

Suggests Some Ideas Regarding Rummage Sales

By HELEN BRUNSON

Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

From the number of rummage sales, it would look like many club and church women like to play store. They do, but there's another reason for so many sales.

Of all money-raising projects, the rummage sale seems to bring in the most cash with the least effort. But that doesn't mean No Effort at All. It takes some doing and planning to make a sale a success.

Some women have become experts at the rummage-sale game, and they seem to agree on a few rules:

It's a good idea to get the dedicated vacant building in town for the sale, even if you have to pay a few dollars for it. It should be a place where much traffic goes by on foot. However, if your church or club has the reputation for putting on terrific sales featured by wonderful bargains, the crowd will come to you.



Helen Brunson

MOST 'RUMMAGE-SALE' EXPERTS don't like the idea of a buy-sell alongside. They say old clothes don't mix with chocolate cakes. And they advise that you limit the hours of sale. You'll sell just as much between 9 and 4 as between 8 and 6. Put a price tag on each item, and make it such a bargain that it won't stay around.

Announce the date of your sale to your group at least six weeks ahead, so they won't give all their stuff to some other charity. Then two weeks ahead, put on a telephone campaign to reach every member with an appeal for sale merchandise—and a promise to pick it up at a certain time. If you wait for your people to bring in their things, inertia will set in and you won't get nearly as much. Then advertise the sale.

WOMEN WHO'VE TRIED IT say that some things sell fast—others don't. Children's clothes, toys, games and books go like mad, and small furniture, bric-a-brac, lamps and kitchen things move pretty well.

Really good clothing will sell, but shoes are generally hard to move because they don't fit. Hats don't walk out very fast because they're usually hopelessly out of style.

Clothing that is dirty or wrinkled won't sell well, so it's best to ask donors to wash and iron everything possible, and press garments that need it. Some sales require that every item be either washed or dry-cleaned.

Display, as in a retail store, helps sell merchandise. Hang good garments on hangers in conspicuous places. Put hats on empty milkbottles. Place shoes on a low table with a chair nearby so customers can try them on.

ONE SALE-CHAIRMAN cautions us to watch the merchandise, as there are unscrupulous salesmen who appear with large shopping-bags and sometimes fail to pay for what they get.

Another sale-manager says to put one person in charge of the money. Her organization worked hard and long only to find that the cash-box had walked away.

As the natural unit of society, the family is the most important part of all living. Parents and children constitute the average family, have wonderful opportunities to build for happiness... and for memories of happiness.

Cranbrook Prof. Gains Audience With Iraq King

Upon completion of a six-month survey of Iraqi wildlife, Dr. Robert T. Hart, director of Cranbrook Institute of Science, was given a private audience with King Faisal II to discuss plans for conserving the fauna of Iraq.

Dr. Hart, during a conference with the king and His Royal Highness Emir Abdul-Ilah, the Regent, was asked to prepare recommendations for the preservation of some of Iraq's vanishing game species, such as the antelope and the ibex. Invited by the Iraq Museum of Natural History to conduct a census and classification of the animals now living in the mountains and deserts of the land believed to be the site of the Garden of Eden, Dr. Hart has led field trips into the region of Kurdistan, near the Turkish border, and around the junction of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers, often called the cradle of civilization.

Now that his mission is accomplished, he will return to Cranbrook early in April after visiting several cities in the Middle East and Europe with Mrs. Hart, the former Sumner Beck Vaillant, whom he married in Baghdad last January.

PLAY IT SAFE!

Every Child Should Know Fire's Power

Nearly everyone likes to watch a fire, especially children. Fire can be man's best friend or worst enemy. Under control we make fire our slave. It cooks our food, heats our homes, melts metals in industry for use in war, etc. Out of control, we become the slaves of fire.

Every day there are 33 persons burned to death in the United States. Most of them are children just like yours and mine.

About 12,000 persons, young and old, burn to death each year because we are slaves to fire and not its master.

You and the parents of every child that has died of burns and they will tell you, "I never thought it would happen to us."

DON'T WAIT until it's too late. Be sure your child knows the dangers and possibilities of fire.

We, as parents, have the obligation and responsibility to see that our children know right from wrong. Fire is one of the subjects that they should be informed about.

Fire losses caused in Birmingham by children during the past few years have run into several thousand dollars. Only two weeks ago four boys in Birmingham between the ages of 12-14 were caught by the police department because they did not realize the limitations of fire.

THEY HAD thrown lighted pellets to start model airplane motors! Into a business building not realizing that these pellets, if allowed to burn out undetected, could have started a serious fire.

Fortunately in this case, the occupants of the building were still there and put the fire out before it could spread.

Let's "PLAY IT SAFE" and spend a few minutes now and then with our children to be sure they will not be the cause or victim of the next fire.

Birmingham Fire Dept.

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FISHING IN THE ATLANTIC off Lake Worth, Fla., occupied some of the two-week vacation taken by Birmingham's Mayor Dean G. Beier and his wife, Mary. They arrived home Sunday with deep surfs, and a big catch. Besides the Mayor and his wife (at left), the fishing expedition included Beier's father, Otto, (at right) and W. C. Randall, 770 Shirley. Randall caught that 75-pound, 7-ft. 8 in. white marlin, but only after it had successfully hit and stolen the bait from the hooks of both the Mayor and his father. The marlin so far leads that class in the current Delray Beach tournament. Mayor Beier caught the 14-pound wahoo and 5-pound dolphin.

DOWN TO EARTH

Spring Lawn Work Will Pay Dividends

By ALICE WESSELS BURLINGAME

Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

In the questionable days of early spring the home owner with fresh grass seedlings or no grass at all has to proceed rather slowly.

If they are average people they use twice as much seed as necessary, as quoted from a leading lawn seed company.

The important factor is to prepare a good well drained base with about four inches of top soil. Fertilize a couple of days before spreading the seed. Grass wants to spread after it gets started and the novice spreads far too much seed.

It is very important to have your "master of the house" realize the responsibility of sucking to the job to be sure that the seedlings do not dry out.

All seeds must be continually damp to assure sufficient of the seed coat. After the first planting, the seedling has had a chance to germinate, then is the time to fill in difficult open spots.

The person with an established lawn and garden should fertilize it and water it.

Some of those difficult spots may actually point out a place where a flagstone walk is needed instead.

Mrs. Burlingame If YOU HAVE tried with conventional tools, moving around it is always a nuisance. You may wish to use ground cover in this location.

Battle fry, myrtle, or pachyandra would make excellent ground-covers and of course not fall down of your home. What do you see? Now make plans to have each year a treat.

This may be achieved by a graceful shrub or tree, pruned to be a center of interest. Or, a flower bed always inviting a peek to note the latest developments.

If you are planning to place a home on a lot do not consider it. Build as close to the boundary as possible to have a large yard space on the other side to beautify.

This is important for the architect and landscape architect to discuss since garden space should be planned for the side which will do the most to the living rooms.

Over 175 Birmingham residents are taking the short course sponsored by the board of education and the Garden club and conducted by Milton Barron from Michigan State college.

THERE ARE a few of his ideas I would like to pass on to you: Begin by looking out the window of your home. What do you see? Now make plans to have each year a treat.

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Dickinson's IN THE WABEER BUILDING BIRMINGHAM

Signatures at Lawrence PONTIAC

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