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**Traditional Carol Sing Is Scheduled For Christmas Eve**

Against the familiar background of the lighted tree and manger scene, Birmingham's traditional carol sing will be held at 8:30 Christmas Eve in Shain Park.

Started many years ago by the Birmingham Music club, this event has become a tradition and highlight of the Christmas season.

Throughout the years the early hour has been established so participants have the evening free for home and church observances.

**NEW RESIDENTS** in the area are particularly invited since this is the only community-sponsored religious event. Group singing again will be led by William Spente who has performed this service for several years.

Another tradition will be the brass ensemble from the Birmingham high school band, directed by Arnold Bernd.

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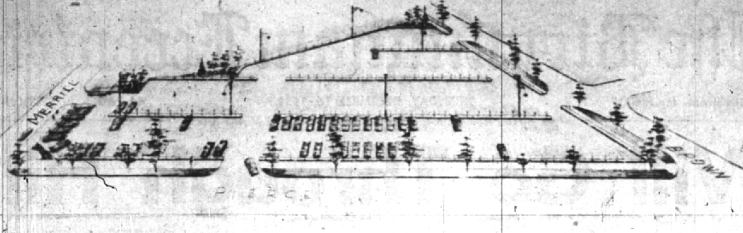
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**BIRMINGHAM'S FIRST** municipal parking lot as drawn up by the city engineering department. To be located on Pierce between Merrill and Brown, the lot

would have 220 spaces, right-angle parking, two-way traffic, and four entrance-exits on three streets. (See detailed story on Page One, Section 1)

**Zoning Change Petition Denied**

Birmingham's city plan board Tuesday night voted to recommend refusal of a petition to rezone property on the southwest corner of Southfield and Lincoln to permit multiple residential use.

Board president James Spencer pointed out that property values on the other three corners would be adversely affected by the proposal.

Another petition, to permit terrace construction on unplatted land between Colonial court and Bloomfield, was held over for further consideration. Board members expressed the opinion that "much of the land bordering the river should be held for use as a flood plain."

TWO NEW zoning petitions were referred to Robert Boatman, city plan director, for study. One asks that two lots, on Larchlea and on Westchester near Maple, be rezoned to permit construction of two-family homes or for parking purposes.

The other petition requests rezoning of property on the east side of Hunter between Madison and Oakdale for business purposes, or for construction of professional offices.

**Alley Improvement Plans Being Drawn**

Concepting of an alley behind stores at 14 Mile and Pierce has gone into the plan drawing stage upon instructions of the city commission.

It also is contemplating an assessment against the business property for a 29-car off-street parking lot on Pierce immediately north of the alley.

Both these plans are directed to improvement of a traffic hazard along 14 Mile, where an accident is being considered as the third and final step.

**BITS OF BIRMINGHAM**

**IN OUR MONDAY MORNING MAIL** was this observation from former B'ham board of education member Mrs. Norman Lyle, 754 Ann: "Overheard on W. Maple west of Woodward Saturday morning, when the police department was trying to bring the Christmas spirit to the busy shoppers: 'O Come All Ye Faithful—Joyful and triumphant! ... Will the lady in the checked coat who is starting across the street by the R-B Shop, please go toward the corner where a policeman is stationed? ... O Come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem—Come and adore ...' Will the lady with the little boy who has just stepped off the curb in front of the R-B Shop please go to the corner and cross ...' 'Silent Night, Holy Night, all is calm' ... Will the lady in the pink coat who is starting across the street in the middle of the block, please try to keep alive until Christmas by crossing at the corner, etc., etc., ad infinitum. Nobody seemed to be listening except me!"

**THIS WANDERER** wonders how Frank Coates of the Optimist club in Southfield is coming in his offer to pay \$2 for each planimeter sent him by club members. The example he cited for this read-the-same-otherwise-way deal is, "Was it a cat I saw?" There are some of his followers missing the boat if they haven't collected. All they have to do is replace the word "cat" with these: bat, hat, rat, mat or vat. Easy, huh?

**CHRIS BAILEY**, postal carrier in Birmingham's business district for several years, has been returned to Stregth Memorial hospital, 2605 W. Grand, Detroit, for further surgery. Operated on several weeks ago, Bailey had expected to return to duty this week at the Birmingham post office.

**SEVERAL MORE ELM TREES** are going to have to make way for progress along Hunter Blvd. This time it will be to permit construction of an access drive on the boulevard's east side from Webster north, where new stores are planned. Within a few years, as more and more business locates, and more such drives are put in, the trees which were planted in four rows, will be reduced to two—both on the center island.

**ALL THE VACANT SPACES**, for many weeks visible on the parking lot north of Willets, disappeared Saturday as the Christmas shopping wave rolled in on downtown Birmingham business section. Even then, policemen were busy trying to keep street traffic moving. Should a considerable number of persons more decide Birmingham is a good place to shop regularly, this Wanderer can see where all existing and proposed parking facilities will be used most of the time. And that will be to everyone's mutual advantage.

"WE WISH WE COULD have Men's Night every day of the year", was one quote of a local woman store manager when questioned on the success of the city's third annual shopping night for males only. "Men are good shoppers, easy to please and don't pay over every piece of merchandise," the lady continued. "Our store was just as neat at 10 p.m. as it was when we opened at 7 p.m. It certainly was a gentlemanly group."

**Busy Day for B'ham Firemen**

Although no serious property damage resulted, Birmingham's fire department Tuesday had one of its busiest days in recent months with three fires and two inhalator runs. First call at 7:25 a.m. was to investigate a gas pouring from the basement of the residence of Earl E. Colan, at 493 Arlington. Firemen discovered that the smoke came from an ash pit which had been filled with hot ashes.

At 9:39 a.m., a call came from the home of J. and Cipolla, 1495 Washington. Smouldering defective wiring was found and eliminated.

At 11:19 a.m., the most serious fire of the day caused an estimated \$500 damage to the home of Frank Mosher, 619 N. Glenhurst. The fire was confined to the kitchen, and was caused when melted tallow for Christmas decoration ignited.

At 11:50 a.m., the inhalator squad was called on the Wilson automobile agency, 1520 N. Woodward, where they joined with Bloomfield township police in a vain attempt to revive a heart attack victim.

Dr. R. E. Gibson, deputy coroner, pronounced Philip Workman, 51, dead of a heart attack at the agency, where he had gone to seek work.

At 3:20 p.m., the squad made another run, this time to Woodward and Cranbrook road, where Bloomfield township firemen were waiting for two tanks of oxygen to replenish their depleted supply in case of other emergencies.



Mrs. Ralph Bennett

**Detroit housewife says, "We can't afford to be without Blue Cross-Blue Shield!"**

"Two years ago my husband and I had a terrible automobile accident in Pennsylvania," says Mrs. Bennett. "I went to the hospital with two broken legs and a fractured hip. Lucky for us we had the Blue Cross Comprehensive Contract and Blue Shield. My Blue Cross Comprehensive Contract covered a whole hospital bill for 120 days—and, a year later, paid another big bill for 103 days resulting from that same accident! Blue Shield paid a big part of my doctor bill, too. Just that one accident of a heart attack at the agency, where he had gone to seek work."

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**Exchange Elects**  
Officers elected at the Tuesday meeting of the Birmingham/Exchange club are Donald McCaffrey, president; Harry Aten, vice-president; and Harry Wesch, secretary-treasurer. The slate will be installed next month.

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