

BITS OF BIRMINGHAM

HOW WOULD YOU define "Christmas spirit"? To one woman shopper two days before Christmas, it meant being permitted to park in a restricted zone. A Birmingham police officer saw her pull into it, and approached her as she was getting out of her car. "I'm sorry, lady, but you can't park there—see the sign?" the officer pointed out. "But I saw another driver pull out of this space—he must have been parked, too," the woman tried to explain. "Well, if I had seen him, I would have asked him to move, too, just as I'm asking you," the officer reminded her. As the lady got back into her car, she called out, "What's the matter—haven't you got any Christmas spirit?"

AT CHRISTMAS even the family pooch rates high. This Wanderer was more than a little surprised and greatly pleased by the thoughtfulness of two little neighborhood boys the day before Christmas. A local market's delivery truck stopped at the house and in all seriousness the young man brought a small package to the door—one pound of ground beef, tied with a bright ribbon and sent with love from the youngsters who had saved their pennies for the purchase.

ACCORDING TO one Birmingham lady, Christmas spirit was not missing among the drivers in town last Wednesday morning. As she tried to cross a busy and crowded Woodward avenue near Hamilton, two drivers stopped their cars and waved her on her way. "It was unusual," she said, "because everyone was in a hurry. Another car came whipping around one of them and I just put my hand up and said 'Whoa!' and the car stopped. I've stopped lots of horses by yelling 'Whoa!', but that was the first time I ever stopped a woman driver!"

IN ALL THE RUSH of last minute shopping, two little boys had been left (or had elected to stay) outside a local department store to wait for mother. While they stood there the police department was broadcasting traffic warnings and Christmas music. As the orchestra finished playing "God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen," the one little boy snatched off his mittens, stuffed them in his pocket and gave forth with some very hearty applause.

CLAUDE H. STEVENS, DETROIT BONDING ATTORNEY, will be a good deal closer to the bonding program he has planned in South Oakland, Oakland county. Stevens, a former state senator, has moved into the home formerly occupied by Ralph Mansel at 372 Westwood. He has served all the cities and school boards in this area in arranging bond issues.

FINAL DECISION JAN. 21! That's what Michigan's newspaper editors will give at their annual winter meeting in Lansing regarding general excellence awards to state newspapers. The Birmingham Eccentric was notified this week that it will be one of the finalists in the metropolitan area class.

What a wonderful thing, in business of social relationships, it is to have dealings with people who conform to the rules of fair play! They ask for no more than they are willing to give; they represent the portals of true friendships.

The Birmingham Eccentric



JAMES R. ADAMS, PRESIDENT OF MacManus, John and Adams, Inc., enjoys ideal working conditions in the firm's new offices at Long Lake road and Woodward, Bloomfield Hills. The clean-cut modern lines found in his office are carried throughout the advertising agency's new building. The company has just moved here after being located in Detroit's Fisher building since 1928.

Leaders Repeat Wins In "Y" Church League

First Methodist and First Presbyterian churches continue to dominate play in the Birmingham YMCA Church league with 3 victories each.

First Methodist rolled over Kirk-in-the-Hills with a 60 to 32 romp as all nine players of the Pleasant Avenue quintet figured in the scoring with Al Pascoe's 12 markers taking high honors. Kirk Whitney tossed in 11 points for the losers.

First Presbyterian church met Lutheran church of the Redeemer in a rough game in which a total of 27 fouls were called and emerged victors 64 to 54. The win dropped the Lutheran boys from a tie for first place to third. Don Keener and Mickey Plumstead scored 32 points between them for the Presbyterians. Pete Welby's 12 points led the Lutheran scoring. Christ church nosed out South-

field United Presbyterian 34 to 33 in a nip and tuck game. Christ church led 16 to 15 at the half and exchanged baskets with their opponents to maintain its lead. The lead changed eight times in the second half. Bud Watson's 10 points paced the Southfield boys while Jimk maul's 17 markers were high for Christ church.

...the best one yet... 1953

We're wishing you a bigger, better, and happier New Year for 1953.

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Official Plan Power Asked In Southfield

By NORMAN DOUGLAS

An urgent plea to give Southfield township's planning commission authority to enforce the provisions of a Master Plan was made at the December 23 board meeting.

Orrin Gulley, planning commission chairman, and Commission Member Harold Rottiers reported that the township was in desperate need of an ordinance which would give the planning commission the right to pass and enforce an overall township land use map.

The planning body now is acting in an unofficial capacity with no power to stand back of recommendations it makes. Rottiers told board members an amendment to Public Act 285 of the State Public Acts in September of this year, gave townships similar planning powers previously restricted to cities and villages.

Rottiers has been studying the amendment and the possibility of setting up an official planning board in the township. Tuesday night he submitted an ordinance that he had drafted to start the machinery for such a planning body.

In recommending the creation of a nine-member planning commission, Rottiers also recommended the disbandment of the present zoning board, stating that the duties and powers of the zoning body would be undertaken by the newly formed planning board.

"WE FIND THAT our work and

the work of the zoning board often overlaps, and many times conflicts," Rottiers said. "We would not be changing the original apportionments of the zoning ordinance but would be incorporating the two bodies into one efficient organization."

Under the ordinance establishing the township zoning commission, township board members would select the members of the commission. It was suggested that three men be appointed for one year, three for two years and three for three years.

Supervisor William Roeser told Gulley and Rottiers that Attorney Harry Dell had already reviewed the proposed ordinance and has questioned a few of its points.

Rottiers answered that the ordinance had been drafted to follow closely planning ordinances in other cities and added that this type of legislation seemed to have the backing of Michigan courts.

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1953

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Happy New Year

May the days ahead bring harmony to the world and success to your doorstep.

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