



Too often it is true that our kindred may flourish within a family... even though its members are kindly toward more acquaintance, even strangers. Each of us must prevent irritations from the world from exploding in family life.

78TH YEAR—No. 39

Higgins Optimistic After Talks on 'Pike Boring'

THIS and THAT

By George R. Averill

Ike's Stature Was Reflected In Stock Market Decline

Old axioms in or out of the Bible tell us not to measure the worth of a man by the material wealth he possesses. Rather, they say, value a man for his moral and spiritual wealth; for "What profiteth it a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?"



Christmas Day Desires Are Told by Children

Every week in his house up at the North Pole, Santa Claus reads his copy of The Birmingham Eccentric. That jolly old gentleman is one of our long-time subscribers. Particularly at this time of year does Santa look for The Eccentric, because it contains many of the letters which Birmingham boys and girls have written to him.

You see, he has asked The Eccentric to have him time by printing all these letters in one spot. We open the letters he has asked that The Eccentric print all these letters. It saves him time because he doesn't have to open up each one, and he doesn't have so much postage due when they arrive at his house. Besides, it saves the mail man work, too—he has to carry only one copy of The Eccentric.

So, Santa, here are those letters which have been sent you to date. Read 'em over carefully, and try to fill as many of them as you can for our boys and girls back here in Birmingham.

Dear Santa Claus, I have just a little girl. I am 7 years old. This is my first Christmas. I would like to have a doll, a book, a record, a radio, a bicycle, a pair of shoes, a pair of pants, a pair of socks, a pair of gloves, a pair of mittens, a pair of shoes, a pair of pants, a pair of socks, a pair of gloves, a pair of mittens.



NOTRE DAME football mentor Terry Brennan (right) congratulates Carl Lemie, Birmingham football coach, on being named Oakland county coach of the year at the All-Oakland county football banquet in Pontiac Monday night. Brennan was the guest speaker. (See story in section 5, page 6)

Troy City Charter Up For Approval Monday

Birmingham may find itself with new cities on its south and northeast corners Tuesday with city charters up for approval in Southfield and Troy townships Monday, Dec. 12. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Santa Here Monday Eve

Birmingham Chamber of Commerce will not sponsor a children's Christmas party this year, as has been its custom.

May Set Opening For Eton Rink

Opening date for the Eton park artificial ice rink may be more by Birmingham city commission Monday night. Contractor has been asked to get work started by a Christmas opening as possible.

Free Dip for Christmas Trees

Since Monday, an old bath tub filled with a fire-retarding chemical solution is being waiting at the rear of Adams fire station for residents to give their Christmas trees a bath.

Men's Night Big Success

Men's night in Birmingham was a huge success this year, according to local merchants who took part in the fourth annual event.

Forgery Suspect Free on Bond

Mamie June Smith, 34, former secretary to Robert W. Elder, head of G. Carl Elder & Son Builders, 1810 S. Woodward, admitted in a statement to Oakland County Chief Assistant Prosecutor George F. Taylor, that she had forged over \$23,000 worth of company checks, according to Taylor.

Climbing Payroll Costs Reason for School Tax Jump

Why is my Birmingham school district tax bill so high this year? Many residents have been asking since they received their statement last week.

A similar high tax increase to the district came along back in 1948 when school taxes were based on the last minute in the form of a district equalized valuation.

Monday Birmingham city commissioners asked a letter from City Manager Donald J. Egerhart to Bloomfield Hills' city manager Elmer Kephart, outlining these problems for consideration by the authority advisory board, headed by Kephart.

Problems Vex El Sewer Authority

Problems in planning the Evertown Interceptor sewer were discussed by state, county and local governmental officials at a joint meeting here last week of the six-community authority.

Richie, Luhrs Get Top GOP Strategy Posts

Two Birmingham area men were appointed this week to Michigan Republican top strategy committee.

STRICTLY FRESH

Fellow in Chicago has been ordered to pay \$5 per week toward support of his estranged wife's cats. He's learning the hard way, being made to put a little something in his pocket.

FIRST TO USE the dip tank filled with fire retardant solution placed by the Birmingham Fire Department at the rear of the Adams fire station, was Assistant YMCA Secretary George Ewing and two young "Y" members, Tom Waters (left) of Vaughan school and Jimmy Thompson, Quanton school. Out of several thousand Christmas trees now on sale at the YMCA property on Lincoln, this tree was selected to be given to the Baptist Children's Home.

Public-spirited citizens just walked in the door. Awfully warm inside about the terrific work load Garcia must shoulder each year. Wants to send his mother-in-law to the North Pole to help the good saint. All year long.

Judging from the number of pre-Christmas parties scheduled for our town, they're rewritten an old Yuletide carol. Santa gets a good kick in the pants with his good work.

Slightly dazed went across the desk from Newark. He's been ordered to an apartment to save money. Figured Santa couldn't get in.

Without a chimney, he was so wrong. The jolly old elf slipped right through the mail slot last Christmas. He's been ordered to an apartment to save money. Figured Santa couldn't get in.

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BEING BOOKED at Oakland County Jail by Birmingham Det. Lt. Merlin Holquist, (right) is Mamie June Smith, 34, suspected of forging over \$23,000 in checks of the G. Carl Elder & Son company.

Mamie June Smith, 34, former secretary to Robert W. Elder, head of G. Carl Elder & Son Builders, 1810 S. Woodward, admitted in a statement to Oakland County Chief Assistant Prosecutor George F. Taylor, that she had forged over \$23,000 worth of company checks, according to Taylor.

She was arrested last week in Saugatuck by Birmingham Det. Lt. Merlin Holquist at a home where she had been staying since the forgeries first were discovered last July.

Taylor said Miss Smith told him she spent almost all of the money on a former boy friend when police now are looking for possible charges of conspiracy. Miss Smith was freed Saturday.

All males of lower spring mattresses and other items for sale at TRESS COMPANY, Dial "O" and ask for Entrance 6219.

Charles Mortenson, C of C director, reported sales up an estimated 20%. Some stores had even larger sales.

Wilbur Mason, Jacobson's manager, said sales were up 25% over last year.