

### Multiple Sclerosis Chapter Plans Party

Multiple sclerosis patients, families and friends in the Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties will be entertained with a Christmas party Saturday afternoon, from 1-5 p.m. in the recreation area on the second floor of the Rehabilitation Institute of Metropolitan Detroit.

The Michigan chapter of the National multiple sclerosis society is sponsoring the party. Mrs. Harry R. Hiltner, executive director of the Michigan chapter, a torch drive agency, states that the Christmas party will be hosted by the Railway business women's association.

### 24 Permits Issued During November

Twenty-four building permits, with a total valuation of \$233,469, were issued by the Birmingham building department during November.

Permits were issued for two new business establishments, with a total valuation of \$66,100; three new single family homes, \$60,200; and one new industrial building, at 2388 Cole, \$70,000.

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### Weaving a Career

Mrs. Robert A. Burley (right) 947 Henrietta, a day student at Cranbrook Academy of Art where she is learning weaving techniques, gets a little 'after school' advice about the field from Irene Ellis Murphy (left), importer and Regent of the University of Michigan, as M. Strengell Hammarstrom, head of the weaving department and internationally known textile designer, looks on. Mrs. Murphy spoke to the students on possible paths after graduation. Her remarks on pricing and merchandising were timely for the pricing and display of the students' own work in their annual Christmas sale Saturday and Sunday from 2 to 5 p.m. in the Cranbrook Academy of Art galleries.

### NATURE NOW

Special Writer by Lydia King Frehse  
The Birmingham Eccentric

## Even Mice Have Sense To Come in Out of Cold

When Jack Frost blows his killing breath over the land, many of the smaller of our four-footed friends begin to feel the pinch of hunger and cold.

Those which do not hibernate often seek refuge in buildings. Among them are several species of mice so it was that your scribe found the first house mouse of the season trapped on the shelf which holds her laundry supplies.

EVEN SOAP, starch and detergent satisfy this little creature's omnivorous appetite, and the scent of the butter-bait on the trap was to him as the promise of ambrosia.

Now we are not among those who climb on a chair when a mouse is sighted. Neither do we care to have our stock of clean linen made into a mouse nursery as happened last winter, hence the trap.

There are a dozen species of mice in our state. In addition to the house mouse, those commonly seeking winter refuge in buildings are the white-footed and the woodland deer mouse, all of which do much damage, especially to unoccupied cottages and cabins.

BUILDINGS WHERE grain is stored are also favorite homes, winter and summer. A barn with an old-fashioned granary held enough mice to support a dozen hungry cats.

Together with the Norway rat, the house mouse is an old world rodent. Both have followed man around the world, and each leads its family in being among the most destructive of mammals.

The common form of house mouse is greyish brown above with paler and somewhat yellowish underparts. The long tail is scantily covered with hairs.

THIS rodent prefers to spend winter in houses where it accommodates itself to varied conditions and steals what food it can.

Mice being relatively inoffensive play their major role in nature's economy, by supplying food to other animals. They are

catered by almost any creature not too large to find them a tasty bit. These include cats, skunks, weasels, snakes, owls, crows and even foxes.

Nature does not endow the mouse with long life; in the wild he is old at the end of two years. Instead he is given an astounding fertility with one of the shortest of gestation periods, 18-21 days.

SIX TO TEN litters are produced annually. Those species which do not hibernate space their litters throughout the year.

Nests of the house mouse are made of any available material; paper, rags or good clean towels and bedding from your linen closet, shredded into bits and made into a ball.

Both parents are devoted to their young. If danger threatens they are moved by grasping the skin of the neck as cats carry their kittens.

BORN NAKED and blind they mature in 18-21 days and within six weeks become parents. Of mice and men much could be written. We confess to a feeling of regret as we removed this small intruder from the butter-baited trap, the delights of whose proffered offering he must have viewed with some degree of anticipation. Now it is I who must accept the role of predator.

True, I did not eat the mouse, but viewed as nature's agent, I am just as guilty of his death as were I possessed with a set of sharp talons.

THAT THERE IS a difference between my motive and that of the owl is by the way.

Nature's economy places the mouse in a vulnerable spot in her well-defined food chain. Here man frequently interferes whether the results are good or ill. In the end no living thing is an island be it mouse or man.

### Drive Nets \$2,860

A total of \$2,860.60 was collected in the door-to-door campaign for the muscular dystrophy drive in Birmingham last Tuesday. Co-chairmen of the drive were Mrs. Peter Iverson and Mrs. William Collins, Jr. Canisters will be picked up from merchants after Dec. 15 by the Jaycees.

### Soule to Narrate Hawaii Movies at Community House

Thayer Soule of New York, former chief narrator for the Burton Holmes Travelogues, will show color movies of "Hawaii, Our Fiftieth State" for the Birmingham.

Big bargains at small cost—that's what you get from hundreds of classified ads which appear each week in your Birmingham Eccentric.

ham branch of the World Adventure series at the Community House at 8 P.M.

"Hawaii," says Soule, "is all fun, and less than five hours from the West Coast by jet." Shown in vivid color are all principal islands and scenic spots, including Honolulu, Waikiki Beach, Pearl Harbor, the Kona Coast, Mauna Loa, and Waimea, the Grand Canyon of the Pacific.

Among highlights are hula dancers, outrigger and surfboard riding, a chopstick dinner, glamorous hotels, smart shops, exotic estates, and a volcano in fiery eruption.

The following afternoon, at 3:30 at the Detroit Institute of Arts, Soule will show his new pictures of "Venice and the Italian Lakes."



THAYER SOULE

### MAKING CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS

will be the subject of

### MRS. FRANK (Anna Belle) Webb's DEMONSTRATION LECTURES

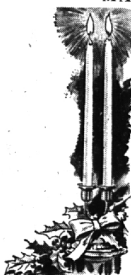
SAT., DECEMBER 10TH AND SAT., DECEMBER 17TH

10:30 to 11:30 a.m.  
1:30 to 2:30 p.m.  
3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Bring your notebook, your friends and yourself. We will provide refreshments and atmosphere on the McClellan-Ball Patio

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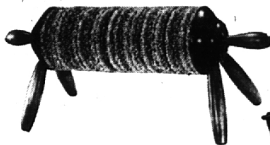
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- |                                 |                                     |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Spanish wrought iron basket.    | Scented candle jar                  |
| Wood compote                    | Chinese wedding ball                |
| Carved wood creche figures      | Faith tree (hardy)                  |
| Courtin' lamp                   | Feathered birds                     |
| Italian pottery                 | Cats & Poodles (ceramic)            |
| Bonnie Weed creations           | Raw shelled peanuts (3# burlap)     |
| Hand painted water can          | Opium lamp                          |
| Window snowflakes               | Jack & Jill Holly Tree (Boy & Girl) |
| Carolina nut & cone arrangement | Portuguese palm basket              |
| Italian earthenware angels      | Log carrier                         |
| Jean Ballin designs (in iron)   | Munson miniatures                   |
| Seagrass planter                | Holiday candle trimmer              |
| Tile table                      | Iron insects                        |
| Fireplace fan (decorative)      | Hibachis                            |
| Iron lantern (Japanese)         | Angels, angels, angels              |
| Christmas doorknobs             | Fruit, fruit, fruit                 |
| Angel & Noel lights             | Ad infinitum                        |

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