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MEMBERS OF DEAN LaRUE'S HOME ROOM CLASS at Bloomfield Hills High School show their instructor a check good for \$47.25 that they collected for Oakland County Hospital patients and part of the 60 Christmas stockings they filled for children patients. From left to right, Ellen Strong, Janet Keady, Gary Metz, Sharon Murray, LaRue, Betsy Arnoldi, Susan Kennedy, Mary Stacey, Peter Schmidt and David Lee. (Eccentric Staff Photo)

Cranbrook Chorus Presents Annual Christmas Pageant

The Christmas spirit again captured Cranbrook School Tuesday night, as the members of the school Glee Club proudly presented the twenty-fourth annual Christmas Pageant. The voices of the singers, resounding with perfect harmony from the high, arched ceiling of the Cranbrook dining hall, contributed to a beautiful and stirring scene. Although some of the original carols have been replaced, through the years, to make the service more adaptable to an American school, the Pageant still retains the traditional flavor of an old English Christmas celebration. The main figures in the service are the Jester, the Three Kings, and the leader of the procession of the Boy's Head.

THE DUTY of the jester, played this year by sophomore John Fox of Lawrence, Massachusetts, is first to bid the pageant-goers, who are all assembled at an appointed spot, to come "into the Great Hall" and "be jolly"; and then, when the "feast has begun" he welcomes the banqueters and begs them to "draw sorrow in a cup of wine, and let us all be merry." The Jester's Welcome comes from a poem, "The Christmas Carol," written by the English poet George Wither in the 17th century. His speeches finished, the merry imp delights himself in prancing about the hall, tapping unsuspecting faculty and students lightly on the cranium.

PROBABLY the most impressive scene of the pageant is the enact-

ment of the carol, "We Three Kings of Orient Are." At one end of the long hall is the manger scene, with the principle characters represented by students. The three Kings, followed by the Glee Club chorals, march the length of the room, and each king then presents his gift while singing his solo. The Kings this year were, in order of appearance, Bob Reed, of Lake Forest, Illinois; Don Wells, of Des Moines, Iowa; and Dwight Davis, of Bloomfield Hills.

The music for the procession of the Boy's Head, led this year by Roger Staples of Ann Arbor, originated in England, but the exact source is unknown. Other English carols sung by the Glee Club are the procession of the Plum Pudding and the procession of the Yule Log; the latter dating back to the 16th century. Other carols included in the pageant are "Entre le bouef et l'âne gris" ("Close by the Ox and the Ass so gray") an old French carol written in 1684, and "Lo, how a rose a'er Blooming," a German carol. Regardless of their foreign origins, these carols have become an integral part of many English festivals; so it is not strange to find them in the Cranbrook pageant. Other familiar songs, such as "Away in a Manger" and "Adeste Fideles," are sung by the whole assemblage to the accompaniment of the organ.

WHEN APPETITES are cloyed and voices hoarse, the great hall becomes the stage for the Mummings Play. The huge room, hereto-

fore illuminated only by candlelight and a roaring fire suddenly becomes brightly lighted and the mummies, seventh and eighth graders, parade proudly into the middle of the room. This play is a combination of several popular St. George plays, the Oxfordshire and the Leicester. Such plays are common in England and thus find their place supplementing the Cranbrook service. The finale is reached with the appearance of St. Nick, this year played by Ned Bearden of Redford, bringing presents for faculty and students.

Match-Me Hop Set For Community House

Tri-A presents the Match-Me hop next Saturday night from 9:30 p.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Community House.

The theme of the annual topsyturvy dance is the Golden Nugget Cafe complete with all the western trimmings. Joanne Pender and Rita Skaarn are co-chairmen. Many Ann Bates heads the decoration committee. Elizabeth Cobb has secured Don River and his eight-piece orchestra including a vocalist. An Elizabeth Cobb aided by all the girls in the Club are sending invitations to every girl in school. Publicity chairman is Judy Frost and Sally Wilkinson heads the entertainment committee. Cleaning up will be Sharon Stanton and her committee.

Maple Cagers Win Opener With Troy

In a low-scoring seesaw defensive game, the 1952-53 edition of the Maple cage team successfully opened the 1952-53 basketball season last Friday night outscoring Troy 20-20 on Birmingham's new floor.

The Maples' inability to connect with the basket put them into hot water early in the game. Troy taking an early lead which it never relinquished until late in the sec-

ond stanza. However, the Maples' defensive tactics and fair rebound ability helped them to a 20-18 half-time advantage.

In the second half coach John Petrakis changed his outfit many times trying to find the best combination. Juniors Don Borough and Chris Christie played very aggressive ball and put new life into the struggle. Christie emerging as high point man of the game with 12 per cent.

BOROUGH WAS adept at intercepting passes and kept the Maple attack running smoothly. Christie controlled the offensive boards and had a nice jumping push shot finishing right on Christie's heels with eight points. The Maples connected on only 32 per cent of their shots from the floor but were better from the foul line hitting 64 per cent. Troy was better from the floor, hitting on 37 per cent. However, from the freethrow line, the Trojans were able to connect on only 12 per cent.



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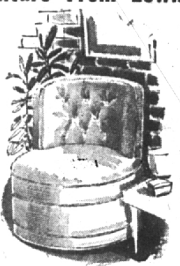
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