



The Nation's Top
Suburban Weekly
TEN CENTS

To adults who, at Christmas time, are brought into the presence of youngsters who are opening presents, who claim in their jubilant shouts and shrieks their approval of various gifts—no matter how trivial—on an inner feeling of satisfaction, even joy. Especially this may be true when certain gifts are essentially like those that they themselves received when they were children.

84th YEAR—NO. 43

This and That

by George R. Averill

Will East Berlin's Walls Ever 'Come Tumblin' Down'?

As you read about Khrushchev and his East German satellite building that wall to separate East and West Berlin, did another famous wall come to mind? I don't mean the Chinese Wall, but that more famous one that once encompassed the Biblical city of Jericho.

Perhaps you may recall how Joshua, responding to the Voice of the Lord, was instructed to bring together the Israelites, and seven priests, and to carry the Ark of the Covenant before them, as they marched around Jericho's walls.

This they did for seven days, and on the latter day they blew the trumpets loudly and the people shouted loudly, and the walls tumbled down. And Joshua and his men were able to acquire possession of the city, its former inhabitants were either killed or fled the city.

OF COURSE, the whole lesson related in this biblical narrative is that evil cannot forever prevail against good. The inhabitants of Jericho were not just about every form of evil. Joshua and his followers personified good. The Lord was on their side. Joshua's campaign, that resulted in final bloodshed, too, was not to slaughter human beings; instead, Joshua was waging war against evil practices, false gods, that were destroying their practitioners.

Recalling this episode, I meditated on just how it could fit into today's evil conditions. Certainly, Soviet satellites and their leaders, have admitted their godlessness. They have slaughtered millions of human beings, and during and after World War II, they have banished millions to die in concentration camps. It is time to seek to enslave the entire population on this earth.

THERE ARE THOSE among us today who believe that Jericho's falling walls were not in reality "miracles," but in fact the natural reaction of the Lord's handling of an evil earthly power. Among my leaders, perhaps the closest to such inner faith and conviction of the ability of good to overcome an evil was Mohandas Gandhi, in India, whose pacifist demeanor to Great Britain finally resulted in India's liberation from colonial rule.

India's present leader, Jawaharlal Nehru, until his recent invasion of Portugal's three tiny Indian enclaves, also practiced Gandhi's methods... but now his "pacifist halo" is tarnished. He has proved to be no Gandhi.

Getting back to Khrushchev's Berlin wall, it now stands as a divider between the evil tyrants of the East and the good and free freedom-loving man, always hoping that the use of discussion and negotiation will solve the problems in this world's problems, in the last resort this that "force," the environment of the battlefield, may become necessary.

SO THERE HAS been developed this terrible and terrifying power of nuclear weapons... forces so explosively tremendous that mankind's whole existence could be annihilated in another great war.

While the well known American spiritual ballad that declares Joshua fit the battle of Jericho, and walls came tumbling down... Soviet tyranny and the western nations' freedom now stand embattled on both sides of the East Berlin wall. That our leaders may find the way to dissolve this contest between good and evil in the hope of all who have faith that evil exists only ultimately to destroy itself, and that good, Divine Law, is destined to be enthroned.

Traffic Law Is Amended

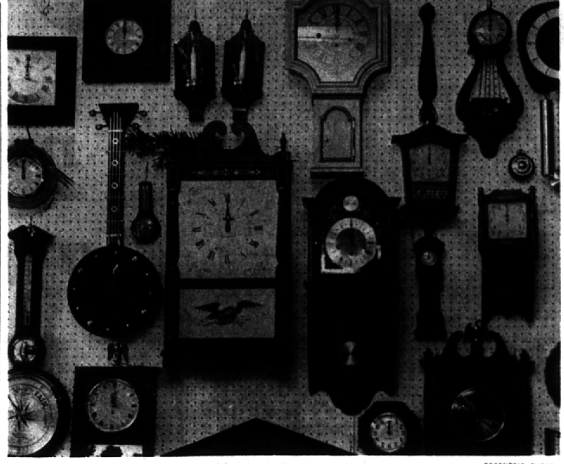
Birmingham city commissioners amended the recently approved uniform traffic code Tuesday night.

The amendment makes the fine ordinance effective on all public parking lots and areas for the parking of vehicles on property owned by the City or the Birmingham School District within the city limits.

Commissioners also established a fee of \$1 for each of the 1962 ordinance, which is slated for final adoption on Jan. 29 and to become effective March 1.

Grants Honored

More than 100 Birmingham-Bloomfield area residents attended a testimonial dinner for Mr. and Mrs. Charles Grant, Birmingham driving instructors, Friday night at Devon Gables. The Grants were honored for the contribution they made in the lives of Birmingham area young people.



Happy New Year

"Time waits for no one" echo the various area residents make ready those traditional, well-intended resolutions in their attempts to "turn over a new leaf" for the New Year.

Children Display Yule Spirit By Visiting a 'Needy Family'

By JULE CRANDLER
Special Writer

A "needy family" seems farther away than Bethlehem and its Holy Family to some children.

Only at Thanksgiving and Christmas do they hear of the "needy." Then they are asked to bring to school or church a can of beans or a 50-cent toy for such a family's basket.

But 28 Adams School sixth graders visited a Detroit slum and learned what "needy family" means last week.

THE BIRMINGHAM children did more than just bring their cans of string beans and toys for distribution to a "needy family." They visited a "needy family" in Detroit. Their teacher, Mrs. Richard W. Hirm, delivered their Christmas gifts personally.

The class went willingly, reaffirming their teacher's belief that children have to see where "it's going or they don't get any real benefit from giving."

Just five days before Christmas, they drove through Detroit in station wagonloads. They stopped in an area of decrepit frame houses nestled near the big rubber plant on E. Jefferson. The deteriorated

Contributions of Stock Aid BAA Building Drive

Bloomfield Art Association has passed the two-thirds mark in its \$75,000 building fund drive, Paul Averill, drive chairman, announced today.

"Responses by the community have been most gratifying," Averill said.

The art association's building fund reserve, acquired through its regular operation, "and the wonderful response and support from community contributors" account for the success to date, the chairman said. More than \$50,000 has been attained in cash and pledges.

Several substantial contributions in the form of stock have been made by individuals, Averill said. He emphasized that this type of donation carries "definite tax benefits" for the contributors, both in the form of charity deductibles and capital gains benefits."

PURPOSE of the building fund is to convert the City's former

neighborhood was cut across by railroad tracks feeding into the rubber plant.

Mrs. Hirm had often told her friend, Jean Hirm, about the troubles of her young charges. So when it was Christmas time at Adams School, Mrs. Hirm suggested to her pupils that they forego a classroom exchange of gifts.

INSTEAD, SHE proffered, the children could devote allowance monies to the effort toward helping one of Bellevue School's "needy families."

The 11-year-olds adopted the project with enthusiasm.

They learned that their Mr. Needy had once worked for a automobile plant. Almost two years ago he was replaced by a machine. Now he was "on welfare." To earn his family's monthly dole of about \$100, Mr. Needy spent 10 to 12 days on maintenance work at a city golf course.

"THE OTHER" day, she had told Miss Hirm after she recommended his family to the Birmingham school. "I walk the streets looking for work. I can't fill any of the jobs that are open. I don't have the education or the skill."

For the jobless man's family, the little Santa Claus fills five huge boxes with clothing, toys, food and candy. They bought a turkey and a Christmas tree. They packed two extra boxes full of outgrown shoes to be left at the school.

They collected only the clothing that would be right for the Needy children—overalls, 11 Roger, 8; Eva Denise, 5; Myron, 7; Johnny, 9; and Frank, 11.

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Fathers Active In PTA Today, Article Relates

Ten years ago, a man at a Parent-Teacher Association meeting was something of a curiosity; only one out of all the 12,000 members are fathers determined to cope with the man-sized problem of modern education.

A report on this successful invasion of the country's 47,000 PTA's is the lead feature in the January issue of SUBURBIA TO GO, which will come to you with the Jan. 8 edition of your Birmingham Eccentric.

That, for the benefit of club members, hostesses, committee chairmen and other normal souls, is an article by Philip Wylie, famous author of Generation of Vipers, in which he confesses he not only has trouble remembering names, but most faces, alas, escape him as well.

KAY NELSON's household includes her daughter Hilary, age 19, and a mare named Phyllis. This month, Mrs. Nelson tells about what happened when Nina came to live with them.

Our news column, "Getting Around," should prove an invaluable aid to road-weary tourists, dentists and fathers with lots of unmarried daughters still on their hands.

It's Settled. City Manager To Direct Civil Defense

By KEN WEAVER
MANAGING EDITOR

Birmingham city commissioners reached agreement Tuesday night on the question of a civil defense director.

They passed unanimously Commissioner Robert Page's motion to accept City Manager L. R. Gare's recommendations.

Revising an earlier decision, Gare recommended that the city manager be made director of the Office of Civil Defense and that an administrative aide be hired to carry out the work.

The job would be available for and responsible for other duties not related to civil defense.

PAGE, WHO has been strongly advocating development of a comprehensive survival preparedness program, suggested that the administration "initiate special studies to determine the adequacy of:

1. Protective measures to provide water and utilities' services under emergency conditions.
2. Construction standards for bomb and fallout shelters.
3. Arrangements made for the protection of school children.
4. Existing alarm systems to provide for imminent attack."

His colleagues, however, felt that the administrator's next step would be to hire the administrative aide, who then would be responsible for determining the adequacy of his commission duties.

ALTHOUGH TIME does not stand still, The Eccentric turns back the clock in reviewing the highlights of the past year's top news items.

Insurance Co. Building Here

An Oakland County Regional Office of Burton Abstract and Title Co. is now under construction at 1850 N. Woodward, Birmingham, according to Edson Burton, president of the firm.

The 28,400 square foot structure contains two levels and features a contemporary style exterior of face brick, aluminum and glass, with quartz aggregate surfaced insulated panels. It is being constructed on an approximately one acre of land the property contains an additional 19,200 square feet of black top parking area. The present smaller Burton service offices in Pontiac, Birmingham and Pleasant Ridge will be consolidated into the new building.

INTERIOR FEATURES include vinyl asbestos floor covering on both levels and wood paneling on the second level.

Burton is one of the oldest abstract and title insurance firms in the nation, organized in Detroit in 1866. The firm maintains its main office at 350 E. Congress in Downtown Detroit, with affiliated offices throughout Michigan.

servicing on a part-time basis as CD director, had set up specifications which placed the director on the same level as other department heads.

Page felt that to have complete control over civil defense matters, the director should have authority over all departments. He suggested retaining Kenning in that capacity and hiring an assistant to perform the other work.

Gare and other commissioners felt, however, that Kenning would be more valuable to the City as a public administrator.

PAGE SAID Tuesday night he feels the new recommendations meet the full intent and purpose of the City's civil defense ordinance and the recently approved survival plan.

Actually, the set-up now is to technically make the manager responsible for civil defense but in event of an emergency, carry out public informational programs; conducting public practice alerts; setting up a training program for City employees and the public.

The job description says further that the aide shall assume such other administrative duties as may be assigned to him by the manager and which may not be related to the functions of the Office of Civil Defense."

ON SUGGESTION of Commissioner Charles Crawford, it was agreed that the manager be directed to hire an aide, after which the aide's duties may not be related to a priority program on what is to be done.

Page expressed disappointment at any "further delay" in proceeding with actual development of a program.

"We're really come a long way," commented Mayor Florence H. Whitely.

Renfrew suggested that the manager report in two or three weeks on progress in securing an aide.

"That sounds very practical to me," said Commissioner William H. Burghum.

"All right, I'm asking for some emphasis," Page responded.

"Because the manager is now the defense director, Page felt he should be given direction, "on how to proceed."

"I'm not satisfied with it," said Page but declined to argue his point any further.

Issue of Jan. 5
Mrs. Alice Burlingame, 3891 Oakhills, Birmingham, was honored by two Michigan Universities in a ceremony at the University of Michigan's new Dearborn Center.

A homemaker and author, her program in horticultural therapy has brightened the lives of thousands. She was awarded a joint citation of honor by the trustees of Michigan State University and the regents of U.

Superintendent Glenn Schoenbals was authorized by the Board of Education to make application under Title V-A of the National Education Act for a grant.

(Continued on Page 1-B)

Exner Christmas Eve Fire Causes \$20,000 Damage

A Christmas Eve fire at the Virgil M. Exner home, 1036 Westwood, caused an estimated \$20,000 damage, Birmingham Fire Chief Paul Smith reported today.

Exner recently retired as director of styling for Chrysler Corp.

Most of the damage came from heavy smoke, Smith reported. Most of the \$15,000, was to be covered by insurance.

THE EXNERS had left the house between 1 and 1:30 p.m. Saturday. The fire department was called by a neighbor at 11:25 p.m. and Smith said the fire had been smoldering for two or three hours by that time.

The loss is partially covered by insurance.

REMOVAL of foreign objects from the trees prevents damage to the blades of a special chipping machine which removes the trees as they are picked up.

The trees chips, which are used for mulch in the city parks, are used under playground equipment and utilized in building walls and trails in the parks, are also available to anyone willing to transport them.

The department collected about 5,000 discarded Christmas trees last year. The chips from many of these were used in the new municipal parking lots.

Ed Board Opens Construction Bids

Birmingham Board of Education opens construction bids at 2 p.m. today for classroom additions to four elementary schools.

Additions of eight classrooms are planned for Harlan, six for Franklin, and five for each of the Bloomfield Village Schools.

Construction of the additions, for which \$635,000 has been budgeted, marks the first step in the school district's five-year building program.

IT IS HOPED that construction will begin as soon as the bids are approved in order to have the additions ready for the fall of 1962.

Bids will be considered at a special board of education meeting Jan. 2.

All makes of inner spring mattresses for the Birmingham ROYAL MAT TRUSS COMPANY. Don't ask for Enterprise #210.

Better Late Than Never

The Christmas rush isn't over yet for the Birmingham Post Office. Otto Leopold, foreman of the Birmingham Post Office Annex, looks over part of some 1,000 bags of parcel post mailed late for the holiday. The sacks, which average about eight packages each, were received at the Annex over the holiday weekend after the last local delivery run Saturday. Post Office officials attribute "the unusual load of late mail" to the public's failure to allow for the Post Office being a day short this year. Since Christmas Eve fell on a Sunday this year, no deliveries were made except special delivery and perishable packages.

B'ham Area: 1961 Passes in Review

Time marches on as the Birmingham area prepares to bid farewell to the year that christened the sixth decade of the 20th century and knocks on the door of a new.

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Tree Pickup Jan. 2-12

Birmingham's Forestry and Parks Department will collect Christmas trees Jan. 2 through Jan. 12.

Pickups will follow the regular rubbish collection schedule.

Trees should be placed at the curb and stands, wires and nails should be removed, according to Charles Gale, superintendent of the Forestry and Parks Department.

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to fill the position will be difficult, he stated; there just aren't many CD directors. The person hired will have to be trained by the City to handle the job.

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