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'HOODOO' DANCE WILL FEATURE ELLINGTON
 Duke Ellington and his Famous Orchestra will arrive in Detroit Friday, the 18th of March to play for the Youth, Inc. "Hoodoo" dance and reception to be held that evening for young people of southern Michigan at the Naval Armory.
 Ellington has promised to play many of his own compositions on his Detroit engagement, including the most popular hit of the day, "In My Solitude," and others such as "Mood Indigo," "Sophisticated Lady," "Wahoo Blues," etc.
 Tickets will be procured locally at Schetter's Drug Store. Dress is semi-formal.

Birmingham before today

By **MINNIE HUNT SALTZER**
 In 1909 the old Willets Grove was renamed "Electric Park" and wires were strung around through the electric bulbs installed. A wooden footbridge crossed the River Rouge to the left of the point where the river crossed Woodward Ave. A dance platform was erected on the land where the northern part of the town is now located.



Mrs. Saltzer

Benches were placed around among the trees and the park became quite a favorite spot in the summer time. During the spring freshets the banks of the river would not confine the water and the river would cover the flats on the north and west sides of the town. It was quite an interesting sight to see the water tumbling and whirling on the lower levee's. Concern would be felt for the safety of the waste gates at the mill pond and for the bridge at the foot of the Woodward Ave. hill and also for the bridge by the old grist mill on W. Maple. As cement was not used for bridge construction, at that time, it was rather difficult to construct a wooden bridge that would withstand the strain of high water, and its accompanying debris.
 The Charles Brush place was on the south side of Harmon Ave. just west of the power house site, and the Benjamin Daniels place, which was later the William E. McClellan home, was on the north side of the street and almost opposite the Brush home.
 There were several of the Brush children. I recall Will Brush, whose nickname was "Science." Al Brush, inventor of the Brush automobile. His wife was the former Miss Jean McLehane, daughter of Rev. A. Marsh, a former pastor of the 1st Presbyterian Church. There was also a daughter, Beatrice Brush and I believe another son was called "Con." Mrs. Brush was of an inventive turn of mind and Mr. Brush was an interesting conversationalist.
 Laura, Zilpha and John Daniels were the grandchildren of Mr. Benjamin Daniels. Mr. and Mrs. W. E. McClellan were the parents of Robert and Ezra McClellan. Mrs. McClellan was a member of the Birmingham Ladies Literary Club.
 The McClellan family attended the Baptist church. Mr. McClellan was in the flour and feed business for many years.
 I have previously referred to the Matheson home which has been

the property of Mrs. Emma Chastfield Robinson since about 1898. Mrs. Robinson is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Chastfield and a sister of Miss Carrie Chastfield. She is the mother of Mrs. Winifred E. Lewis, Mrs. Foss E. Hersey and Glenn Robinson.

The house north of the Robinson place was owned by Mr. and Mrs. Albert Donaldson. Mr. Donaldson was the son of Mr. John Donaldson and Eliza, his wife. He was the brother of John Samuel, William T. and Joseph Donaldson, Mrs. Agnes Glenn, Mrs. Mary Groves and Mrs. Elizabeth M. Gibson.
 Mrs. Albert Donaldson was the former Miss Maud Nye, sister of John Nye and daughter of Mrs. J. O. Beattie. Mr. Donaldson was employed at the Grand Trunk Depot, when Mr. Ira Slade was in partnership with D. O. Wiley of Detroit. Later Albert worked for the D. O. Wiley Co., in Detroit, for a number of years. He was very jolly and full of Irish wit. His wife, Maud Nye Donaldson was very popular and greatly beloved by the old time residents of Birmingham.

The following is taken from a copy of The Birmingham Eccentric of Thursday, December 11, 1934.

Cupid's Capers

"On Wednesday evening last, December 3, at the residence of the bride's parents on Saginaw St., Mr. Albert Donaldson and Miss Maud Nye were joined in holy bonds of matrimony by the Rev. J. A. Sherrard officiating.
 Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Beattie, the parents of the bride, left nothing undone to make the wedding complete in all its appointments, and the guests composed of the relatives and particular friends of the high contracting parties, were made to feel welcome at the very outset. After the ceremony a most beautiful supper was duly discussed and generally appreciated and the presents which were numerous and costly, were inspected after which the jolly crowd dispersed, wishing the newly married young people the smoothest of their voyages. The following is the list of the presents:—Mr. and Mrs. M. K. T. Taber, decorated teapot—callas and violets, very beautiful; Mr. and Mrs. Ira Slade, silver pitcher; Mr. and Mrs. John Donaldson, set of China dishes, complete; Mr. and Mrs. Geo. E. Duane, silver pitcher; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hagerman, bed spread, towel and 2 cans of fruit; Mr. Joseph and Mrs. Silver castor; Mrs. John Daines, set of silver table spoons, set of silver teaspoons and set of silver dessert fork; Mr. and Mrs. Ollie and Reuben Beattie, silver pickle center; Miss Alice Hagerman, pin cushion; Mrs. Gertrude Matheson, tidy; Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Camp, fruit dish and wine set; Mr. and Mrs. J. Donaldson and Joe Donaldson, set of silver forks; Miss Mamie Tabor, silver napkin ring; Mr. and Mrs. C. Kibben, set of silver knives; Mr. Will Rockwell, decorated lamp; Mr. and Mrs. Sam'l Donaldson, carving knife and fork; Mr. and Mrs. D. Glenn, glass cream pitcher, sugar bowl, butter dish and spoon holder; Mrs. E. T. Furman, set of kitchen utensils and volume of Tennyson's poems; H. O. Buckley, Hill's Manual of Social and Business Forms; E. John Wilde, plush photograph album; Willie E. Irving, crumb pan and brush; Miss Stella Watkins, majolica cream pitcher and tidy; Mr. J. O. Beattie, set of lace curtains and fruit dish; Ona S. Furman, velvet pin cushion and whisk broom holder; Mrs. E. S. Brown, toilet cushion; Mr. and Mrs. Pinder Worth, linen table cloth; Mrs. J. Irving, embroidered linen towel; Miss Sarah Chappell, sofa pillow; Mr. Hugh Irving, tin chamber set; Frank Blakeslie, child's bib "Good Morning."
 The Lucius Randall home was next to the Donaldson home, on the north. Mr. Randall was the twin brother of Mrs. Lucy Randall Cowles and a brother of Mr. Henry Randall. His wife's given name was Emma. Their children were Bert and Myrtle. Dr. Bert Randall is a physician and surgeon located at Flint, Mich.; Mrs. Ed. Cowles was the mother of Fred, Clarence and Charles Cowles. Fred and Charles were one-time newspaper men. Their father was owner and editor of the Saginaw Courier-Herald. Clarence Cowles is a Saginaw architect. Mr. Randall also owned the property situated north of his house. This was purchased later by Mr. and Mrs. William Jenks. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Jenks was large and there were two very beautiful elms in front of it. Mrs. Jenks was formerly Miss Minnie Van Norman. There were four children in the Jenks family—Earl, Winifred, Jessie, and Don. Mr. Jenks was a D. U. R. conductor for several years. Later he did carpenter work.
 Mr. William Manser bought the house and the land immediately surrounding it, belonging to Mr. Randall and lived there until Mrs. Manser's death. The Mansers had an adopted daughter, Jennie, who played the organ and could sing quite well. At one time the Mansers lived on W. Maple in the house later occupied by the Eccentric. Mr. Manser had a cobbler's shop in the front of the house. I recall all the time when Jennie Manser broke her leg. I believe she was watching on a horse-sleigh or fell off one at the time of the accident.
 The Manly Leach home was on the S. W. corner of Cemetery Road (Oak Street). Mr. Leach was a blacksmith. There were several children. One of the daughters is Mrs. Hattie Leach Hunt of Waterford, Mich. There were a number of fruit trees at the rear of the Leach home and oak trees grew on the north side of the house along the side walk that led up to the Greenwood Cemetery. There were no houses on Cemetery Road at that time.



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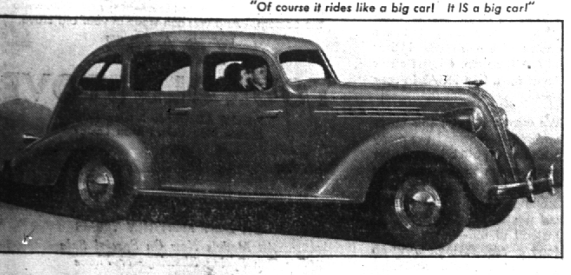
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