# New Year Will Be Exactly What We Mold It

Three days more and Birmingham will

welcome in a new year.
With the international situation in its present shaky condition, no one is certain what the next 365 days hold for our community

community.

If we fall on the dark side of the fence, we can expect such austerity as we just so recently experienced from 1942-46. If the nation can continue to sit action the fence, then 1951 for Birmingham should show considerable progress:

Completion of the new West Maple bridge project; better water distribution with close to \$300,000 being spent on

with close to \$300,000 being spent on improvements to it; further home and ness construction, although nothing like the record-breaking pace of 1950.

IT APPEARS THAT THE proposed off-street parking program will be set-

### From Our Point of View

Commercial raisers of chickens in ovember hatched 70,135,000 little November hatched 70,135,000 little chicks, an all-time record. And to think that many of them eventually will never get to dinner tables . . . but merely be entombed in some government refrigerator or cave!

Birmingham was second among all Birmingham was second among all Oakland County municipalities in getting out a large vote at the recent Nov. 7 election, with 73 per cent of its registered voters casting their ballots. Huntington Woods was first with 77.02 per cent. Others were Pleasant Ridge 71.48. Clawson 65.34. Ferndale 62.89. Royal Oak 61.25. Berkley 59.65. Oak Park 54.63. Pontiac 53.39. Hazel Park 52.23, and Royal Oak Township 41.92.

There probably is no better man on There probably is no better man on earth fit to direct the combined armies of free countries in Europe than Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower. His appointment last week was received with enthuslasm everywhere except in communist countries. Our prayers go with "lke" ... may God and intelligent citizens help him to overcome bureaucratic incompetence in mobilizing everything needed to insure security of free nations against the evils of totalitarianism.

A truck driver in Illinois was hauling 80,000 eggs when his truck caught fire. Nearby fire departments refused to come to his rescue, holding that his truck was "out of bounds". So the eggs fried on the highway. We don't know the moral to this onised, unless the error thus went this episode, unless the eggs thus went beyond control of the federal Dept. of Agriculture and its food storage problem.

How times change! Michigan's oldest horse, who reached nearly 33, passed on to his Elysian Fields in Coldwater recently. A generation ago quite a number of horses existed in the United States. But with the production and use of more and more automobiles, only parts of old Dobbin still wander upon the landscape.

# So They Say . . .

Olaf Dean, chairman, Atomic Energy

· "One thing that I think the Russians understand is strength."

Earl J. McGrath, commissioner, U. S. Of-

fice of Education:
"If we are to live and work with people of diverse cultures, we will have to know something about them."

Edward Martin, U. S. Senator from Penn-

sylvania:
"We must have a great spiritual revival, based on the eternal truth of the
Holy Bible."

Lyndon D. Johnson, U. S. Senator from

Texas:
"The country would be a lot better off if our defense officials and others would tell us bluntly what the country needs rather than what they think the country wants to hear."

# The Birmingham Eccentric

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tled finally, one way or the other, pos-siste at the April 2 city election. If all goes well, the new high school at Lincoln and Cranbrook should be occu-

Lincoln and Cranbrook should be occul-pied next year.

Looking back on 1950, it has been good to Birmigham.

Several thousand new people, decid-ing that Birmingham was a fine place to live, joined us who have known it for

years.

A number of new businesses estab-lished themselves here to serve our needs

better.
Our religious growth was reflected in the formal announcement that the Methodists, the Catholies, the Presbyterians and Lutherans are going to build new churches here.

churches here.

Under the sponsorship of the Community Council, a new Youth Council was established and a survey made of present and needed recreational

ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NO specific knowledge of what 1951 holds for us, we do know we can all work for progress. we do know we can all work for progress. We can try to extract the most from every sound opportunity to better our democratic principles of freedom. New life, new hope, new faith is what each new year holds, and 1951 will be

no exception.

### Watch Doings In Lansing

With Governor Williams the only Democrat in Michigan's administrative

Democrat in Michigan's administrative household, the next two years in Lansing should be very, very interesting. Dominated by a Republican Legisla-ture, by a Republican administrative board, the Governor literally is surround-ed by political enemies. The more they fuss and feud, the more all of Michigan will suffer.

will suffer.

True, it is good if they honestly disagree on issues and policies . . . so long as the whole people do not suffer. But if they fuss and foud along purely per-sonal and petty party lines, they cannot

sonal and petty party lines, they cannot be forgvien.
(Incidentally, we predict that Williams finally will get additional taxes from corporations. Though the Republicans have opposed this to date, they must find more finances to keep the State going, and they hardly would go for higher sales taxes—for that would lose them yotes.

### Civil Defense Program Slow

In view of the present international situation, the Government of the United States has recommended a \$3,100,000,000 civil-defense program for the

090,000 civil-defense program for the next three years.

The present plan is to encourage the states to enter into compacts for the exchange of fire-fighting equipment, ambulances, police forces, etc., in the event of enemy attacks.

The agreements would be subject to the approval of the Director of Civil Defense in order that there could be unfense in order that there could be un-

in order that there could be uniformity so that workers rushed from one

formity so that workers rushed from one state to another would know exactly what they were supposed to do, who would pay and feed them, and how the cost ultimately would be shared.

In addition, the leatimates include \$2,-250,000,000 for communal shelters able to withstand atomic attack. This 'expense would be shared by the federal government, state and load governments. government, state and local governments

STATE AND LOCAL governments would also be expected to defray costs of administration and personal equipment for volunteers, estimated at \$200. 000,000 and the federal government would stockpile medicine, plasma, etc

would stockpile medicine, plasma, etc., at a cost of \$400,000,000. It is not too early for the people of this country to be intelligently planning to meet the consequences of enemy attacks.

The possibility exists that if war begins, enemy bombing planes will be able to penetrate into this country and drop their explosives in the heart of our metropolitis.

ropolitan areas.

It would be foolish to wait until the catastrophe to make our plans to meet

## Why Not Be a Real Leader!

From time to time President Truman eacts to the responsibilities of his job as reacts to the responsibilities of his job as though he were operating a private business. By this we mean that often he ignores wise advise from capable people regarding what ought to be done on behalf of the whole American public.

Engulfed, as he is, an the heaviest problems ever to confront this nation, why does he not allow himself to exemplify those calculate bring acceptable solutions?

Were he to evidence normal humility, he would do much to rally a larger followed.

he would do much to rally a larger fol-lowing in this time of crisis.

LOW MAN ON THE TOTEM POLE !



Will Fay of Battle Creek was the guest of his father, Geo. W., on Christmas, He had a pleasant time calling on old friends and other members of his family.

20 YEARS AGO

\[ \text{December 31, 1930} \]

Howard B. Hosten was killed last week when the plane in which was a student flyer fell after the was sightly injuried as was the plot.

I we want to be for the was sightly injuried as was the plot. The Committee had been the was a few feet flyer flyer flyer fell after the was a flyer flyer flyer. The was a flyer f

Two construction projects, authorized in 1928 are expected to get under way this week. The first mer in normal times but once will be the widening of Maple avenue beyond, Bouthfield with the introduction of the material of the construction of the material of the construction of the material of the material of the construction of the material of the therized in 1928 are expected by the seek. The first will be the widening of Maple are made beyond Southfield with the introduced by the national of the first Baptist church as the sacend.

WE like our freedom in the first Baptist church as the comminists and that's the reason we are getting ready to choose where the comminists and that's the reason we are getting ready to choose where the comminist and that's the reason we are getting ready to choose where the comminist and that's the reason we are getting ready to choose where the comminist and that's the reason where the comministies are the comministies and that the comministies are the comministies and the comministies and the comministies are the comministies and the comministies and the comministies are the comministies are the comministies and the comministies are the comministies and the comministie

Donald Egbert, building inspection in 1300 totalled \$920,850, of building inspection in 1300 totalled \$920,850, of building inspection in 1300 totalled \$920,850, of building in the building

Miss Margaret P. Standart of comfield Hills is reported to steadily improving from injuries devalution received in a riding accident. Miss Standart was thrown from her horse while riding in the ring at the Bloomfeeld fills. Open Hunt club last Friday.

5 YEARS AGO
January 3, 1946
A public reception is being planned for Sunday afternoon. Jan. 27, to welcome back those city employees who have returned the from their various military duties. The sunday of the sund

Robert E. Powers, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter E. Powers, 807 Chestnut street, has been apointed to West Point Military Academy by Congressman George A. Dondero. Powers, left Friday

Happenings of Long Ago

Bit of New Glasand from Oid Files Of The Recentity of the unprecedented "morality" with the Up The Blowled Sections of The Recentity of the unprecedented "morality" with the Up The Blowled Sections of The Recentity of the Unprecedented "morality" with the Up The Blowled Sections of The Recentity of the Unprecedented "morality" with the Up The Blowled Sections of The Recentity of the Unprecedented "morality" with the Up The Blowled Sections of The Recentity of the Unprecedented "morality" with the Up The Blowled Sections of The Recentity of the Unprecedented "morality" with the Up The Blowled Sections of The Recentity of the Unprecedented "morality" with the Up The Blowled Sections of The Recentity of the Unprecedented "morality" with the Up The Blowled Sections of The Recentity of the Unprecedented "morality" with the Up The Blowled Sections of The Recentity of the Unprecedented "morality" with the Up The Blowled Sections of The Recentity of the Unprecedented "morality" with the Up The Blowled Sections of the Sections of The Recentity of the Unprecedented "morality" with the Up The Blowled Sections of the Sections of The Recentity of the Unprecedented "morality" with the Up The Blowled Sections of the Sections of The Section of the Up The Sections of the Up The Sect

# People's Column

The Eccentric welcomes letters for this column. All letters must be signed, but signitures will be kept confidential upon request. Letters must be limited to 500 words.

FRED WEAVER St. Louis, Mo.

St. Louis, Mo.

To the Editor:
It really seems a shame to many
people living on Ruffner, west of
see people who have so little consideration for others in the wes
small hours of the morning.
For instance, if it isn't the laday wife ways that dog (that doesn't
may, bawling for him when she
turns him loose and he won't come
back, it's the men who works at a
the city dump sitting out front i
blowing their horn, racing the motor, etc.

### "Currier and Ives"

By BEATRICE McDONALD

street is like a mammoth Christmas card With all the little houses thatched in snow And all the little window panes aglow And crystal trees in bloom in every yard.

Tonight our street is like a Yuletide scene, A deftly painted picture that recalls Other Christmases . . . the light snow falls, As slanting moonbeams cast a silver sheen Across the frostbound winter world belows On little cardboard houses thatched in snow

ONE THING OR ANOTHER By George Wm. Averill

GIVING 4 BILLION A YEAR-

A study of philanthropic giving

Andrews estimates the value of studied States for the last, planthropic property and endow20 years, made by F. Emerson Andrews, of the Russell Sage collars, and the property of the States of

# LOOKING AHEAD

By George S. Benson

MORATORIUM ON POLITICS (MOSTLY FICTION)

tian, non-mintary expenditures let a cliticum starve if things should have totalled nearly \$14 billion." get deel/perate."

FORMER GOVERNMENT COMMISSIONER. "Washington."

WORKER (now in Baltimoré): population has shrunk about a haff or early expensive the start of the proposition of the Revents Section of the Revents Section of the Revention. eally retember and not will surround the proposition of the Revention. eally retember and not will surround of the Department of Interior.

Sixteen of the 97 fornier gov
better off for it.—G.S.B.1.

# MICHIGAN MIRROR

-GOP WANTS WILL AMS 'ISOLATED'-

at Big Beaver. Its insuces of the proof was December 16, 1950, when President Floring and the proof of the pr

Tred M. Alger, accretary of state, emerged from the defeat of former Governor Harry F. Kelly, as the Republican to watch for 1952. Alger topped to the defeat of the defeat of the Muskegon Chronicle beliaves one reason was a voter impression that Kelly, stood for the "Republican Old Gand". Definition was not to the "Republican Old Gand". Definition was not provided to the "Republican Old Wichigan automobile industries" which was the "New Yorld have to "Industries" and the defeat of the state of the defeat o

when the control of t

Chief beneficiaries of present inflation, now running at the rate of 10 per cent a year, will be farmer (through inflated food prices and land walves) and the prices and land walves) and the prices and land walves) and land walves of the price of the p

Now more than 160 battle casualties from Korea's are at Percy Jones hospital in Battle Creek, Since meat shife as well as combat wounds, it is possible the base will specialize in that treatment. The doctors are gar-

wishing it-1 nering first-hand experience of r. Republication what exposure can do to a soldier.

In January 3.884 Michigan men at least, will be called to duty. This is the fastest draft pace since World War II. And we are still waiting to establish training areas?

governments as required by a constitutional amendment, the State of Michigan spent an average of the state of

By Gene Alleman

By George



"I'll tell you what's wrong with the American people