

BITS OF BIRMINGHAM

The Birmingham Eccentric

SECTION 2

Thursday, December 10, 1953

A SUGGESTION for Christmas shoppers . . . Snake bite outfits for \$1.50, mounted rattlesnake heads, \$1.25, and rattlesnake specimen boxes, \$1.00, are for sale out at the Cranbrook Institute of Science.

FOR SOME WEEKS NOW, motorists driving down Park street, between Hamilton and Oakland, have been as nervous as a bride walking down the long aisle to the altar. Because of the parking on both sides of Park, drivers have only one lane to use—and their problem is to get to the other end before another car can start in the opposite direction.

VISITORS HAVE BEEN FLOCKING to Cranbrook's Institute of Science this fall, setting new attendance records. On a good weather Sunday, the museum has had 850-1000 persons in the building in a 3-hour period.

OUT IN CHARWOOD HILLS in Bloomfield township, the 15 Explorer Scouts of Troop D-4 made \$52 saving big logs into fireplace sized pieces. They plan to continue the wood sawing project until they have \$150 in the treasury to be used for canoe trips and other excursions.

AFTER ALL THE RECENT church bazaars, Birmingham housewives should be well aproned. At the Methodist church bazaar, there were 380 aprons for sale and all but 30 were sold the first day.

WHILE ROSS WAGNER, principal of Birmingham high school, is "the quiet type," he nevertheless is known by the student body as "Ross, the Boss." Students who think Wagner doesn't even know they exist often are surprised to hear him speak to them by their first name.

LOUIS F. SCHNEIDER, 1407 E. 14 Mile Road, Birmingham, is winner of a sixth prize of \$25 in a contest, recently conducted by The Reader's Digest, the magazine announced Monday. The contest paid approximately \$25,000 to nearly 200 entries. Prizes went to readers who came closest to picking in correct order the five articles of top "reader appeal" in the September issue. These five articles were judged on the basis of popularity ratings as previously determined through a nationwide poll.

"THESE BOOTHS sure are comfortable" said Glen Wing, the South end tool merchant, as he took out a steel tape and letted down the exact measurements of the booth in which he was sitting at the Birmingham Grill the other morning. He didn't think Jimmy Anderson, proprietor of the grill, would mind if he constructed one in exact duplicate in his new breakfast nook at home.

THE "UNUSUAL" weather we are having this year seems to have thrown plant life into confusion. The Eccentric business office was graced last week by a bouquet of carnations from the Troy Gardens on Stalwart road. This Wanderer was thrown a little off base Saturday by shopping for Christmas greens and stopping to admire a rose bush bearing a few full blooms and several buds.

WHILE DADDY GLOATS about this unseasonably warm weather and watches money stay in the coal bin instead of vanish up the chimney, the youngsters are having a harder time of it. One small lad knocked at local doors Saturday trying to earn a few dollars by raking lawns, explaining that he usually earned his Christmas money shoveling sidewalks.

A CONSIDERABLE NUMBER of people in Birmingham are wondering just how to get a nice, neat hole through quite a stack of papers. Telephone books were delivered this year without the customary punching to allow patrons to hang the books up. This Wanderer knows from experience that making a hole through the inch (?) thick book is not entirely satisfactory if the pounding-a-nail method is used.

A CERTAIN LADY in Birmingham bought a little more than she bargained for last week when she decided to get her Christmas tree early this year. After the tree stood in the warm garage for a while, the lady and her husband were quite surprised to see a small grayish brown mouse come poking out from his place of concealment in the tightly tied branches.

BIRMINGHAM WILL AGAIN have a special interest in the Christmas party for animals sponsored each year in Detroit by the Michigan Humane society. Mrs. John R. Davis has created a fund in memory of the family pet, Grell, a dachshund which gives the winner of the best cared for work horse a \$50 prize. While four-legged guests munch on hay, oats, apples, carrots and other "dainties" their owners are content with coffee and cakes.

SHORTLY AFTER THE FIRST of the year formal announcement will be made of the opening of a Birmingham office for a Detroit advertising agency. Negotiations for a lease now are under way. The branch office will be located in the downtown area.

DURING THE NINE YEARS from 1939-1947 inclusive, a total of \$1,295.98 in unpaid personal tax bills have accumulated in city files, according to City Treasurer Russell T. Berger. The city was to get \$380.31 of this amount, schools \$636.25, and county \$220.42, he said. The unpaid bills are from business or professional firms that have gone out of business. Court action is necessary to have these items stricken from tax rolls, and City Attorney Forbes Hascall recommends the city wait till shortly before next May and thus be able to include unpaid 1948 personal taxes. (The city must wait at least five years before uncollected items can be written off under state law.)

CUSTOMERS PATRONIZING a local dry cleaning establishment on Woodward avenue may help themselves to a nice hot cup of coffee—free—while waiting for their dry cleaning to be packaged. Mmmmmmm—good coffee, too.

THIS WANDERER came across this little mathematical trick and it worked for him. Take the number of your living brothers, double the amount, add to it three, multiply by five, add to it the number of your living sisters, multiply the result by ten, add the number of deaths of brothers and sisters and subtract 150 from the result. The right figure will be the number of deaths, the middle will be the number of living sisters and the left will show the number of living brothers.

EVERY SCHOOL DAY at least 800 ravenous kids eat the lunch prepared by the 12 women members of the Birmingham high school kitchen crew. They eat it off of good-looking grey plastic dishes, which are unbreakable, and is good thing, too, considering the jouncing around the dishes get before being put into the dishwasher machine.

Somehow, people who regularly attend church, appear to have more inner self-reliance, more sense of security, than most of those who fail to appear in religious environments. The atmosphere of church is good "fresh air" for one's spirit.



JUST ONE MORE BILL during the Christmas season for the head of the house to think about. Southfield Township Treasurer Clara Lane is shown completing the last county and school tax notices on the township's 25,500 property descriptions. The township will realize \$59,008.61 from the entire tax bill of \$2,003,006.90 with the school districts getting the lion's share of the money with \$1,532,135.58. The county and drain tax will take \$411,271.88 of the total. Elsewhere in the area residents will be receiving similar greetings at the holiday time as townships and cities bill property owners for schools and county taxes. (Eccentric Staff Photo)

County Residents Receive Their '53 Christmas Seals

The Oakland County tuberculosis association, which derives its support from the Christmas seals, is working constantly to protect the futures of our children. Its four-point program includes a health education, case finding, rehabilitation and medical research. "Tuberculosis can be defeated," an association spokesman said. "Now is the time for each one of us to do his share. Now is the time to buy and use Christmas seals."

Christmas Wreath Sale
Young people of the First Methodist church have received permission from Birmingham city commissioners to sell Christmas wreaths Dec. 12 at the Ploere and Maple intersection. Police supervision will be provided for handling traffic.

Choir Concert Slated Friday By Hills High

The Bloomfield Hills High School Senior Choir will present a Christmas concert, December 11 at 8:30 p.m. in the Cranbrook little gym on Lone Pine road.
The concert will be divided into three parts. The first part will consist of Christmas carols sung by the choir and a narration on "What Christmas Means" by Miss McCann, son of the English department with Starr Merrill as the little child.
The second part will feature Fred Waring's arrangement of "The Twelve Days of Christmas" and holiday songs such as "White Christmas," "Jingle Bells" and "Winter Wonderland." The last part will consist of Bach's "Break Forth O' Beauteous Heavenly Light" and other such Christmas music.

THE CHOIR and its director have invited the graduates of 1953, who were choir members to participate in the last two numbers which will be "Joyous Christmas Song" by Goetaver and "Stille Nacht." Dick O'Keefe singing "What Child Is This?", Mary Lou Fuller singing "The Christmas Song" and Millicent Fleming singing "O Tannenbaum" are the soloists.
C. A. Luetman will direct the choir. Accompanists are Tom Pierson and Mrs. Frank Arnold. The public cordially invited and a charge for admission will be made.

Birmingham Flier's Condition Improved

Hospitalized since the Oct. 18 airplane crash that took the life of Nick Resator, Frankmuth chief of police, Charles J. Arduasi, 1175 Harrow, is in greatly improved condition, according to his father, Albert Arduasi, also of the Harrow address.
The younger Arduasi has undergone two operations on his legs and is now able to receive visitors at St. Mary's hospital, Saginaw. The elder Arduasi reports that efforts are being made to move Charles to the Veteran's hospital in Saginaw.

Suffers Hip Fracture In Crash With Tree

Suffering a fractured hip when his car hit a tree in the parkway at Woodward and Yorks Linda drive in Royal Oak, William Shalberg, 24, of 809 Henrietta, is reported in fair condition in St. Joseph hospital, Pontiac.
Royal Oak police said Shalberg fell asleep at the wheel.

Rezoning Case Set for Trial On January 11

Trial of the suit which seeks to force the city of Birmingham to rezone to multiple dwelling a triangle of land between Eton road and the Grand Trunk right-of-way will be resumed Jan 11 before Circuit Court Judge Frank Doby.
Several months ago the city abandoned attempts to negotiate a compromise settlement with the plaintiffs, the Industrial Land Co., Frank Newell, and several others.
City commissioners decided to hold to its original decision to keep the area as single family, rather than permit it to develop partially to multiple dwellings.
This stand has been endorsed by the city plan board and residents near the area in question. Owners of the triangle claim its best use is not as single family.

New Years Tickets At Y

Tickets for the Allied Youth's Snowflake Whirl at Detroit's Masonic Temple, Thursday, Dec. 31 can be bought at the Birmingham YMCA at 400 East Lincoln. This annual New Year's Eve dance features three orchestras and offers dancing from 10 p.m. until 2 a.m. The price per couple includes checking and favors. Dress is semi-formal. For detailed information telephone the 'Y'.

Call Mid-west 4-1100 to place an Eccentric Classified Ad.

Christmas Wrappings Tags and Seals

Many outstanding designs in Christmas papers with accompanying tags, seals and ribbons—by Norcross, Hall and Tie-Tie.

This is certainly the year to choose your Christmas Wrappings now because the time is short and there will be no time for reorders—so choose now.

La Belles

137 W. MAPLE

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Rook	\$.98	Pick Up Six	\$.79	Tripoley	\$.98
Pit	\$.98	Old Maid	\$.49	Game Chest	\$.98

HUSTON HARDWARE

205 N. Woodward Starting Monday we'll be open daily till 9 MI 4-7330