

Young Art Exhibitors

Robert Knipschild and Joan Howell, former students of Cranbrook Academy of Art were the two youngest among several hun-

dre artists from America and 24 foreign countries invited to participate in the Pittsburgh International Art Exhibition being held at the Carnegie Institute until Dec. 14.

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NATURE NOW

Now the fruits and grains of earth's growing are once more garnered and stored against the cold and hunger of winter. At the center of all this richness lies the encased seed, without whose ingenious creation no autumn could ever have come to pass.

The earth was long in so clothing itself in beauty and fruitfulness. For eons of time it lay barren and empty. Gradually it made for itself a mantle of green so that by carboniferous times some 250 million years ago, it lay bedecked with ancient ferns, horse-tails and clubmosses. These were primitive plants dependent for their propagation upon the spore, which was then as now a slow and wasteful method of reproduction requiring an intermediate plant stage before a new individual can be produced.

However, as the culmination of the great coal forests approached, there were hidden here and there within their depths a few primitive seed plants. The cycads and ginkgos which once flourished over wide areas are remnants of these. They served as a bridge spanning some 150 million years of time to carry plant life over the transition period from spores to seeds.

A NAKED SEED has no container in which to ripen itself. Its name suggests that it grows unprotected. And so it does, hiding itself between the scales of a pine cone, or ripening on a short stalk as does the ginkgo, or concealed in a primitive berry as is the case with the yew and juniper. The naked seed was a marked improvement over the spore and produced our first great pine forests. But it was slow to ripen, unequipped for travel, and dependent upon the wind for pollination.

It was not until seeds ripened within the protection of an ovary, that our modern flora came into being. It brought with it not only plants of astonishing variety, but the color and fragrance of flowers and fruit and the rich nutriment of grasses and grains. These also provided suitable food for a new class of animals, called mammals, who were destined to rule the world.

By the invention of the encased seed all the life processes were quickened and plants colonized the earth at an unprecedented speed. Its protective shell was proof against the weather.

THE BRIGHT flowers it produced attracted insect pollinators.

Seed boxes took on amazing and clever ways of ejecting and spreading their contents. Birds and mammals added their carrying power to that of the wind. By tertiary times some 40 million years ago, the encased seed had become so efficient in structure and habit that our modern flora was already well advanced to a tiny embryonic plant. She then packed around it a lunch of starches, sugars and oils and enclosed the whole in a suitable garment or shell, proof against the vicissitudes of weather. The baby plant so enclosed is seed-fed until, stimulated by moisture and sun, it puts down its roots into earth and grows up to become the seedling, thus establishing its own food factory. So great is the power of growth locked within the seed that the new plant can crack rock or raise pavements in its urge to reach the light.

When nature fashioned the encased seed she placed at its center for itself a mantle of green so that by carboniferous times some 250 million years ago, it lay bedecked with ancient ferns, horse-tails and clubmosses. These were primitive plants dependent for their propagation upon the spore, which was then as now a slow and wasteful method of reproduction requiring an intermediate plant stage before a new individual can be produced.

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WUSC Spokesman Cranbrook Visitor

Sharafuddin Ahmad Faridi, general secretary of the World University Service Committee, now located in Karachi, Pakistan, spoke at Cranbrook School and Kingswood School Cranbrook, Monday, Nov. 3.

Mr. Faridi, who was born in New Delhi, India, and is now living in Karachi, is touring the country for the World Student Service Fund which is organized to provide for the needs of students in foreign lands. The Cranbrook schools contribute annually to the Fund.

Want ads cannot be accepted after 5 p.m. each Tuesday.

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Wacky Walkers Menace Drivers

"Wacky walkers" is the next group due some special attention as Birmingham joins other Michigan cities in an attempt to protect pedestrians from their own folly.

Police Chief Ralph W. Moxley said today that this city would take part in the pedestrian protection program being sponsored during the fall and early winter months by the state safety commission of the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police, Sheriff's Association and Automobile Club.

According to Chief Moxley state statistics show that in more than 30 per cent of the accidents involving "walkers" the pedestrian himself is more at fault than the motorist.

BY CALLING to the attention of motorists the amusing antics of Wacky Walkers which are dangerous, we hope to have fewer pedestrian mishaps," Moxley said. "It's partly a repeat warning

that darkness comes earlier, people are harder to see since there is a tendency to wear dark clothing and atmospheric conditions are not at their best.

"The privilege of owning a driver's license is a serious thing. It carries with it the special responsibility of watching out for pedestrians. Any motorist who runs down a person on foot raises the question as to whether the motorist was a safe enough driver to have been given a driver's license.

"In Birmingham I'm asking our drivers to prove this responsibility is not misplaced," Moxley concluded.

Receives Advancement

Peter N. Clamps, brother of Mrs. Nick Angelo, 25039 Waycross, Southfield township, has been selected for advancement in rate to aviation electronics technician.

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