

Merry Christmas

1951

The Birmingham Eccentric

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PART ONE

More often than not young people are attracted to each other by good looks, by the chance for "a good time". But most folks past middle age will tell you that marriage lasts best when the interested parties are kind, considerate, patient.

74TH YEAR—NO. 40

THIS and THAT

By G. R. A.

The Christmas Story
A billion words of writing cannot tell the Christmas story; for no utterance of mankind can reflect in Truth the great and the meaning of real Christmas dating back to when there trod 'Twas the shores of Galilee a Man proclaimed: "The Son of God". Centuries have flown their cycles, still the message of His plan. Finds resistance to acceptance in the minds of most of man. Yet, pursuit of Truth persists and always will; this far-off goal is the beacon that does lead one in his search to find his soul. So, again this Christmas season, in its spirit and its theme, We wish you happiness and may reward attend your dream. Of an earth where war's no longer. Where the rest of mankind men bravely bear this world to Freedom. . . Peace . . . Goodwill and Love. Amen.

(G.R.A.)

Skating Program Planned by City Recreation Board

Acting on the requests of citizens of the Quanton lake area, the city recreation board last week Thursday voted to provide rope, a rescue board and emergency telephone at the lake during the winter skating season.

Director Frank Whitney said that the recreation board is continuing its policy of not sponsoring recreation activities on the lake, but will provide these protective measures.

The board decided to investigate the cost of providing rope and lighting for the city's skating rink this winter. Lights will be installed if they meet with budget requirements, Whitney said.

THE DIRECTOR STATED, "We are definitely planning for skating during the holiday season, if we get a break in the weather. We know that a number of youngsters will be given new skates for Christmas and they'll want to try them out."

The director pointed out that the board can't afford to have supervision at the various rinks. However, he is hoping that adults and PTA groups will contribute some supervision.

The board is appropriating \$2,000 for skating this winter. In other business Thursday, the group discussed plans for the forthcoming Saturday morning basketball program. The sessions will be held at the various school gyms and will be under the direction of John Petrakis, high school basketball coach. Starting date is Jan. 5.

The board intends to push plans for additional baseball field facilities for next summer, the director said. Last season, baseball diamonds were extremely limited.

School Vacation Begins Friday

Friday, Dec. 21, is a "red-letter" day for local school pupils as the annual Christmas season vacation begins at the close of the school day.

Memorial recreation officials are hoping that weather conditions permit skating at the various rinks during the holidays.



What's the Rush?

These folks are rushing to take advantage of all the bargains in The Eccentric Want Ads.

PHONE MI 4-1100

Ask for the Want Ad desk



11 MOORE ORPHANS WILL SHARE THESE GIFTS

Baldwin sophomores collect, wrap presents for parent-less family.

(Joe Wheeler Photo)

Postal Officials Approve New Office for Hills

Postmaster Jack Redmond of Bloomfield Hills this week received "the go ahead signal" from postal authorities in Washington for a new postoffice in the Hills.

He stated that it probably won't be until warmer weather before Builder Ed Hagerman starts construction of the new quarters.

Location of the office will be west of the present postoffice site on West Long Lake road.

BLOOMFIELD HILLS city commission last month approved a change in the zoning ordinance which permits buildings to be set back 60 feet from the highway line in the commercial district on Long Lake road. Former distance was 75 feet.

This change paved the way for construction of the proposed postoffice.

Proposed 4 Years Ago, Then Forgotten, Street Vacation to Be Reviewed

Four and a half years ago—on May 19, 1947 to be exact—the city commission agreed to call a preliminary hearing on the advisability of paving or abandoning entirely the small portion of Lawndale, between Hunter and Oakland.

Asked by The Eccentric this week just where this project stood on the city's agenda, City Manager D. C. Egbert said he didn't know, but would find out as soon as possible.

Back in 1947 neighborhood residents complained of the dust nuisance caused when traffic used this stretch of Lawndale as a short cut to proceed east on Oakland from Hunter.

Scoreboard Funds Reach \$227; Contributors Urged To Mail Checks At Once

R. E. Weber, chairman of the American Legion committee soliciting funds for the new high school's football score board, announced the receipt of \$227 to date.

"Checks are coming in daily," he said, "and we hope to have the entire amount on hand by the first of the year. With this in mind the Legion is urging all who have made pledges to get their checks to us as soon as possible."

The committee is asking the cooperation of all local merchants and businessmen in raising this \$2,000 fund.

Furnace Explodes At Village Playhouse

A small amount of damage was caused Friday when the furnace exploded at the Village Players hall, 760 Chestnut.

However, all damage was repaired and a heavy layer of soot cleaned up in time for the play's production Saturday evening, according to Dr. J. M. Hasberger, president of the organization.

Christmas Aid for 11 Moore Orphans

By NANCY JOHNSON and SIDNEY McNARY

The so-called commercialization of Christmas has not completely smothered the real spirit of giving. Genuine proof of this is in the seasonal activities of Birmingham high school students.

The 11 Moore children of Leonard, Mich., orphaned by their parents' death in a tragic automobile accident recently, will have a generous Christmas this year. They have been taken under the wings of many Michigan residents.

The 30 members of Mrs. Mary Hartwick's sophomore homeroom are among those interested in helping the Moores and have acted upon their sympathetic interest generously.

HEARING OF THE accident when it happened, the students immediately organized a committee to supervise a collection of toys, clothing, and household goods.

Co-chairmen of the committee were Mariene Crawford and Alice Beasford.

Others serving were Kathy Moynahan, Dorothy Schmidt, Roberta Allison and Pat Janicky. Mrs. Frank J. Janicky delivered the gifts Wednesday with the help of some of the students.

Wrapped and labeled are many boxes for each child containing clothes and toys.

For Ann, 13, Sharon, 11, Jean, 9, Janet, 8, Barbara, 7, and Shirley, 2, there are lovely dolls. There are also strings of pearls for the five older girls.

Included are mechanical toys for Thomas, 11, James, 5, and Jeffrey, 3. Michael, three months, will receive warm blankets, and for Jerry, 15, there are books and sweaters.

AMONG EXTRA BOXES of clothing and toys are numerous household goods, such as curtains, pillowcases, luncheon clothes and napkins, towels, soap, washcloths and a bedspread.

New Troy Gym Site for 1952 Cage Tournaments

Boyd Larson, athletic director of Troy township school, received notice this week from the state high school athletic association that the new Troy high school gymnasium will be the site for regional and district basketball tournaments this coming March.

District Class B and C cage tournaments will be held there in addition to the Regional Class C competition.

One of the largest gyms in this area, it has a playing court 86 feet long and 50 feet wide, with seven additional feet at each end, and 10 feet at each side of the floor.

The school is located on Livermore, just north of Big Beaver road.

14 Churches Plan Yuletide Services

Street Program Outlined—Maybe

By GEORGE WM. AVERILL

The city has committed itself to a \$444,900, two-year street improvement program which it doesn't have to carry out if it doesn't want to.

This paradoxical situation came to light this week when The Birmingham Eccentric discovered the city has sent to the Michigan state highway department a three-page outline of "proposed" street improvement projects to be completed during the 1952 and 1953 construction seasons.

Several days ago a committee meeting, the city commission approved this "outline." It includes 29 streets or portions thereof, ranging from an estimated \$1,100 resurfacing of E. Maple, between Brownell and Hunter, up to

the \$92,200 to be spent straightening and widening W. Maple from Bates to Linden.

The commission several weeks ago approved a division of city streets into "major" and "local."

"Major" streets totaled 16.13 miles, "local" amounted to 58.057, according to this listing:

THE STATE highway commissioner has until next June 1 to approve or disapprove of this classification.

City Engineer L. R. Gare pointed out Friday afternoon that the city is required to file with the highway department this listing of street classifications, plus the outline showing what the city proposes to do on street construction during the next two years.

Unless the city files these reports, it won't get its share of gas and weight tax monies, Gare emphasized.

ACCORDING TO the new state formula for distribution of these monies to municipalities, Gare estimates Birmingham will receive \$1,780 per mile, plus \$1.82 per capita, to be spent on "major" streets, and \$285, plus 93 cents per capita, on "local" streets.

For 1952 this amounts to \$56,851 for the local group, and \$30,930 for the major group, Gare figures.

He emphasized, "Don't say the city is going to do all the construction contained in this report. It may not, and it doesn't have to, from what I can make out of this new law."

He suggested: "Just say the city is or will be in the position (See STREETS, Page 2)

Lions Club Plans 'Dessert Night' For City's Homes

If members of the Lions Club have their way, Birmingham will consume veritable mountains of ice cream on Jan. 16.

The club has named this "Dessert Night," with all members making a special effort to have ice cream on every table in town.

Denied their annual keno party through legislation, the Lions have turned to the sale of this typical American dessert as a means to raise funds for their civic and charitable activities for the coming year.

Otto Corsaut, Jr., president, has named Mark Bears chairman of the sale, with William Gardner and William Roberts assisting him in managing details.

ALL LIONS have become salesmen and will cover the entire city in their efforts. The group is concentrating on orders of half-galons or more and will make their sales during the next few weeks.

Bears said club members would also be called to make deliveries, and promises to have all orders at their destination in time for dinner on Wednesday, Jan. 16, "Dessert Night."



STREETS WERE NEARLY deserted Friday afternoon as Lt. Henry Timm of the Birmingham police department prepared to start the 1951 safety broadcasts. "It will change," he said, as he watched a few hardy souls brave the season's worst storm to get caught up on Christmas shopping. The broadcasting will be done from the Wilcox office in the Savings & Loan building at Woodward and Maple. Lt. Timm has mounted a new loudspeaker at the middle of the intersection, and will include periods of recorded music along with the traffic warnings. (Joe Wheeler Photo)

Programs Will Start On Friday

Special observances of Christmas will begin in Birmingham churches Friday evening with children's programs. Sunday services will feature special sermons and musical selections, with watch-night services Christmas Eve.

At 7 o'clock Friday evening the children of the Church of the Nazarene Sunday school will present their program of music and recitations. On Sunday morning the Junior choir will present a cantata during the 11 o'clock service.

The Rev. William G. Airdrie will base his Christmas sermon on "Peace and Good Will."

At 7 o'clock the men and women of the parish will sing the Midnight Mass. This service will be preceded by a period of carol singing.

Besides the special sermons and music at the Sunday services at the Townsite Community candlelight service will be held in the Nazarene church, beginning at 11 p.m. The service will depict the significance of the candle in the observance of Christmas.

AT MIDNIGHT men of the religious service committee will assist the congregation in the lighting of individual candles. The choir will lead in carol singing.

At Embury Methodist church the church school program will be (See SERVICES, Page 2)

Christmas Begins With Annual Sing At Memorial Park

By ALICE MORGAN

Music, since the birth of Christ has played a great part in the observance of Christmas. Down through the ages men have sung of His glories and today we sing many Christmas carols of by-gone centuries.

The practice of carol singing is one which has always drawn people together. Wandering minstrels, professional and today we sing have traveled across the world singing their praises of the Savior.

Our modern Christmas still retains the custom and today we sing many Christmas carols of by-gone centuries.

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