

Basketball Squad to See Cage Finals

As a climax to a successful basketball season the team will make the annual trek to Michigan State College to see the state finals Saturday night as guests of the Sideline Quarterbacks. Colin Campbell is in charge of the trip which will give the boys

a chance to see the best high school teams in the state in action. Those who will make the trip are Jim Anderson, Dean Berry, Walt Bodie, Mac Booth, Bud Boynton, Colin Campbell, Bill Downey, Bob Folin, Dick Hahn, Bob Hardy, Lucius Jackson, Clay Joyce, Duke Layland, Bob Littleton, Jim McCall, Eddie McGinnis, Ken MacQueen, Dick Murray, Lowell Page, Warren Rouse, Bob Saffell, and Pat Wall.

Concert Plan Brings Good Music to the People in the Small Towns

Mrs. Herbert H. Gardner, who was active in the local membership drive for the Community Concert Association Plan, has received many inquiries concerning it. The first schedule concern-

last fall with concerts being given in the Royal Oak high school auditorium each week. The many local who purchased memberships have been most enthusiastic about the program and are spreading their interest throughout the entire community.

The plan organized by a group of music lovers who felt small cities of the country should have the best musical talent available, as well as large metropolitan areas. It was seen that such a thing could not be undertaken on a basis of random buying because of the instability of public attendance. A plan was devised whereby memberships would be sold, once a year, the number to be governed by the space available for the concerts.

Know Beforehand
This enables the committee in charge of program arrangements to know, before the concert season starts, just how much money is available to them. In this way they can consider the talent it is possible to engage, and make the best selections possible for the amount they have.

It provides the community with excellent talent, available to them at reasonable costs, and assures each member that he or she will be able to attend the concert in comfort. Capacity of the auditorium is not over-sold, nor does the fact that on one particular night the audience will be small, lower the talent engaged.

In cities where this plan has been put into action, schools have backed it completely. It enables students to hear the best musicians, and goes far in building music appreciation and interest. It creates a greater interest in music, and uncovers potential musicians in school groups. It enlarges choruses and orchestras, as well as school bands, and gives youngsters a hobby, if nothing more, which will provide them with many pleasant hours throughout their entire lives.

Always Good Talent
Organization in these cities back the plan for what it does to their communities. Good talent always is well received, and so raises the standards of any city in which it is presented. This is especially true of musical clubs, for through this means their members are given the type of talent which they can deeply appreciate, as well as ideas which they can use in their own groups to further their value in their towns.

Among the more favorable aspects, from a purely commercial standpoint, is the fact that the plan holds no financial risk at all. All monies are guaranteed through the sold memberships. No individual connected with it is ever in a position of having to make up deficits, and no musician is asked to wait until a later date for his fee.

The first time the plan was used was in 1921. Since that time it has grown steadily and has unlimited opportunities to continue that growth. As one writer put it, "It puts a Carnegie Hall in every town." Ward French, who founded it under the name of International Community Concerts has watched it grow from engaging a few artists for a few thousand listeners, to thousands of artists and millions of listeners. He says "There are ten million more new listeners just around the corner."

On a Homey Basis
Over and above the outstanding artists which it presents, the plan has brought music enjoyment down to a homey basis. They have discarded the stiff and ceremonious performances which marked every outstanding musical program of the large cities. They are engaging young musicians who have new and brilliant ideas to offer, and from them they are getting enthusiastic reactions.

The artists, new and old, report that they are meeting their most appreciative audience in the smaller cities where a less formal attitude prevails. They also report that in most cases the audience conveys the idea to them that they are in attendance because they like music, not because "it is the thing to do."

Birmingham was given the opportunity of such a group membership last fall when the group formed in Royal Oak. Memberships will be solicited again before the concert season for 1948-49 opens. They will receive the same advantages outlined above: restricted membership, good talent, and no further expense after their initial membership is paid. For the small fee paid, each member will have the opportunity of attending one concert each month during the concert season. Details of the April membership drive will be announced later.

Allow More Time

The Y-Teen sweater drive originally scheduled for March 2-12 was extended to March 2-15, give high school students more time to find and bring old but still usable sweaters for children in war-torn Europe.

As in many previous drives, contributions were by housewives.

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Latbrup Townsite News

By LILLIAN DIEDERICH

Mrs. Norman Iversen and Mrs. J. K. Jones were co-hostesses at a benefit bridge party at the home of Mrs. Jones on Goldengate drive. This was the first of a series of parties to be given for the Community church building fund. Mrs. L. A. Brisebois and Mrs. Carl Bush were co-hostesses at the latter's home on Rackham boulevard Saturday evening for the same cause. Both parties entertained four tables of bridge.

Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Stannard of Bloomfield drive are anticipating as guests Mr. Stannard's brother and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Stannard of Santa Monica, Calif. They have motored to New York City and visited relatives along the Atlantic seaboard, and are now enroute back to California.

Woman's club gave a St. Patrick salad lunch yesterday, (Wednesday) for disabled veterans needing radio. Reservations for 38 tables were made. Mrs. Arthur Mitchell was chairman. At the regular meeting held last week announcement was made that the Woman's club has made application to join Detroit Woman's Federated Clubs.

Barbara Jones, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Jones of Goldengate drive, will be home for Easter vacation next week. Barbara is a Sophomore at Western Michigan. She is taking an occupational therapy course.

Mrs. Erwin Clark of East California drive was hostess to Circle No. 11 of the Community Church Tuesday evening.

Dr. James Walters of Boston, Mass., spoke to members of the Religious Service Committee at their meeting Sunday evening, held at the home of Ray Herm of Saratoga boulevard. Dr. Walters is the secretary of the project department of the denomination and gave counsel to the committee on the missionary program of the Community church. The Annual election of officers will be held after services Sunday, April 4. The new nominating committee will be published in this column next week. New members will be received at the Maundy Thursday Communion.

The college career group is planning a novel party for college students home on vacation. The party will be staged March 27 in the "House in the Woods." Bill Bush is president.

Mrs. George J. Rostow of Quenton boulevard underwent an operation Tuesday at St. Mary's hospital, Detroit. She is reported "doing nicely" and will be home next week.

Mrs. Walter J. Howard of Rackham boulevard is ill at home.

Barbara Belle Smith, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford B. Smith of San Diego boulevard, is secretary to the president of a division of the National Industrial Bank of Detroit.

Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Brisebois of Sunset boulevard and Mrs. Brisebois' brother-in-law and sister,

Dr. and Mrs. Russell Edgar of Detroit, left yesterday for Natchez, Miss., taking in the pilgrimage, then on to New Orleans and Mobile, Ala., to see the Bell-ingerath Gardens there. They plan to visit Biloxi, Miss., on the Gulf of Mexico. In their absence their son, Jack, and his wife, will occupy the Brisebois home.

Betty Marsh, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Marsh of Saratoga boulevard, was a guest of Diane Holgerson at Michigan State College in Williams House.

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AN OPEN LETTER

...To the Voters of Birmingham

Because you will see my name on the ballot at the April election I want to explain why I am a candidate for election to the Birmingham City Commission. As a citizen and voter myself, in past elections, I always wanted to know about the people for whom I voted—and I think you, too, want to know something about me.

First of all, and most important, I believe I can make a valuable contribution to good government in Birmingham as a City Commissioner—if I didn't think so I wouldn't seek election. A City Commissioner devotes a lot of time to the job at considerable sacrifice to himself and his family, as any of the present commissioners will testify. This I am willing to do because I believe in the American form of popular government and because I think every citizen owes an obligation to his country and himself to preserve that form of government.

Secondly, I've lived many years in and near Birmingham since I was born in Detroit in 1900. I came to Birmingham 16 years ago because I wanted to raise my family in the kind of neighborhood we have here. I've thoroughly enjoyed living here—and believe I can contribute to the preservation of this city as a desirable residential community.

I'm an attorney (University of Michigan) and I think legal training is an excellent background for the intelligent analysis of governmental problems and their solution. I intend to do all I can to control the expenditure of your tax money as carefully as sound business principles dictate.

As part of my recent army training I attended the School for Civil Affairs and Military Government at the University of Virginia. By reason of what I learned there I know that the job of City Commissioner is not an easy one or one which can be done without long study of local affairs. It means hard work and I intend to work hard to do a job that will satisfy you.

My friends have asked me to stand for this election. I agreed to do so only because I believe every citizen owes part of his time to the community in which he lives. If elected I intend to serve to the best of my ability, without prejudice or special interest.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

BRUCE G. BOOTH

(Paid Political Advertisement)



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KEEP IT GOOD*

*Thank You, Mrs. Customer,
we know you like GOOD
GAS SERVICE and WE
MEAN TO KEEP IT GOOD
even though our costs are
higher than ever.*

But it isn't easy these days to keep it that way, and, at the same time, build ahead for your future needs. As you know in your own case, our "living costs" are up and up.

The payrolls for our family—the thousands of men, women and children in the families of our workers whose living comes from what you buy from us—are up. The average cost to

us of natural gas delivered to customers in 244 Michigan communities is up. (One reason is that Michigan natural gas is no longer available in large quantities. Another is that natural gas from Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas must be imported and put in storage fields during warm weather to help meet winter demands—which involves considerable expense.) Building costs, material costs, equipment costs... are all up. But not—as yet—the price to you.

What you want is good, reliable, plentiful service. And you want your future supply protected. So we must build ahead to bring gas from far states and make arrangements to store vast quantities underground, so it will be ready when you need it most.

For you, we must be able to keep on doing these things. But the problems grow heavier. What would you do in our place?

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