

To expect everything that comes into your life to be beautiful, to be ideal, to be perfect, is a waste of time. We, yet remain on earth; our job to make it as heavenly as possible.

The Eccentric

BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 1950

July Thru December, 1949:

Birmingham's Important and THAT 1949 News Highlights Are Reviewed Briefly

(Editor's Note: This is the remainder of Birmingham's 1949 chronology, the first half of which was printed last week. Today's issue reviews those more important local news events which took place between July and December, 1949.)

The fire department, school system, churches and commercial growth of the city were among the top items during the last six months of 1949.

The most shocking and widely discussed event of the entire year was the gas explosion and fire of Dec. 11, when five persons met death. The fire department noted progress and growth earlier in the year when an order was placed for a new pumper truck, capable of handling 1,000 gallons of water per minute.

The \$100,000 fire destroyed the H. W. Bird home in Bloomfield Hills constituted another sharp loss to the area.

Birmingham voters approved the \$3,100,000 school expansion program in November, and set in motion the plans for more adequate educational facilities for the city's children. In addition to this, Holy Name school began construction of the building which will greatly enlarge its facilities.

The saddest note in the school items of the year was the victory of Royal Oak over the Majors in the annual Turkey Day tilt. The local boys lost the jug in a game that was played in bitter cold and heavy snow.

Commercially, Birmingham took a step forward when the Dearborn Motors general office, research laboratory and warehouse was moved to East Maple. Several new stores were opened in the area.

Firms long established here observed anniversaries and some celebrated their 50th birthdays.

In his autocratic control over the United Mine Workers, John L. Lewis, in his last days, was any feudal lord ever did over his serfs. Too, he is not the only autocrat in Birmingham.

Truly, we are rapidly approaching the end of a long and colorful era. The city is rapidly approaching the end of a long and colorful era.

A Russian soldier shot and killed an American soldier in Berlin, under conditions that were far from surprising. The Soviet controlled zone, our country lodges a protest, just as did the American zone.

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Secretary of Labor Tobin has been nominated for every retribed nation in the United States. Here you have a man who is a man.

Although now only 21, Shirley Temple is coming to the end of her first wedded romance. Her husband is a man.

Woman Driver Hurt Leaping From Auto to Escape Collision. Mrs. Laura Heber of Ewing Lane, Bloomfield Hills, in St. Joseph Mercy hospital, Pontiac, recovering from injuries received when she leaped from her car.

Streets Are Unimproved. Commissioners pointed out that these streets were unimproved, and little could be done to correct the situation unless the streets were improved.

Condition Unchanged. According to hospital officials, the condition of Mrs. Arthur Willson of Dearborn remains the same.

Hospital Discharges Two Crash Victims. Miss Ida M. George of Foxcroft and Ronald R. Bruland of Detroit were discharged from St. Joseph Mercy hospital.

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GENUINE GAS LEGISLATION OF STATE'S GAS SAFETY REGULATIONS

New Gas Mains Going in on North Woodward

Governor G. Mennen Williams yesterday afternoon informed The Birmingham Eccentric that he will recommend in his special message to the state legislature that a legislative study committee be created to investigate the Michigan Public Service Commission's power to regulate gas utilities in a move to strengthen such authority, if needed, to prevent gas explosions similar to the one here Dec. 11 which took five lives.

In a long-distance telephone call, Gov. Williams said he would ask this study committee to report back its findings and recommendations so legislative action, if necessary, could be taken up at the next regular session of the legislature which meets Jan. 2, 1951.

The governor said, "I have already asked the state police and the MPSC to investigate the cause of the Dec. 11 explosion and fire in Birmingham. I hope something can be done to strengthen the control of the MPSC in such matters. I also believe some independent survey group should look into the problem, and I will so recommend in my special message to the legislature."

City's First Baby of 1950 Is Born Sunday Afternoon

In Birmingham, 1950 started off with a bang. In fact, it was a special reason to have the first "blotter" entry of the New Year dedicated to it. At just 10 minutes after midnight, Mrs. E. C. Logue, 1844 Cole, phoned to the front of her house to report to someone she was firing a gun from her balcony. Just about an hour later, the first newborn baby was born to a lady who lives on Ann street and was named William. The baby was born at 12:10 p.m. and weighed 7 pounds 10 ounces. The mother and baby are both well.

The first business that Birmingham had with the start in 1950 involved the death of Donald Harvey, Charles. Donald Harvey arrived at St. Carmel hospital, Detroit, at 1:45 Sunday afternoon. He will soon make his home at 1221 Davis with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Donald G. Harvey, 1221 Davis. Dividing the accident into two parts, "property damage" and "personal injury" gives two minor entries for the New Year. Slight property damage resulted when an unknown motorist about 3:45 a.m. drove into the rear of a car driven by George Carroll.

First Injury Accidents. At 4:30 the first personal injury accident occurred. Three cars were involved. The first driver by Lewis and the second driver by the light at Maple and Adams. The second also stopped, but the driver was something else. Robert K. Fowler, received minor head injuries.

Other Cities Interested. The city commission is now whether this inadequate enforcement results in a check of proper legislation. The city commission is now whether this inadequate enforcement results in a check of proper legislation.

Lee Carroll Fund Approaches \$2,000; Gifts Still Arriving. Contributions for the Lee C. Carroll fund are approaching \$2,000 and checks continue to arrive at The Eccentric office.

Quonset Village Removal Delayed by Soft Highways. Edward Hermoyan, director of veteran housing for Birmingham, said yesterday morning that only two of the 14 families in the Poppleton park area quonset village remained.

Walnut Lake School to Be Cited for Traffic Education. Walnut Lake school will be among 80 Michigan elementary schools to be cited for their traffic safety education programs during the 1948-49 school year.

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DPW Looks for Freeze to Save City's Streets

A couple more days of rainfall and Birmingham streets will be in a worse condition than they were in the spring of 1947 when more than 40 miles of streets were barricaded as impassable, Marx Fall, DPW director, said yesterday.

Not Much Flooding Here. He said little flooding here has resulted here from the excessive precipitation.

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A Smell Is A Smell In This Jittery Town

Two local physicians were honored by little Birmingham here on Dec. 11, that all suspicious odors should be reported to them at once.

Local People. Young Bill James of 4805 N. Adams made the news when he attended the Boat Show Derby, and placed ninth in the finals.

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