SCHOOL PLAY AT CRANBROOK

Musical Comedy, "Happy" Draws Capacity Crowds For Both Shows

"GIRLS" ARE STARS

The boys of Cranbrook School scored a distinct success with their musical comedy, "Happy" presented before a capacity audience of family and friends Thursday and Friday evenings. Their attractive auditorium was crowded with society folk who braved the snow and cold to see the play.

The honors of the show were carried off by Arthur Mercer, who, as Mary Marsden, displayed all the desirable qualities of a leading lady. An attractive and really feminine appearance in his stylish clothes, naturalness and grace of manner, dignity and a surprising amount of stage presence, and a sweet voice all contributed to his performance.

But let it not be thought that the other members of the cast did not give an excellent performance. George Kittredge was a handsome leading man and possessed a fine tenor voice. Mark Antony Beltaire, as Professor Frederich Spitznoodle Googlestein made a good comedy lead, and the whole cast gave evidence of careful direction, and enthusiasm.

High lights of the show were Alfred Davock's tap dancing, Beltaire's song, "Vy Do Vimmen Fuss Over Me," Kittredge's and Mercer's song, "Left Alone," and Harlow and Alfred Davock's song, "Black Trouble."

The comedy, written and directed by Carl Wonnberger has its opening scene in Greene Pointe, a group of boys and "girls" are gathered in the living room of the home of Col. Marsden, owner of a distillery and mine in Africa. Into this party comes Mary Marsden, just arrived from an Eastern school. Bob Saunders (George Kittredge), in love with Mary, loses no time in declaring himself when the crowd temporarily leaves the room.

He is accepted, but complications develop when the theft of a diamond is charged to him by the villian, Dave Morton (Luther Thomas). The scene is transferred to Africa, where many harrowing events take place. The difficulties are eventually solved, the valor of Bob is proved, and Bob and Mary are reunited.

Accompanying music was provided by Joe McArthur, Pearl Peterson, and Carl Wonnberger, pianists, and John Harlow and Mrs. W. O. Stevens, with violins.

Christmas Day

THE crimson and green of the holly,
The candle-light's flickering gleam,
Are opening memory's gate-way,
And bringing a Christmas dream.
What matters the years that are fleeting,
I know that your friendship endures,
And tonight from my heart goes the greeting—
May the season's best blessings be yours.

Once a Year

It's our pleasure to wish you a Merry Christmas and to extend our greeting with heartfelt appreciation of your friendship during the past year.

McBride Hardware Co.
150-154 S. WOODWARD

May This Dawning Christmas Bring

—a waking morning
full of joy
—hours of
happiness enduring
—a perfect
Christmas Day

L. P. MIX
141 WEST MAPLE — JEWELER — PHONE 721

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commission at which the Eastern Michigan System, successor to the old Detroit United Railways, obtained sanction for the fare boost.

It was revealed at Friday's meeting that tentative negotiations with other bus companies had already been inaugurated, and word received from one that adequate service could be provided at fares considerably below that of the Eastern Michigan System.

Quote Lower Fare

Fares as low as 20 cents from Detroit to Birmingham were mentioned. The old interurban fare on the Eastern Michigan System was 30 cents. The new cash fare is 40 cents.

It was brought out that a number of residents of the North Woodward communities commute to Pontiac, instead of Detroit. It was decided for this reason to invite the village of Bloomfield Hills and the city of Pontiac to name representatives on the transportation committee.

Mr. Gibbs was the only one present to say a good word for the Eastern Michigan System.

"In fairness to the Eastern Michigan System," he said, "I must say that they have co-operated with us to the fullest extent. They were the first to work out a feeder service for our territory. We knew of the recent increase in fares before they went to the Public Utility Commission."

Royal Oak Complains

Mayor Clawson replied that Royal Oak was not thus taken into the Eastern Michigan's confidence while the Birmingham representatives said they were only informed of the proposed bus fare increase and not of the increase in interurban fares.

A representative of the Eastern Michigan System informed the Birmingham commission that the bus fare increase was necessary because the company has been losing money almost from the time the main activities of the Ford company were transferred from Highland Park to Dearborn.

Several sub-committees were named to discuss with other transportation companies the terms under which they would agree to serve the North Woodward communities. If such a company is invited in, one member said, "the Eastern Michigan System can be left to die a natural death."

It was decided to draw up a map showing the routes the various communities would want to operate to give the fullest measure of service. Territories not now served would be included. One new line mentioned was from Birmingham via Coolidge Highway to the Ford Rouge Plant.

To Deny Permits

It was agreed to refuse any new permits to the Eastern Michigan System for the present. A committee was named to draw up a uniform ordinance governing motorbus operation which would be adopted by all of the municipalities, with a nominal fee to be charged by each from the new transportation company, if one is found which will give satisfactory service for reasonable fares.

The interurban rate from Detroit to Royal Oak remains at 18 cents, unchanged, because of an agreement entered into last year whereby Royal Oak agreed to pay the cost of paving between the railway's tracks in the city, the railway being given 10 years to pay this back. To go six miles further to Birmingham, however, now costs 22 cents more.

"Discrimination"

Residents of Birmingham at the village's last commission meeting called this "rank discrimination."

L. P. Cookingham, village manager of Clawson, was elected chairman. Others present at the meeting and members of the committee were: H. L. Clawson, mayor of Royal Oak; Raymond J. Whitney, city manager of Royal Oak; H. T. Ellerby, village president of Birmingham; Jay F. Gibbs, city manager of Ferndale; Ashton J. Berst, city manager of Pleasant Ridge; James W. Parry, village manager of Birmingham; William A. Jones, village manager of Huntington Woods; Stephen E. Hurd, president of the village of Berkley, Ernest Carlson and Russell G. Smith, village commissioners of Berkley; R. Bruce Fleming, clerk of Royal Oak, and Arthur L. Lawson, commissioner of Royal Oak.

Another meeting is to be called Friday at which the map of new routes and results of negotiations with other bus companies will be reported by the sub-committees.

HOGAN TO APPEAR FOR EXAMINATION

Disorderly Charge Will Be Heard Before Judge Buck On Friday

G. P. Hogan, 756 South Woodward avenue, will appear for examination Friday before Justice Floyd S. Buck on a disorderly conduct charge resulting from a fist fight a week ago between Hogan and W. L. Crow, of Berkley, an Eastern Michigan bus driver, in front of the Eastern Michigan bus garage on south Woodward avenue.

Upon arraignment, Hogan pleaded not guilty and was released on $100 bond. He stated that he had left his automobile in front of the garage while he went into a nearby restaurant. Crow, he said, drove a bus into his parked car. An argument ensued and the fight was ended by Patrolman Harry Timm who arrested both contestants. The case against Crow was later dismissed.

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classrooms have also been donated. Clubs of older school boys and girls have donated generous sums of money.

Needy Families Reported

Miss Mary Clark Griffith, the Community House hostess, has superintended the thorough investigation of reports of needy families since early in November and Mrs. Fred Trumbull has had charge of the employment bureau and thrift shop which gave added assistance to the community needs.

All of these have expressed their appreciation of the cooperation given them by individuals and organizations.

The Birmingham Metropolitan Club, whose members are recruited from the ranks of the police, fire and postoffice departments issues the following letter of appreciation to the residents who aided them in making their annual sale of newspapers for charity a success. Proceeds from the sale and a dance held Dec. 13 netted them $1,156.

"To The People of Birmingham:

"In making our annual sale of the special edition of The Eccentric and metropolitan newspapers from Detroit and Pontiac the success it was this season, you have brought happiness to scores of little children who might otherwise have been disappointed in their faith in Santa Claus.

"Undoubtedly you, too, were made happy by whatever sacrifice your donation might have caused you, for you realize the joy of giving. Certainly, we were the happiest of all.

We know how glad those children will be when they find they have not been forgotten because we have been able to distribute the gifts obtained through your generosity. We sincerely appreciate your charity and the kindness and cooperation of those who assisted in our sale.

So, 'Merry Christmas; a Happy New Year—and thanks!"

(Signed)
CHARLES JONES.

The distribution of 30 Christmas baskets by members of the Metropolitan Club will take place this afternoon.

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has a very smiling expression. There is no doubt that June will find that doll, doll-carriage and "wind-up" train on Christmas.

Then there's a joint letter from Bobbie and Dickie. "O. K." is distinctly indicated at the top of the page. Illustrated beneath are two flat sleds, in excellent perspective, a long one for Dickie and a short sled for Bobbie. A golf bag with a flexible handle and, er, yes—clubs, sticking out of the proper end is also drawn. And last, but certainly not the least, is an electric train, so indicated by a helping hand.

This is not an ordinary electric train. It doesn't just "go" like other electric trains. It speeds by so rapidly the naked eye can distinguish it by whirling wheels and an outline somewhat obscured by the heavy wind whipping past it. You look at it one fraction of a second—and then it's gone. But Santa knows.

Another Bobbie, writes:

"Dear Santa Claus:

Undoubtedly, you are a very busy man. Especially at this time of year. And that snow storm Thursday probably will make your annual delivery of Christmas toys more difficult than ever. Oh, I realize how difficult it all must be. But do you think I would bother you with a long list of things I want under the circumstances? Not I. You just bring anything you feel like and I'll be ever so grateful. This brief note is written just to let you know how much I appreciate what you are doing for children like me all over the world. Well, best of luck! And give the reindeer some sugar loafs for me.

P. S. When you get time after Christmas, please sit down and write me a long letter about mass production in your toy factory. I've always been curious about it and if you're turning out toys the way I think you are, why I'll undoubtedly apply the principle to some of my industries when I grow up.

Again, best of luck.

(Signed) BOBBIE."

At least, that's the way the letter was interpreted by our Santa Claus correspondent.

Christmas Joy Is Assured 14 Children

And Three Pleasant Ladies Will Preside At The Feast

—o—

Among the numerous Christmas dinner parties this year is one particularly characteristic of the holiday spirit that reminds you of the comfortable English stories of Yuletide charity Charles Dickens wrote.

This party will have all the elements. There will be a cozy room in the large, warm Bloomfield Park Clubhouse with 14 children playing excitedly around a Christmas tree decorated with dazzling ornaments and scores of little frosted electric light bulbs. There will be fruits and candy and tinsel and toys.

Santa Claus with an amusingly false white beard and the traditional red suit (too thin to wear outdoors) will be there. Outside, as you know, there will be huge drifts of white, soft snow. A thin wisp of smoke will be curling from the chimney, for down in the kitchen there will be a fire doing its work in the big kitchen stove.

And the Cook Will Say—

Roasted fowl, succulent and steaming, will be pulled out of that stove and pushed back in again many times by a cook flushed both by the heat and the happy thought that his job is being done well. And he will say, as all cooks have said on Christmas Day, "—and in just a few more minutes it will be done to perfection."

The announcement, "dinner is ready," will bring fresh excitement to the scampering children. How they will enjoy that meal!

And when it's all over, three pleasant ladies will manage, somehow, to tell each other what a wonderful idea it was, "—and why not next year, too!" Those three ladies are Mrs. Margaret Thomas, Mrs. Lou Wooster and Mrs. Goldie Knodell.

Mrs. Thomas and Mrs. Wooster, who had wondered how they were going to spend their Christmas Day, decided Wednesday to give a Christmas dinner for a group of little children whose parents, because of poverty, would be able to offer only a meager meal.

Their plan, originating in the Municipal Building where they are township clerks, inspired the assistance, first of Mrs. Knodell, then Mr. Frank Mulholland, and Jack Taylor, and other employes. Soon after they announced their plan they began to receive toys and candy and offers of food and money to make their party a success.

Mr. Mulholland presented them with $5 and eight dolls. Mr. Taylor presented them with the chickens.

And the children, ranging in age from four to 13 years old, will come from three impoverished families in south Birmingham.

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more," said Mr. Parry as H. T. Ellerby, village president, entered.

"I just want to ask you one question, Jim," said Mr. Ellerby. "Have you got another copy of the new budget?"

"No, I haven't," replied Mr. Parry.

"Will we have it at Monday's meeting?" asked Mr. Ellerby.

"No, I'm afraid not. Not until a week from Monday."

Outside, in the residential districts, Joe Below was having a swell time, laughing at cars stalled in snow banks, dignified men muttering undignified things as they waded through the drifts and the snow blew up their trouser legs.

"This storm," began Mr. Parry again, and the buzzer buzzed, "but we've got it about all cleared up now, I believe," he continued.

"Mr. Parry speaking."

"Oh, is it? Are you sure they haven't cleared it off earlier today and it's blown back on again? Probably was an oversight," said Mr. Parry into the mouthpiece as he scratched a memorandum on a desk-pad. "Well, I'll see about it right away, and if not tonight, the first thing tomorrow—sure! Heh, heh, heh," chuckled the village manager, "I'll see about it all right. I was just telling the newspaper reporter that everything had been cleared up."

Joe Below took a deep breath and laughed so hard the temperature went down to a half-inch from zero on a full-sized thermometer and the wind increased to 30 miles an hour, whipping new drifts into a slowly moving winter traffic.

In the meantime, the coal purchased by the taxpayers of Birmingham was burning in its most crimson glow as it converted water into steam, resulting in a warmth warm enough probably to have melted some of the stock of candy and chewing gum reposing for sale in the telephone operator's desk in the main lobby of our Municipal Building. Village employees gazed out of the warm rooms into the cold outdoors as Mr. and Mrs. John Birmingham, and their little children, braved their ways about the village.

Joe Below, watching this wintry spectacle, gave his snowshoes a loving pat, drew his big muffler tighter about his neck, and vanished upon a swirl of snowflakes. He had had his fun in Birmingham.

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case, alleged that she placed $350 in a box on the mantle in her bedroom Dec. 3 and that when she returned $200 of the money was missing.

Police arrested Bornes on a warrant after they had obtained what they thought was sufficient evidence upon which to convict him and had discovered that he had a criminal record.

11 TOWNS STUDY DRAIN PROBLEM

Hearing Postponed On Oakland-Macomb Drainage To Mar. 27, 1930

The hearing on the necessity of the proposed Oakland-Macomb County drain Thursday was postponed until March 27, 1930, by Ernest L. Hunter, State drain commissioner; Arthur W. Spencer, Oakland County drain commissioner, and Bert Englenbrecht, Macomb County commissioner, sitting as a board of determination.

The board proposed adjournment until Jan. 8 to allow the Macomb County delegation, which was unable to attend because of the heavy snow on the roads, to present its objection to the project. This date was changed at the request of the municipalities represented so estimated cost figures could be studied by the county bodies of the 11 municipalities included in the assessment district.

The estimated cost of the revised project was $5,400,000. The original cost was placed at $9,000,000, and this later was reduced to $4,200,000.

The estimated percentages to be paid in by the municipalities are: Clawson, 2.84 per cent; Birmingham, 1.78 per cent; Royal Oak, 3.86 per cent; Berkley, 2.22 per cent; Huntington Woods, .80 per cent; Oak Park, 1.76 per cent; Pleasant Ridge, 1.35 per cent; Ferndale, 27.41 per cent; Hazel Park, 46.28 per cent; Center Line, .85 per cent; Warren, .35 per cent.

The balance will be assessed against unincorporated areas. Residents of Hazel Park declared the assessment to be levied on that district would be confiscatory.

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ago and for the past five years conducted the Buick sales agency here.

He was also president of the Bloomfield Transit Co., the Birmingham Automobile Dealers Association and former president of the Detroit Automobile Dealers Association. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge No. 33, of Lansing, the Detroit Consistory, F. & A. M., the Oakland Hills Golf Club and the Birmingham Rotary Club. His mother was for many years active in the work of the Order of the Eastern Star and the White Shrine of Jerusalem in Lansing. Mr. Saunder's father died eight years ago.

Besides his widow he is survived by a son, Jack, 11 years old who live at 176 Linden road. The only other near-relative is an uncle, Jay Lear, of Lansing.

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ried call to hardware merchants in the village revealed that they were all sold out. We had to send to Detroit for additional shovels and another plow.

On Bates street the drifts to the north and south were exceptionally deep. County plows were working regularly on Woodward avenue and West Maple road. Interurban train plows of the Eastern Michigan Railways also worked between train schedules. Huge drifts in Woodward avenue were forced against the curbs by the plows limiting parking to occasional spaces cleared by the 30-mile an hour wind which blew almost without a let-up all of Thursday night and Friday.

Most of the truck loads of snow were taken to the River Rouge and dumped over the banks.

COMPILES 1930 BUDGET

Compilation of the village budget for 1930 is now being made, according to James W. Parry, village manager, who announces that it will be presented at the Village Commission meeting for approval, Monday, Dec. 30.

In 14 states the minimum legal marriage age for girls is 12 years.

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and Many Other Gifts

QUALITY WDC SERVICE ACCURACY
Wilson Drug Co.
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A CHRISTMAS THOUGHT

I trust, good friends, this Christmas Day
May find you happy, blithe and gay.
But if your heart can sing no song—
May this day give you courage strong!

* * *

And may this Holy Day impart
A glow of sunshine in your heart,
To light your way, when days are drear,
And bless your life thru all the year!

—CHAS. S. KINNISON

Stroup's Market
WABEEK BUILDING
"Complete Food Service"