

# The Birmingham Centre

40 PAGES  
DECEMBER 21, 1961

BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN

SECTION A

Serving the Citizens of Michigan's Finest Suburban Residential Area

The Member's Top Priority  
TEN CENTS

As Christmas approaches, have you become conscious of its deep meaning... what the birth of that little Babe meant to you look beyond the tinsel and the trappings of the material facts of Yuletide, and become quietly and peacefully grateful for Mary and Joseph and the Messenger and the Cross and the resulting idealistic, inspirational "Impiret" this Holy Man bestowed to mankind?  
84th YEAR—NO. 42

## New Definition Expected on CD Director's Job

City Manager L. R. Gare will make a recommendation to the city commission next week on the job of a civil defense director for Birmingham.

Gare is expected to redefine the position following the commission's hesitancy to accept his original recommendation. He presented two weeks ago.

Main points of controversy have been whether the director should have authority over other departments, whether a two full-time director should be hired or whether Assistant City Manager R. S. Kemming should be appointed full-time director and be given administrative assistance.

Gare's recommendation is expected to provide for more direct responsibility to the city manager.

**GARE ALSO** is expected to recommend the hiring of a new city building inspector next Monday night. To fill the vacancy created when Andrew Butt resigned a few weeks ago.

He made it plain at this week's meeting that he is not considering the possibility of a dual role of regular work for a building inspector to do, he said.

Commissioner Robert Page pointed to the Federal Government's \$700 million fallout shelter program announcement during the meeting.

"It more than supports anything we've contemplated," he said.

That program actually states that responsibility lies with state and local organizations, Page emphasized.

He has been pressing for a decision on the CD director job and on plans for a city hall shelter.

**COMMISSIONER** William E. Roberts questioned the need for full-attention to civil defense.

On the subject of civil defense, Page said the facts must first be determined.

"We have a clear, present danger and we will have it the rest of our lives," he declared.

**ROBERTS AND** Commissioner Carl F. Ingraham both said they failed to see leadership on the part of the Federal Government in the plan announced last week.

"It's not there at all," said Ingraham.

Commissioner William H. Burgum said that as long as the CD director position is under "complete control of the city manager" it would have the necessary flexibility to include other duties.

Gare's recommendation next week is expected to include assurance of that flexibility.

Page said he would like to see a building that would be a dual role of regular work for a building inspector to do, he said.

"The bomb haven't been getting any smaller since we started discussing this matter," Page replied.

Conceding that emotions vacillate

Should Birmingham make its voting machines available to the school board?

"I would encourage it," said City Commissioner Charles Renfrew.

It would be "very worthwhile," said Commissioner William H. Burgum.

**THERE HAS** been "quite a bit of talk throughout the state" to making use of voting machines in all elections, said Commissioner Carl F. Ingraham.

Some city commissioners Monday authorized City Clerk Irene Hanley to discuss with the Birmingham Board of Education the use of Birmingham City's voting machines in school elections.

## We Wish You A Merry Christmas

From all of us here who cover the news Comes the heartiest of wishes for a Christmas suffused With laughter and fun and goodies and gifts And all the good feelings that give you a lift.

We'd like to speak up—just one at a time. That way you will know we're all part of this rhyme. So meet Shirley Adams, our Society Queen. Who writes about weddings and laau cuisine.

And covering sports is Cadarius, Joe. Whose name is turned round to make this rhyme go. Les Langlois reports on city-side news, And handles his topics to inform or amuse.

Across from his desk, you'll find Denn Scanlon. A cute Irish guy who'd an Italian;

She spices spaghetti with shamrocks and greens, And covers the townships—betwixt and between.

The managing editor you know as Ken Weaver. He's the one who rides herd on us eager beavers. In addition to seeing our work is complete, He's the man who compiles your own "City Beat."

Our publisher, Paul Averill, adds his voice to the band, (As well as Hank Hogan, the next in command). In fact, every person who works on this paper Would like to join in on this versified caper.

Right down to Irm Davis who thinks she's a poet. If this is a sample, it falls to show it. But let it be said: Merry Christmas to you, The best of the season—from the Eccentric's whole crew.

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Her immaculate little house is filled with "things I love and it's home." Outside of church and club activities she spends almost all her free hours making the clown dolls and other items.

Her husband is seeing this Christmas includes cloth balls, marbled and beaded bags, aprons and hand-finished handkerchiefs.

And like a feminine version of Santa Claus, she will have her bag filled again this year with gifts she has made when she arrives at the home of her son, Darwin, on Christmas day.

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Each little circle is hemmed with minute stitches, gathered into a little pouf and then strung in layers on an elastic "spine." All 76 circles are then joined to a top knot that would turn the head of any self-respecting circus clown.

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Her husband was the maintenance man at Cranbrook School for boys for many years. Both the Hillmans were born and raised in Ontario, Canada, coming to Birmingham in 1929.

**VISITORS AND FAMILY** members drop in frequently. Mrs. Hillman has organized a program at the First Baptist Church, Birmingham, every Sunday and is chaplain of Birmingham Unit No. 3 of MOMA of America. She attends Eastern Star meetings when she feels she "can climb the stairs."

She is also a member of the local church's sewing club and her efforts and those of other members resulted in the first donation to the building program for a recent addition to the church.

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## Her Clown Dolls Give Santa's Bag Gay Note

(See Picture, 3-A)  
By IRMA N. DAVIS  
Staff Writer

The circles in which Mrs. Gertrude Hillman presents this year will include one of the charming clown dolls made by the 77-year-old widow who makes her home at 1212 E. Lincoln, Birmingham.

The floppy clowns are colorful and bright—designed to take a beating from small hands—and, unlike some of their small owners, non-allergic to soap and water.

As Christmas gifts and now the orders come in "all year round."

**Dr. Cooksey** Hospital Drive Co-Chairman

Dr. Warren B. Cooksey, a Birmingham physician, has been named co-chairman of the Medical Gifts Division in the forthcoming Rochester Unit, Crittenton Hospital General Hospital building fund campaign for \$2,225,000.

Dr. Cooksey, who maintains offices with his son, Dr. Norton J. Cooksey, 1456 Stanley, Birmingham, and is a member of the Harvard Medical School, will direct solicitation of the medical staff at Crittenton General Hospital.

Announcement of Dr. Cooksey's acceptance was made Wednesday by General Campaign Chairman Howard L. McGreggor, who also announced Dr. Edgar J. Geist, Jr., of Birmingham, as chairman of the medical profession in the eastern Oakland and western Macomb area.

**SCHOOL-COUNTY** Tax Deadline Jan. 19, 1962

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**MISS SUSAN BONDY** of Detroit, a special education teacher, will be in charge of the first class to be completed by June 30. She is supported by the Council on the Handicapped, Birmingham Ministerial Organization.

A FUND HAS BEEN set up and made available to the Birmingham Council on the Handicapped for the first several months.

## This and That

For the past 30 years, at Christmas time, I've put together some thoughts on the subject into a little book we started in 1931. The pictures often may suggest a central theme. This year the card pictures to hand are the palm trees, raised in pairs, a fitting symbol of this season. So I came up with a rhyme that I call:

**Prayerful Scripture**  
In humble prayer and reverent supplication  
The hands may sculpture manifestation,  
One's hopes and fears, one's faith that every hunger  
To be at one world that is Divine.  
Hands may express one's deepest thoughts, emotions . . .

For grasping, claving fingers suggest greed;  
The open hand bestows love, com- for, kindness,  
Responding to another's timely need.  
Hands were made for mankind's needed doings,  
For challenges attending life's long span.

With hands and thoughts together, trusting, praying,  
Is this not fitting gesture for the Gods?  
A wondrous gift can be our Yuletide's pleasure  
If, from the life of Him whose rays  
We mark as Christmas, we gain inspiration  
To live in life as we, in secret pray!  
—G.R.A.

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And covering sports is Cadarius, Joe. Whose name is turned round to make this rhyme go. Les Langlois reports on city-side news, And handles his topics to inform or amuse.

Across from his desk, you'll find Denn Scanlon. A cute Irish guy who'd an Italian;

She spices spaghetti with shamrocks and greens, And covers the townships—betwixt and between.

The managing editor you know as Ken Weaver. He's the one who rides herd on us eager beavers. In addition to seeing our work is complete, He's the man who compiles your own "City Beat."

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Her immaculate little house is filled with "things I love and it's home." Outside of church and club activities she spends almost all her free hours making the clown dolls and other items.

Her husband is seeing this Christmas includes cloth balls, marbled and beaded bags, aprons and hand-finished handkerchiefs.

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## It was the Night Before . . .

Sporting his cheerful red flannel pajamas, six-year-old Rossie Engel of Bloomfield Hills anxiously awaits Santa's traditional visit beneath the family's 20-foot Christmas tree. Mr. and Mrs. Elwood P. Engel, 5263 Franklin Road, and their four sons, Charles, 9, Lloyd, 14, Paul, 17, and Rossie make a family project of cutting their own tree each year from a commercial pine tree forest on Richardson Road near the Birmingham Gun Club. This year's selection, outfitted with about 120 large outdoor lights, some 250 bulbs and almost a dozen boxes of tinsel, soars 20 feet to the 2½-story studio-type living room ceiling.

## Federal Grant Ok'd; B'ham to Get \$22,630

Birmingham's request for a Federal grant for planning assistance has been approved, Con. William Brockmeyer announced today. It amounts to \$22,630.50.

The money will be used in preparation of a comprehensive plan for the development and improvement of the Birmingham urban area.

**OBVIOUSLY PLEASED** with news of the grant, City Manager L. R. Gare said, "This assures us of completing our comprehensive plan within the next two years."

The next step, he said, is for the city commission to accept the grant, then enter into a three-party agreement between the City, state and consultant (still to be selected).

COST OF the total project, including administrative costs, is \$30,174.

The City, which must contribute 25 per cent, will pay \$4,660 in cash and will provide \$2,943.50 in local services.

Brockmeyer said the grant was approved by the Federal Urban Renewal Administration under the urban planning assistance program, Sec. 701 of the Housing Act.

## Mentally Handicapped To Have Sunday School

Birmingham residents and church leaders have organized a program bringing religious instruction to mentally handicapped children.

The Council, through its Department of Social Services and Division of Christian Education, approved the plan and assigned James P. Presler, Birmingham's public school psychologist, to assist the Birmingham group in working out arrangements to undertake the project.

A FUND HAS BEEN set up and made available to the Birmingham Council on the Handicapped for the first several months.

## Big Fire Rages At Orchard Lake Country Club

Five area fire departments battled a fire that raged out of control Wednesday at the Orchard Lake Country Club.

About a dozen trucks and 40 regular and volunteer firemen from Bloomfield, West Bloomfield, Union Lake, and Commerce Townships and Franklin Village were still working at noon to bring the blaze under control.

Estimated damage caused by the fire could not be obtained as of Wednesday noon.

**THE FIRE** BROKE out about 10:30 a. m. at the clubhouse and West Bloomfield Volunteer fireman Wayne Vogelfurth.

Bloomfield Township police officer Harry Bentley said the fire was reported to have started in the kitchen of the clubhouse.

"I guess it is pretty well totaled out," said Bentley. They were calling for help to get them all over."

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