

Carolling

Frosh Dorm Representative

Alice Holmes was among the freshmen students honored at a Colorado Woman's college, Denver, Colo., as new officers of the class were installed. Her honor came by being elected dormitory representative to the student Council and will take an active part in campus activities as a result of her election. Alice is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Holmes, 665 Pleasant street.

Usher in the New Year

A Christmas wreath centered with Christmas tree ornaments were table decor for Mrs. Bruce Emmert's tea table, when she entertained 40, neighbors and friends at her Westwood home last Friday afternoon. Her hostess duties were shared by Mrs. Harris Stambek, who lives next door. Completion of the Emmerts' recreation room will be marked by their New Year's Eve party for 16 guests. They'll serve supper in the cedar-paneled room after the midnight festivities.

The Day After

Doors will be opened to approximately 80 guests the day after Christmas when "Bob" Morris and his wife, Norma, entertain at their annual open house cocktail party in a setting of greens and seasonal flowers in their Bloomfield-Village home.

Graefield

MARGIE MOORE MI 4-7362

Far Away Places Lure Area Residents for Holiday Visits

Among the many Graefield residents journeying to far away places to spend the Christmas holidays is Mrs. Merwyn Teague who left Dec. 11 for New York City. She will be the houseguest of her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Barton, Dr. Teague plans to join their Christmas week.

From there, Mrs. Teague will visit daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Chapman of Philadelphia. Then on to the home of her mother, Mrs. William Iby, and three brothers, in Blackstone, Va.

Leaving Dec. 23 by plane from Pittsburgh for the holidays are the Walter Edge Jr.'s and their daughter, two-year-old Judy. They will be the houseguest of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Rex Piper, of Wilkesburg, and Edge's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Edge Sr., of Shady Side, Penn. The Edges are scheduled to arrive home Jan. 2.

Christmas holidays will be celebrated by the Charles E. Fields and three-year-old son Whitney, at the home of Mrs. Fields' parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Whitney, of University Heights, Ohio. The Fields are looking forward to attending the University of Pennsylvania's Mask and Wig show, which will be followed by a formal dance at the Hotel Cleveland. Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Murphy will journey to Boston, Mass., Dec. 23, to spend the holidays with Murphy's parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Murphy, Sr. They plan to return home New Year's day.

Robert Caykendall of Niagara Falls, N. Y., will entertain his sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Graham B. Mack, of Graefield road for the Christmas holidays. The LeGrand Terrys and two-month-old Jimmy will spend Christmas day at the home of Mrs. Terry's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Swan of Lansing.



May the Christmas bells ring gladness and peace into the hearts of our many friends and customers.

Herbert Burr
Shoe Salon
255 No. Woodward, Birmingham



LITTLE SISTERS ADMIRE SCOUTS' DOLLS. Patty Wessels and Kathie Sue Payton. (Eccentric Photo)

Scouts Dress Little Dolls

Ten dolls for children whose parents cannot afford such Christmas luxuries have been completed by the girls of Quanton school's Girl Scout troop No. 372.

In red and blue dresses, with tiny hats and little shoes and shoes, the dolls were collected at the home of Mrs. R. J. Wolf for delivery to the Detroit Goodwill Jews. The mothers who helped the girls dress their dolls in the service project were Mrs. Charles Payton, Mrs. Arnie Smith, Mrs. William Bullock, Mrs. Ervin Mork and Mrs. George K. Harp.

Those girls in the project come, green, and multi-colored ornaments. On either side are white, jeweled randles. Tea, and coffee, Christmas cookies, sandwiches, nut bread, candies and nuts will be served as refreshments.

Society deadline is 3 p.m. each Tuesday.

Club Fetes Yule With Dinner, Gifts

A Christmas dinner and exchange of gifts were features of the meeting Saturday afternoon at 4 p.m. of 15 members of the Putnam club at the home of Mrs. Charles Hallock, on Ann.

Yule Customs Linked with Legend

By LYDIA KING FREHSE
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

When Christmas was celebrated 100 years ago, Detroit was a small town of some 2,000 inhabitants clustered along the river front. The business district occupied the area on Woodward below Jefferson avenue.

If you wanted a glimpse of the newest residential section you had to walk through a marshy wilderness to what is now the vicinity of Fort and Griswold streets. Here one James Abbott had just built a fine new mansion with colored glass windows.

The hanging of the greens is a custom which came to us as early as 1760 with the first English settlers. It is therefore probable that the new home was bedecked with such beauty as could be found in the nearby wilderness—a tall tree of balsam fir shining with randle light, boughs of pine and garlands of cedar, for here the face of nature was new and the virgin soil was clothed with luxuriant vegetation.

NOW FAST AIR service brings greens from any part of the country fresh to our doors. I have just opened a neat cellophane package of mistletoe which grows throughout the western states and in the east from New Jersey south to Texas.

Much ancient lore surrounds this unusual plant. It was venerated by the ancient world who at the winter solstice jumped the tall oak upon which it grew, then to gather a lucky string for every member of the tribe.

The Scandinavian custom of kissing under the mistletoe, making of it such an emblem of good fortune that if they met an enemy beneath it they laid down their arms to embrace him.

MISTLETOE is named for two Greek words, "mist" and "chief," and once giving a cue to its parasitic habits. Although some 50 species of this family grow in the

Choose Committees For New Beaumont Women's Committee

Formation of the Women's committee of the William Beaumont hospital has progressed to the step of committee selection.

Mrs. Lewis G. Ehn, president of the board of the Women's committee, has announced that applications for membership will be taken at an open house at the hospital, planned in the near future. The chairman, named by the directors will shortly fill their committee from the general membership.

The Women's committee expects to take a very active part in the open house plans as well as in many other activities of the hospital.

Birthdays, anniversaries, guests, births, parties are all news—call the society editor about them.

and certain orchids. It varies in degree—a completely parasitic plant has no green chlorophyll since this food-making ingredient is no longer needed. Parasitism is also employed to a marked degree in the animal kingdom particularly among the insects and worms. Certain wasps stoke their larval cells with spiders which have been paralyzed (but not killed) by a well-placed sting. Their number and rate of consumption is so finely balanced that the larva makes its final meal of the vital organs of the last spider on the day it emerges and flies away.

Before I suspended it from the ceiling of our entrance way, I turn the yellow-green plant in my hand and the thick stems are jointed and much branched. The leathery leaves are fleshy and show very little venation. The glistening berries are born clustered on jointed spikes. When I crush one of these I find it is filled with sticky pulp surrounding a single seed. The berries are nibbled by birds who scatter them from tree to tree. Frequently a bit of the pulp will cling to the bird's bill to be wiped off on the bark where it hardens around the seed as a protection.

WHEN GERMINATION occurs the plant gets its water supply and mineral salts by sinking its specialized roots into the nutritive tissues of the host tree. Unlike plants that are wholly parasitic it then proceeds to make its own food as does any plant which is anchored to the ground.

One second variety of mistletoe is a much dwarfed plant, *Acanthopanax psidium*, which appears in the upper peninsula and in northern counties of the lower peninsula of our own state. Because it is so small and grows high in the spruce and tamarac it is seldom seen by anyone except the biologist.

Its fleshy stems are often less than an inch in length. Its scale-like leaves are closely folded, its flowers petal-less and inconspicuous so that the entire plant looks like a blunt branch growing out of place among the needles of the conifer which is its host.

THE PARASITIC habit whereby one organism subsists on the body of another living organism is a common one among such plants as beech-drops, squaw-root, dodder

AND NOW my best Christmas wishes to each of you who have once more shared with me the season's slow turning. May the spirit of love abide in all our hearts long after the candles are guttered and the mistletoe has faded.

(Corrected in last week's column; figure for the 1931 deer kill should have read 96,000 instead of 20,000.)

WE MAY BE inclined to look

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Even with the rush and confusion of Christmas crowds, shopping is never more enjoyable than at this time of year. For the thrill of buying for others brings a smile to everyone's lips. We've enjoyed immensely spending your shopping hours with you and wish to take this opportunity to wish you the very merriest and happiest of Christmases.

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