

Beliefs of the Ages Still Mark Halloween

Halloween. A word of mystery and, in many cases, romance. A word which conjures up pictures of unearthly happenings, too much mischief, strange noises and odd sights.

One of the oldest religious events in church history, it was once known popularly as Allhallow's Even or All Saints' Eve. Nov. 1 has long been held a holy day, when the saints of the church were paid special homage. All Saints' Eve climaxes a church's fast day and in the realm of superstition and fantasy, opens the doors to a celebration which has no duplicate.

Early in history it was believed that the souls of the departed returned to their homes to warm themselves by the fires and partake of the comforts which their living and loving kindred provided for them.

THE FIRES played an integral part in the celebration of Halloween through all the ages. To day, in many parts of the country Halloween just isn't Halloween without the benefit of a huge bonfire although the ancient significance of it is lost.

The olden days huge fires were lighted, not by isolated groups here and there, but by every family. The highest points of ground in the rugged hills of Ireland, Wales and Scotland would be chosen for the fires.

Great processions went with gathering the materials for the blazes, the job being considered a special honor. According to the belief of the section, the materials were selected and with due pomp and ceremony, the fire was lighted and tended.

MANY superstitions surrounded the dealing, it seems mostly with death.

The early Celts apparently considered the fall the end of a year. Being mostly a pastoral race, they lived close to the land and the harvest was important.

To them the fires were a symbol of the future. Their communal fires, therefore, furnished the brands with which new fires for the coming year were kindled in every home.

To the ancient Irish and Welsh, the fires were used to foretell the future, which since it dealt with death had a way of being very brief for some.

IRISH custom was to place the ashes in a ring and spread stones about the circumference. If, come morning, anyone's stone had been moved, he or she was marked for death within a year.

In Wales, white stones, plainly marked for identification, were thrown into the family fire. The members knelt in prayer about the blaze, then retired for the night. When morning dawned it was with dread and dismay that each sought his particular stone. If it could not be found that person would never see another Halloween.

Today about the only use the Halloween fire is put to is to roast potatoes.

OUR more modern ideas of fore-

Each normal human being is in constant search of happiness - but happiness is not something you can purchase over a counter, regardless of how much money you have. Happiness largely is that "inner joy" that comes when you do good things for others.

The Birmingham Eccentric

Thursday, October 29, 1953

SECTION 4

We'll Have Fun with These



VISIONS OF "WIDE OPEN FACES" fit through the minds of Kathy and Michael King as they take a few minutes to admire their Halloween purchases. There weren't very many pumpkins to choose from but the two feel they made a pretty good selection and now all that remains is to have daddy or some other member of the family carve in those gaping, grinning faces. Michael doesn't remember much about Halloween, this being only his third, but big

sister Kathy can tell him all about it, spinning the yarns a little heavier on how frightened the rest of the kids will be when they see those two big jack-o-lanterns gleaming from the shrubbery in front of the house. The worst of the whole affair is that they will have to wait so long for the "big day" to arrive. The one salvation is the fact that they can stay up later and have so much fun going from door to door, scaring the neighbors. (Eccentric Staff Photo)

especially if it involved passage between two posts?

If he carefully avoided these and dozens of other taboos, the king could expect to live for 90 years and never experience the day of old age.

While we frolic and play on Halloween, we pay an unknown homage to the darkly mysterious days of old. We, who scoff at black magic, each year play a part in keeping it alive. After all, what would Halloween be without it?

Have You Met . . . Lawrence and Jeanne Smith, new residents at 1884 Shipman boulevard, formerly of Pittsburgh, Pa? Smith is a creative writer for Ross Roy, Inc. and a member

of Phi Delta Theta, national industrial advertising association. Mrs. Smith is affiliated with Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority. They have two children, Lawrence R., age eight, and Randall D., age four.

THE COMMUTER'S WIFE To Dye -- Not to Dye That's the Question When Hair Turns Gray

By HELEN BRUNSON
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

There's no doubt about it. When a woman discovers her first gray hair she has a feeling of sorrow and self-pity.

In this youth-worshipping country of ours, she may feel that it's the beginning of the end, though many a pretty white-haired woman could tell her otherwise. So she toys with the idea of dyeing her hair.

And she may have a very good reason. Perhaps she is indeed young and has a blond, young-looking husband. Or she may be employed in a office full of young girls who'll think she's ancient if her hair is gray.

Perhaps she's a teacher who discovers that the children think a gray-haired teacher is old, a brown-haired one young. Or she may be middle-aged, yet possessed of the still-delicate skin of youth. Any of these types may find that tinting their hair is a distinct advantage.

Many reasons for not dyeing hair have disappeared too. The moral stigma against it has gone out the window. New dyes, much less dangerous than the old metallic ones, have appeared on the market (though an allergy test must still be performed). And the new muted colors are much more natural-looking than the hard-looking old ones—which sometimes even came out green or purple.

The woman who embarks on hair-tinting must have first, plenty of time, and second, plenty of money.

Eleanor Arnett Nash, New York fashion authority, says that dyed hair can age a woman brutally if not skillfully done, so it's most difficult for a person to do her own.

She must find an excellent operator—and be willing to pay the price.

If the hair is very gray there must be a complete dye-job three times a year, and a touch-up every six weeks. In addition, the use of the "crazone" around the hair-line and part-line is necessary every time gray appears there.

Then there is the choice of color. Mrs. Nash warns against hard black and brassy blond. An aging skin has different tones than a young one and hair the same color you had 20 years ago is likely to make you look older instead of younger. She goes on to say that a dye of the same hue can be used, but of a more delicate tone.

For women whose dark hair has turned gray, she recommends a black rinse, applied lightly in front.

"This intensifies the dark hairs, taking the tired yellow cast away from the white. Applied more heavily in back, it gives the entire head a younger look," she says.

Some women have a "wing" of hair left white at the side-front of the head and the rest of the hair tinted—a very nice effect.

But each woman must be the judge of whether she looks better with her hair dyed or left gray.

One fashion leader says, "Instead of dyed hair, substitute a healthy complexion, a trim figure, perfect grooming and becoming colors."



Helen Brunson



MRS. WALTER MARKIN, MRS. RUSSELL HUGHES, MRS. BUCK SULLIVAN, MRS. WALTER H. HEDLEY (seated), MRS. ARTHUR NEWMAN, New Branch officers map plans for first season. (Eccentric Staff Photo)

Junior League's Handicapped Sale Slated for Nov. 4

Christmas attire, baby clothes, kitchen utensils and linens will be among the things sold at the Detroit League for the Handicapped sale to be sponsored by the Junior League of Birmingham. It will be Nov. 4 at the Community house.

Mrs. Paul W. McKenney is chairman, assisted by Mrs. John Stevenson as co-chairman. Also on the committee are Mrs. Richard Strickland, Mrs. Robert Taylor, Mrs. Andrew Spiegel, Mrs. Robert Seiler, Mrs. John K. Martin, Mrs. Hugh Lound, Mrs. William Eberstadt, Mrs. John Emmett and Mrs. Jay K. Eiler.

Mrs. Marvin Scott, Mrs. Robert K. Schaffer, Mrs. Alfred Moore, Mrs. Arthur Otis, Mrs. Jervis McMeekin, Mrs. John McNaughton, Mrs. Winthrop Conrad, Mrs. Wallace Campbell, Mrs. William Breach, Mrs. Robert Vanderkoo and Mrs. William Backman.

The list continues with Mrs. William Baldwin, Mrs. George Snubb, Miss Cary Carter, Miss Nancy Trumbull, Miss Virginia Ward and Miss Eleanor Patton.

Society deadline is 3 p.m. each Tuesday.

Mrs. Arthur Newman will serve as program chairman and Mrs. Donald A. Plankel as publicity chairman.

FIRST Tuesdays of each month were chosen as regular meeting days, with the next one scheduled at 8 p.m. Nov. 3, at the home of the president, Mrs. Hedley, 8826 Wedgewood road. Assisting her will be Mrs. Nyquist and Mrs. Plankel.

It was decided by the group to hold the initial membership list open for the time being, to enable those not attending the first meeting to become charter members of the Branch.

Tea was served following the meeting, from a table centered with pyranthia and autumn leaves set on a blue linen cloth. Mrs. Hughes and Mrs. Hedley assisted the hostess.

Magnolia Club Has Workshops For Talent Fair

"Workshop" sessions have been on the agenda for members of the Magnolia Community club lately, as the group prepares for its second annual Handicraft Talent Fair. Proceeds from the fair, to be held Nov. 2 at 7 p.m. at Magnolia Park, will be applied to the purchase of a piano for the school.

Each member will contribute her own handicraft specialty which this year includes toile painted tinware, ceramics, oil paintings, linens, aprons and doll wardrobes. Also on the list are jeweled Christmas items such as match boxes, glass cases, kissing rings, etc.

A **NOVELTY** contribution by a member skilled in woodcraft will be an advertisement for Eren House. A food counter will feature fruit cakes, breads, cookies, special occasion cakes, jellies and candies. Refreshments will be served during the evening.

The fair is sponsored by the ways and means committee of the community club under the co-chairmanship of Mrs. C. H. Ten and Mrs. R. J. Pittmorris.

The committee includes Mrs. W. D. Conkin, Mrs. A. B. Donald, Mrs. L. V. Jewell, Mrs. W. W. Wason, Mrs. J. J. McAleer, Mrs. C. M. Minton, Mrs. R. O. Olla, Mrs. A. W. Peterson, Mrs. C. W. Swallen and Mrs. L. A. Wise.

Have You Met . . . Mr. and Mrs. Don E. Janssen, new residents at 513 East Fourteen-Mile road, Birmingham? The Loan association, Mrs. Hazel Lawler of 684 Beloit, Wis. A sales representative of Gardner Machine Co., Mrs. Hazel Lawler of 684 Beloit, Wis. A member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity, Mrs. W. W. Wason, attended the University of Wisconsin and was also graduated from Beloit college, where she was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority.

Mr. and Mrs. F. Maxwell Shuster, former Cleveland resident now living at 771 Colonial Court? Shuster is a technical representative in X-ray sales for the photo products department of E. I. DuPont company.

Former Highland Parkers Mr. and Mrs. Frederic T. Harward, 2600 Buckingham? Now retired, Harward formerly was a trial lawyer for the Detroit United Railway and at one time was general attorney for Grand Trunk Western Railways.



MRS. ROBERT A. WOLLENBERG, MRS. ARTHUR L. DeROSIER, MRS. JAMES D. SCHMIDT, Tots through teens benefit from Christ Child Society's booth. (Eccentric Staff Photo)

New Farm and Garden Branch Is Organized

Mrs. Walter A. Markin opened her home on Chula Vista drive for the organizational meeting of a new branch of the Woman's National Farm and Garden association.

Fifteen prospective members were present to hear Mrs. William McCullum, past president and area expansion chairman, speak on the aims of the association. Among them are to stimulate an interest in and a love for country life, to cooperate with international groups with similar interests, to help women through expert advice in horticulture problems and to promote conservation practices.

LATER, the Berkshire branch of the Woman's National Farm and

Garden association was formally organized by Mrs. McCullum and officers were elected.

Mrs. Walter H. Hedley of Wedgewood drive will take on the duties of new president. Vice president is Mrs. Russell Davis Hughes of Chula Vista drive, and treasurer is Mrs. Buck Sullivan of Hampton leaves set on a blue linen cloth. Miss Gorton is secretary, Miss Gorton is secretary, Miss Gorton is secretary, Miss Gorton is secretary.

Mr. and Mrs. Theodore C. Novak and children, Donald and Catherine, now residing at 16161 Amberly? They formerly lived in Indianapolis, Ind. Both attended the University of Michigan where Novak was a member of Theta Delta Chi and Mrs. Novak a member of Gamma Phi Beta. He is a pilot with General Motors Air Transport section.

PROCEEDS of the carnival go to the temporary shelter which the society maintains for neglected children regardless of race, creed or color.

Final plans for this Winter Carnival were made at a Bundle Tea held at the home of Mrs. Howard T. Keating, Jr., Lincoln road. Purpose of the tea was to repen-

Christ Child Unit Has Kids' Booth

Bird house assembly kits, scrap books, beach bags, felt puppets and dolls for small fry, all will be found in the Kids' booth of the Christ Child Unit at the coming Winter Carnival planned by the Christ Child Society of Detroit.

Other articles being made for the booth are carpenter's aprons, jewel boxes, jack-in-the-boxes and many items for tots through teens.

The Winter Carnival will take place on Nov. 6 at the Latin Quarter in Detroit. Booths will open at 1 p.m. followed by a donation tea and fashion show about 3 o'clock. Then the ladies will return home to don their dancing shoes for the party that evening beginning at 9 p.m. and lasting until 1 a.m.