

Lions Auxiliary to Meet Feb. 8

Miss Mary Woodman, senior Scout from Troop 66, Royal Oak, will be the guest speaker at the monthly meeting of the Lions' Club Auxiliary on Wednesday evening, Feb. 8.

Miss Woodman was a team delegate to the Western Hemisphere Camp held in July 1949. The camp was attended by senior Girl Scouts from nine countries and three United States possessions.

Now a senior at Royal Oak high school, she is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Woodman of Wadsworth road. The meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Frank W. Higbie, Delemere road. Assisting hostesses will be Mrs. John F. Hallister and Mrs. Robert McKee.



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Village Players Turn "Chris Bean" into Entertaining, Complete Show

By Doris E. Kus

An exceptionally colorful and attractive cast makes "The Late Christopher Bean" an entertaining and enjoyable play. Mrs. Anthony Daley who directs the show has managed to pace her players at a lively tempo and to produce them at their very best in characterizations.

Well cast to begin with, the three-act comedy is one which offers much in the way of performance and the Village Players have accepted the challenge capably and with enthusiasm. It's easy for an audience to notice that the cast is enjoying itself and no one seemed unhappy at the Chestnut street Playhouse.

The plot concerns itself with the sudden discovery of genius in paintings done by the late Chris Bean. There follows an onslaught of New York art dealers, not entirely honest gentlemen in their ethics, upon the Hagggett family with whom Bean lived. The family's struggles and conviving efforts to locate the paintings which they had thought foolish and worthless and for which suddenly they were being offered huge and tempting sums provide immeasurably facetious situations.

The final curtain lines have a neat twist to them and wind up

the show as a comedian is Warren Pease, Jr., who handles his dialect and the wit with zest and great fun. Of the minor roles, his is by far the one which offers the most chuckles to the audience. Farrington Holt is an art critic gives a convincing portrayal and creates a marked effect of something genuine in his scenes.

Anthony Daley holds a difficult role as a shy and crafty gentleman and his is a set of lines which provides many chances for the cheap to elix. But Daley wisely underplays a d and achieves the proper effect of that tight borderlines between villain and comedian.

Gordon Pennington, Jr. and Lois James hold the only really respectable parts (other than Abby) and offer the necessary breath of young love. While Pat Dix is directed very well in the art of being obnoxious.

Mrs. Elliott Kinney, as Abby, has captured the spirit of the character with a warmth and sincerity which pervades the entire play. Abby, with her faith and gentleness, and her portrait painted by Chris Bean form the core of the show.

A material part of the play is the appearance of the portrait. Mrs. Paul Averill did the painting on this and has captured Mrs. Kinney in the role of Abby in such a manner as to make the entire scene more life-like and without this finishing touch the story of Chris Bean would be lacking in depth. The portrait itself seems to epitomize the entire tale and the Players have wisely made the most of it.

The play closes this weekend with shows tomorrow and Saturday evenings.

Society club news must be submitted by noon each Monday.



BY DORIS E. KUS

Some energetic friends took me bowling the other evening. And throughout a tale of horror, there, kiddo, that pin ball is somebody's darling son! Not that I was deliberately trying to beat him to a pulp, mind you. It was just that I hadn't as yet learned the art of which way to throw the ball, over or under hand.

"Go get a ball," they told me. "You can't hit the ball with a ball. What are you going to do, blow hard? I was about to suggest I might just double up and roll myself down the aisle or alley or whatever it is (we seldom mention the alley during the evening since my attempts ended in the gutter) but thought better of it. I couldn't do a thing over. I grasped a lovely ball—long—and just as swiftly dropped it. The gentleman upon whose toes it rolled said a few things in regard to the incident and climbed up to a bench out of the way as I went to select another.

Balls are heavy things, and after several minutes of searching we located one which weighed only nine pounds. So they said, anywhere a couple would have been mad. As it turned out, it was all madness. In the first place, my mother's idea was to fit the holes—that is, the first finger wanted to sneak in where the second finger was supposed to go and the little fingers didn't know what to do, curl up or under or what and told, it was a pretty miserable beginning.

Now almost everyone has bowling in mind once and the person has a different reaction of sorts. Mine was composed mostly of dire concern because it was almost impossible to walk holding the ball and even more ridiculous an effort to swing the arms and the ball with any amount of inspired vigor whatsoever. Then, too, it was becoming more and more confusing with the many offers of instruction—all containing a different theory. If I had just attained an approximate idea of what was supposed to be done, I would have devised a few ideas of my own on the subject.

There finally was actually nothing left to do but walk through that mob of would-be-champagnes and try it on my own. So I staggered forward a few steps and just dropped the ball. It sort of bounced once, seemed to sigh and then slid nicely into the gutter, taking the easiest way out. Watching the pin boy return it down the lane more and more confusing and I passed several minutes trying to figure the principle of the thing out. How could a ball and a gutter like that gain such smooth momentum when a human being like me was almost powerless? It was a question which remained unanswered that evening.

No more need be said. I was a dismal failure and I have returned to my television and other less exacting pastimes. Most definitely it is all for the best and my companions are obviously relieved. However, I've been offered a job as pin boy and am highly tempted solely because I'd be able to roll the balls back successfully and very much without effort.

CLUB NOTES

Rebekah Lodge
Adda Gibson, president of the Rebekah Assembly of Michigan will make an official visit to the local Rebekah group when they meet at 8:00 p.m. in the Community House on Feb. 8.

Philemon Club
Members of the Philemon Club will meet Tuesday, Feb. 14 at the home of Emma Sharp on Chester street at 1:00 p.m. for an afternoon of sewing on cancer pads.

Scoutmist
A dinner meeting will be held in the Community House on Feb. 9 for all members.

Business Women
There will be a regular business meeting this evening at 6:30 p.m. in the Community House.

R. A. M.
Members of the R. A. M. chapter 93 will hold their regular meeting on Monday, Feb. 8 at 8:00 p.m.

Musicale Will Have Exchange Program

The Royal Oak Student League Musicale will present a program for the Birmingham Musicale Junior League when the two clubs meet at the home of Miss Maria Rising, 1020 Brookwood court this evening at 7:30. The two groups have held exchange programs for many years.

Ronald Phillips, incoming president of the local Musicale, will be given the club president's pin at this time. The pin is a gift from Mrs. James R. Patterson whose daughter was a former member

SOCIAL NEWS IN BRIEF

Honoring bride-elect, Miss Sybil Finch, Miss Kathryn Brumbaugh of Aspen road entertained a luncheon in her home last Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Maffatt of Foxcroft left Tuesday to make their home in Wilmington, Vt. In their honor, Mr. and Mrs. John W. Smith entertained at a farewell breakfast last week.

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Doan have returned to their home in Omaha, Neb., after visiting with their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. John Gardner of Madison avenue for ten days.

Following the final curtain at the Village Players Saturday, there'll be a party for the cast and production staff and their families in the Playhouse. Mrs. Walter Herdreich is in charge of this traditional affair and assisting her are Mrs. F. Farrington Holt and Mrs. Warren Pease, Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Warren S. Sumner of Maryland boulevard will entertain a group of friends in their home Saturday evening.

This past weekend, Mr. and Mrs. James C. Nunneley of Birmingham Lane with Mr. and Mrs. Russell Strickland and Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Flint and Mr. and Mrs. William Breech were up at Otago for a few days of winter sports.

Hosts at a large supper party this past Sunday evening were Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Anderson of Orchard Ridge road.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph F. Flaherty of Covington drive returned Saturday after spending a week visiting with her mother in New Castle, Pa.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Scheyer of Ravine street and their children are planning to leave in February for a year's stay in Holland. They expect to visit with Mrs. Scheyer's family in Amsterdam.

Mrs. Floyd Franklin will open her home on Feb. 8 for a bridge luncheon being held by members of the literature department of the Birmingham Woman's Club. The affair is being held to raise money for the group's project for this year—the helping to make the Juvenile Detention Home in Pontiac a more colorful and livable place.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis B. Sappington of Arlington drive entertained at a tea in her home last week. The affair was given for Mrs. Robert Moffatt.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Fuller of Townsend street have returned from a visit in Chicago, Ill.

The Misses Marilyn and Barbara Black are expected home today from the Pennsylvania College for Women to spend the weekend with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Black of Oxford road.

Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Listman of Arlington drive are planning to leave for Miami Beach, Fla., early in February.

The closing performance of the Village Players on Saturday will bring out Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Sheldon and guests, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph H. Scheel who are going with some friends from Detroit; Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Grinnell who will be there with a party of friends.

Mrs. William DePiazza of Birmingham boulevard left early this week for a visit in California.

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Gardner of Arlington road will attend the Village Players' presentation of "The Late Christopher Bean" with Mr. and Mrs. Karl Pfeiffer of Westwood drive. Also present will be Mr. and Mrs. Russell Richardson and Mr. and Mrs. C. Hadsl Smith and guests.

News and society copy must be in The Eccentric editorial office by 4:30 each Tuesday afternoon.

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