts to make the little Polish girl understand that these people were friends had failed, Lady Baden-Powell suggested the Girl Scout salute be tried. To their joy and amazement the little girl promptly returned it, and began talking in an animated and friendly manner, still not understood nor understood, but knowing she was among friends.

This story was brought to the local girls showing the deep meaning of their National Girl Scout Week theme, "World Friendship." The vesper service closed with the soft singing of "Taps" by the Scout choir.

## Palestine Plan



This is the way Palestine would be divided into Arab and Jewish divisions, three each, under current partitioning plans, which neither Jews nor Arabs like. Two points of intersection connect the three parts of each division. Jerusalem would be a United Nations trusteeship.

## It's All 'Queer'



Part of the \$2,500,000 haul of counterfeit U. S. currency seized by U. S. Secret Service agents when they broke up a counterfeiting ring at Marseille, France, is inspected at Washington by Albert E. Whitaker, agent in charge of the New York District, Forrest V. Sorrels, in charge of the Texas District, and John J. McGrath, Assistant Secret Service chief. Sheets are tens and twenties.

## City Planning Outlined Before Women Voters

Members of the City Plan Commission, Mayor Ralph A. Main, and C. Leland Gunn, city engineer, outlined and discussed city planning for Birmingham at the afternoon session of the League of Women Voters October 29. The discussion was guided by Forbes S. Hassall, city attorney.

Other participants were Charles J. Shain, and Mrs. F. H. McKinney, city plan commissioners, and Edward H. Laird, architect for the commission.



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## Open House Will Be Held by Methodists

The Men's club of the Methodist church is holding open house Sunday afternoon from 2 to 4 o'clock. At this time the members of the church through-out the community are invited to attend and inspect the many improvements to the church property which have recently been completed.

Refreshments will be served by the members of the club. A fine collection of Oriental rugs was gathered together by the late Andrew Mellon, Secretary of the Treasury. These rugs are in the National Gallery in Washington.

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