

The Birmingham Eclectic

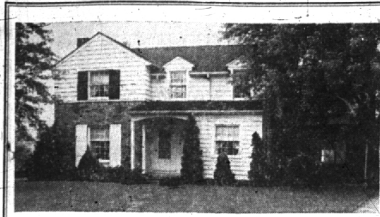
PART TWO

PATIENCE is a virtue whose value cannot be computed in any of earth's physical standards. Who has patience knows how to wait quietly, with faith, endurance of trial, even of great wrong, knowing that right eventually triumphs, as part of patience, tolerance, forbearance—all these qualities are jewels in the Crown of PATIENCE.

SIXTY-FIFTH YEAR—NO. 12

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 1942

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Comfortable Convenient Conformable

Here is a delightful Early American home built in 1937 with an eye to comfort and convenience. Overlooking the garden, and with access to a livable living room, a 10' x 15' screened porch. The dining room, with a built-in cupboard and shelves opens, as well, onto that porch.

The kitchen (with cupboards) and breakfast nook are on the proper side of the house north and east respectively. A lavatory on the first floor and 4 rooms, bedrooms and 2 tiled bath on the second floor make it complete—except for the beautifully paneled recreation room and bar and complete bath with shower in the basement.

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NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS

The City taxes for the fiscal year starting July 1, 1942, are due and payable at the City Treasurer's Office July 1, 1942. These taxes, if paid on or before August 31, 1942, bear no further charges. Starting September 1, 1942, a charge of 3/4 of one percent will be added which charge will be increased on the first of each succeeding month thereafter by 3/4 of one percent until and including February, 1943. Pay your taxes promptly and save money.

H. H. CORSON,
City Treasurer

June 18, 1942.

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Art Instructor Comes to Recue of Mural Artist

Last week, Bits of Birmingham devoted a paragraph to the new mural at the Post Office being executed by Carlos Lopez. Mrs. Mary Jane Bigler, High School art instructor, comes forward with the following letter:

"I have been very interested in the little comments that have been in The Eclectic columns in regard to the Mural at the Post Office—and haven't been able to understand why someone has not come to his rescue!"

"As to the first little jibe, some one made a good ago—about, 'why couldn't the money more profitably be spent for bombs?'—I would say that if the great American game, Baseball, is essential to American morale during the war—then most certainly is American art! I've always had so much to do with the so-called culture (or, for our Birminghamites), 'The Eclectic'."

"And as to the story and theme of the mural—it is a very logical one and Mr. Lopez is doing in a rather charming way. My high school students have been very interested in the mural and its progress. Sometimes I think their curiosity and alertness is most commendable—they do things about it—while adults sit back and grumble! So! We took time out one afternoon and both groups went over and watched Lopez at work and found out everything about the mural process—the way he works and the way he thinks—etc! We found Mr. Lopez very gracious and accommodating about the mural and the way he came away very much impressed—and I hope that that little group of seventy have had something to do with the right education about it."

Public Doesn't Understand
"Of course the public doesn't understand the artist! It makes no attempt to do so! In the first place if the persons who have made these comments understood fully the function of a mural—some of these comments could not have been made! A mural functionally is a part of a wall. The wall holds up the ceiling functionally and anything on the wall in way of decoration or design should continue to do so. The strongly-painted figures in the Lopez mural certainly do so. About the best colors we ought to know, too that the painting is by no means finished—only the primary layer has been applied and color builds up over this! They are all harmonious with the colors of the room in which the mural is being done. Stand over at the west window and see how well the colors blend and harmonize with the woods, furniture and floor of the lobby."

Want Explanation
"My students feel that a story should be published explaining the theme of the mural, its methods, etc. and that, hence, more people would understand and would be more interested."
"Definitely, I think something should be done in favor of Mr. Lopez—perhaps he hadn't defended himself because he, like so many artists, feel they (the laymen) are so far off—they can't much use in trying to educate them?"

"But can't The Eclectic do something?"
"I certainly appreciate the fine publicity you gave us at intervals this winter. The right kind of word, and enthusiastic publicity has a lot to do with the success of our school. Somehow I feel a great challenge there—and anything you can do to help us, is most appreciated."

"MARY JANE BIGLER, Baldwin, B. S. Art Dept."
"P.S. There was one more point that I wanted to make. Why are human beings American ones, anyway—so prone to criticize things we know nothing about? We wouldn't or couldn't criticize a book we hadn't read—What gives us license to criticize painting that we know nothing of? It is so easy to ridicule that which we do not understand and do not like!"

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Bits of Birmingham

We had a very unusual complaint the other day. A reader phoned us to say that she had washed a sweater and laid it out on a wire clothes line in front of her errand, and when he returned, the bike went into a spin in front of his house. The basket's contents, consisting of several bottles of cold beer, went crashing to the ground, several breaking.

Three divorce cases have been filed in Circuit Court, Pontiac, by the wife of this city's Mayor, Donald S. Chase against Mrs. Margorie G. Chase, Mrs. Eleanor E. Pritchard, and Mrs. Florence M. Rose against Earl E. Rose.

Harris A. Lamb has withdrawn from his partnership with Bob McElreath. They planned to expand the business but the war put the crimps to that. Harris is in a war industry now.

Incidentally, this Wanderer had been trying all winter to find a party of two or three to go on a trip in that quaint country mill over at Clifton, near Romeo. Finally we caught the mill and the gate is McElreath's name, also that of Sir's. Wheat heats a good cooked breakfast cereal and is good with vitamins; in fact almost all the vitamins to be found in the wheat are in the heart. Until very recently, the white flour millers took this part of the wheat off and sold it for animal feed because when left in the flour, it spoiled easily. Ordinary white flour does not spoil because it is so lacking in vitamins, etc., that even the bugs have enough sense to eat it. Many breads are now enriched with the substance originally in the wheat.

Mrs. M. C. Ball, 32380 Mayfair road Beverly Hills, reported to notice Saturday that her son, Donald, was bitten by the Clark Moloney dog, 414 Arlington.

Speaking of the Moloney, we note in the phone book a W. W. Moloney, IV, of West Park road. We have plenty of Jrs. and IIs, but IVs are rare in these parts.

Neil Black, 504 Ridgeland, reported the theft of his clothes at 11:25 p. m. it was discovered on Hamilton street.

Mrs. H. S. Roberts, 763 West Maple, reported the theft of her car from its parking place near the Community House last Friday afternoon. A short time later, it was found—right there!

Another peculiar case was that of Elmer DeBoard, 45 Massachusetts, right in Park, who parked his car on the driveway leading to the Packard garage, the Community House last Friday afternoon. A short time later, it was found—right there!

Low Davidson, the merchant, whose son who was inducted into the Air Force two months ago, Lou has a Service Star in front window and his son's picture alongside.

Miss Florence Wall, 456 Park found a wrist watch Saturday morning in front of the Tottenham Building. Mrs. Philip G. Clifton, 1145 Pilgrim, reported the loss of a watch to police and saw the watch both legs broken. It was set with diamonds.

At 3:10 a. m. Saturday, police saw a perfectly good bicycle lying inside the salvage yard near the Post Office. Its license revealed that the owner was Anne Keenan, 286 Pleasant avenue.

The City Commission wonders what can be done about a Tottenham road in Bloomfield Hills and a Tottenham in northeast Birmingham; Berwyn and Birwood (which recently contained firemen in the Aucterlone blaze); and the two Arlingtons, one in the City and one in Beverly Hills.

They say you can tell a girl's character by her clothes but we don't believe it. Girls must have more character than that.

Four boys ranging in age from 8 to 11 stole a box of canvas hats from the alley behind McBride's hardware, but they must have decided that the goods were too hot to handle, for they threw them away nearby. One of the boys was later apprehended for throwing stones at Bell's greenhouse.

A Bloomfield Hills man had to hitch a ride home the other night when he got off the train at our local station. A Detroit finance company has repossessed his car.

John Dye, 14 years old, was given a ticket the other night for excessive use of a "musical" horn. Also he had no operator's license on his person, and altogether it cost him \$3.

Bloomfield Hills police were puzzled last week while investigating a call which reported that boys were swimming in the pools at Cranbrook School. Hot on the trail, the law saw several figures dash into the bushes. "Who's there," cried the police. A timid voice came back, "Just us, sir."

Children's Theatre School Planned By Wonbergers

Dragons and knights in shining armor are likely to engage in almost daily conflict when Bloomfield Hills' latest theatrical venture, the Children's Theatre School, moves into the Greek Theatre on the Booth estate, Cranbrook, for the month of July.

Plans now in progress call for the establishment of a complete school of dramatic art for boys and girls mostly between the ages of 10 to 14 under the coordination of Mr. and Mrs. Carl G. Wonberger of Cranbrook School. Slightly older or younger children may be accepted to permit the casting of plays as yet unselected and there will be opportunity for acting for the purpose of the school, according to information released by Mr. and Mrs. Wonberger.

"This does not mean that we intend to undertake a grand theatre a grand," explained Mrs. Wonberger. "Far from it! Being in a play outfit, they will be sound and consistent training in speech, voice work, pantomime, mime, and dramatic interpretation."

The Wonbergers have been engaged in directing, writing and acting for the theatre a grand total of 34 years. Mr. Wonberger has worked on the regular profession since 1908 and in summer stock and has acted and directed in a variety of radio stations including WJLB, WJZ, WBIF and more recently WCAR where he conducted two long series of performances for the Michigan Company.

Teachers of English. He has been for 14 years director of dramatics at the Michigan Company. He is present chairman of the National Committee on Drama and the author of a text on dramatics and of various magazine articles on the subject. Mrs. Wonberger, likewise experienced in radio work and at one time a member of the Michigan Company, is associated with Mr. Wonberger for some years in the Philadelphia Theatre Projects on Martha's Vineyard Island, Mass. Recently she has directed in a Bloomfield Hills neighborhood group.

Assisting in the Children's Theatre will be Miss Peggy Lind, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Murray M. Lind, 2000 Woodward, and Miss Nancy Hart, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Linton Hart of Lake Park Road, the latter a member of the recent Cranbrook-Kingswood production of "Family Portrait" and a graduate of Cranbrook School, and a full staff as yet to be appointed.

Maple-Willits Alley Hearing Next Week

After many postponements during the past three months, the Maple-Willits alley assessment will be given a final hearing next Monday night. The merchants who must pay for it have not yet agreed among themselves on the share of the cost which is being pro-rated among them, with the City-justice hearing part of the cost. If the group does not agree by next Monday night, the City commission will file the amounts arbitrarily, it was declared.

Fenton R. Mathews is a versatile person, we will admit, but it was with surprise that we learned he was about to take the stump as an auctioneer. That should be worth seeing. He has rented the former Packard salesroom at 912 South Woodward and will hold a two-day sale, June 30 and July 1.

Albert Stott, Jr., writing in Sunday's Detroit News, points out that Bloomfield Township, closed to all hunting by Act of the Legislature, is now over-populated with rabbits and pheasants so that small trees, gardens and crops are being damaged. He suggests an open season or extensive live-trapping.

Folks over at the City Hall have the right idea about rubber salvage; that is, they realize that it's the small bits added up which count. On the desk at the switchboard is a little box with a hole in the top and into it are coming old rubber bands, erasers, etc.

Jimmie Casson, who rode in the horse show last week-end, found little danger while in the saddle, but had his legs broken crossing Woodward avenue Sunday night. He was hit by a car.

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