As you prepare your list of Christmas gift are you willing to add to it the name of some person, young or old, known to you as one deserving of an anonymous present from you . . . one who otherwise would receive, maybe, no gift at all?

The Birmingham Eccentric

Thursday, December 9, 1954

SECTION 2

Lathrup Housewife Paints for Others

"What is this paint brush going to do for someone else?" is the thought that Mrs. Robert Marshall says makes the painting "fairly sing along."

The Lathrup housewife spends much time at her easel, but not as much as before her marriage 14 years ago, when she was a commercial artist in Montreal, Canada.

She, her husband and their son and daughter now live at 27400 Goldengate in Lathrup.

It was during those career years, when she was studying under Charles Spencer, that she first looked at art as more than money-making and expression.

Sale of one of her paintings and gift of the funds to a friend facing hospital bills at childbirth was first time she used her art to help others. She laughingly says "My painting paid for their baby!"

• • •

SINCE MRS. MARSHALL decided that being Mrs. Marshall was preferable to aiming for an Assistant Royal Academy of Art membership, she has found that painting two particular paintings were most inspiring.

Those two, among the many she paints, were done especially for a woman's club in the Detroit area, for a money-making project to purchase plastic arms for disabled veterans. Now, she thinks of those two veterans, whose realistic arms make it easier for them to meet the public than with the pincer-type arms they used before her paintings brought their "arm money."

• • •

THE PAINTINGS THAT form a row, leaning against the window seat on the easel in her sunny studio, that hang in groups and singly about her living room, and that are worked into color schemes of her bedrooms, all reflect her art style.

The style stems from the palette of the French Impressionists, she says—high keyed colors with little dark accents.

Her teacher, Charles Spencer, painted with the French Impressionists before moving to Canada, where he became a leading painter. His American landscape series done for the Ladies Home Journal in the early 30's was the magazine's tribute to his color skill.

• • •

"THEY DON'T PAINT SCENERY and atmosphere that way any more," she says, inferring that the high key style had bowed to modern brilliant colors and less realism.

But she ignores the ones who pooh-pooh her art theories—"The ones who like my art are those looking for something for relaxing, for having on walls in their home."

• • •

SHE RECALLS ASKING Spencer how his efforts to teach her art could really be repaid, and his answer "to use it to help someone else."

Her memories of painting in Canada include those of ski trips in the Laurentian mountains, in snow so deep that she would go waist-deep when she took off her skis. She would stomp down a spot, sit on the ledge formed in the snow with her feet protected thus from the wind, set up her paint box on a table formed by her skis, and do snow landscape paintings.

"If only that paint box could talk," she says as she recalls her Canadian and West Indies trips. It was on one of those trips that she met her husband.

HER PAINTINGS RECALL THIS ARTIST'S SUMMERS IN THE WEST INDIES
Mrs. Robert Marshall aims her art at bringing happiness to others. (Eccentric Photo)

MRS. GEORGE DIX . . . MRS. WALLACE IVERS
Writers direct own show. (Eccentric Photo)

Team Up to Write Players' Musical

Co-authors turn to co-directing as Mrs. George Dix and Mrs. Wallace Ivers whip their show, "Our Three Angels" into shape for the Village Players. The production will take place Dec. 18, annual Christmas party for the Players.

This is the third attempt in the field for both. Two previous shows written by Mrs. Ivers have been produced by the Players. Mrs. Dix wrote two reviews which were staged by a theater group in California. "Our Three Angels", however, is the first time they have teamed up in a production.

With the production of "Our Three Angels", popular ballads are woven into the show for sparkling highlights. The choreography is being handled by Elizabeth Boyne, with Harry Wieting at the piano. Title roles will be played by George Gwen, Ross Richardson and Stanley Hood.

THE CHORUS line will include Mrs. F. F. Howell, Mrs. Edwin Dorr, Mrs. Henry Christian, Eldon Dorr, Bob Miller and Dick Setlic.

Others in the cast are Ward Tollzien, Cliff Guest, Mrs. Gordon Jeynes, Gordon Jeynes, Carl Reynolds, Mrs. Ralph Fox, Don Polestone, Liz Boyne, Mrs. George Dix, Carleton Scott, Mrs. Wallace Ivers, Mrs. Richard Ackton and Mrs. Lawrence Ball.

Heading the stage committee is Garry Garrison. He is being assisted by George Dix and Henry Beam.

Secrets designers are in charge of Bill Howell and Bob Keller. Mrs. C. A. Williams and Dick Beiser are gathering props. Mrs. Walter Wakeman and Mrs. Ralph Skinner have charge of costumes.

MAKE-UP CHAIRMAN is Mrs. Thomas Sheehan, with Mrs. John Hall, Mrs. Charles McCall, Mrs. Robert T. Garrison, Mrs. Stanley Hood and Mrs. L. E. Colegrove assisting.

Following the show an after-glow will be held for members with Mrs. Stanley Saunders in charge. Mrs. Stanley Hood is arranging decorations for this portion of the afternoon. Her committee consists of Louise Hersey, Shirley Hersey, Warren Hersey, Ralph Skinner and Stanley Saunders.

7 Alpha Xi's Visit Ypsi

Seven Birmingham women will attend an Alpha Xi Delta event at Michigan State Normal college in Ypsilanti on Sunday afternoon.

They are Mrs. Richard Ingland, of West Dover, Mrs. J. J. Hogan, of Westwood, Mrs. Thomas Jensen, of Berkshire, Mrs. Glen Kisker, of West Lincoln, Mrs. S. O. Rue of Villa road, Mrs. George A. Strawser of S. Milford and Mrs. Kenneth Whiting of Pembroke.

They will be among 20 members of the Birmingham chapter of the group attending the reception honoring its newly installed Gamma Zeta chapter at Ypsilanti.

The Birmingham alumnae are arranging the reception to be held at McKenzie hall. The day previous, the Gamma Zeta chapter initiation will be conducted by national officers of the sorority.

Junior Women to Entertain Guests

Because the Junior Women's club has only 22 members, each member will be bringing a prospective member to the club's Dec. 14 meeting.

Piano music and Christmas carols has been chosen as best program for "ice breaker" for the 20-odd members and "strangers" at the home of Mrs. Atwell Smith, 1617 Sheffield.

How they met the other young women they've invited has been telephone chatter for the members all week. One has asked neighbor, several others have asked wives of some of their husband's business associates. Still others have asked women they knew when their husbands-to-be were bachelors living together in the 13-Mile area.

• • •

FINDING THAT THE CLUB was smaller than the average of junior women's clubs in the state —although they also found that their members' ages were well below that of many clubs—the women recently decided to enlarge the membership.

Meeting in homes may have to discontinue, lately, with larger groups attending, but this meeting is being held at the home of Mrs. Smith.

Members have been asked to bring a gift to exchange.

• • •

INCREASED SERVICE to the community is goal of the group in adding to membership.

The Junior club was formed several years ago separating from the Birmingham Women's club to facilitate finances and make a more homogenous group.

A project of the members gathered last week at the home of newcomer Mrs. C. A. Hall, who is shown above as she poured a hot cider and tea combination for guests in her modern living room.

AS MEMBERS CHATTED with one another and Mrs. Hall, they enjoyed the hot cider made with hot water over two tea bags, and spiced with lemon, cinnamon and cloves. "Wine cloves floating in it are interesting," she says.

MRS. C. A. HALL POURS TEA FOR MRS. CHARLES WHARTON
MRS. Allen Strom is at left, Mrs. William Kempf at right.

Youngsters and Oldsters Rushing Into Pre-Holiday Social Activities

By FRAN MAIER

Trophies for Riders

Swinging H Riding club members carried out their club colors of blue and yellow when they centered the dinner table with a "Swinging H" arrangement of candles, with three yellow candles forming the cross-bar. Tables were set for 45, including members and parents, Friday at the Community House, when the young riders gathered for the dinner dance.

Original members of the club, who sponsored a show last fall to benefit the March of Dimes, were presented trophies by Chuck Haas of the Arizona Saddlery in Detroit, and owner of the Swinging H Ranch in Arizona. Influential in starting the group, his presentation was made for their outstanding work and as a token of remembrance.

Trophy winners were: Kaki Roberts, Sandy Reeve, Jan Culley, Sally Strehy, Chuck Erlandson, Adrianne Erlandson, Don Dawson, Kitty Stark, Mike Smith and Nanci Vogelsang.

• • •

Holiday in West

As soon as Sheila McElligott's classes are over for the holiday from Marygrove college, she and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. McElligott of Ardmoor drive, will be heading westward, possibly by plane. They will visit McElligott's mother and their sisters in Omaha, Neb.

• • •

Never too Young?

Perhaps a bit young to realize just what Santa's first visit means will be four-month-old Kenneth Bockemuehl, when four generations gather for a family dinner this Christmas.

The little tike's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bockemuehl of 1899 Shipman boulevard, are having the festive celebration.

Guests will be the baby's grandmother, Mrs. F. T. Bockemuehl, of Detroit, and his great grandmother, Mrs. C. E. Beebe of Omaha, Neb. Kenneth's other grandmother, Mrs. H. H. McGehee of New Orleans, La., will be unable to attend.

A true Christmas morning will precede the family dinner. Mrs. Beebe is spending several months now with Mrs. Bockemuehl in Detroit.

• • •

Snowflakes-Flowers

As snowflakes fall, forsythia blooms, at the home of Mrs. R. E. Cecil, 1145 Pilgrim. Mrs. Cecil was doing her daily chores this week, among them dusting, when she looked out the window and surprisingly saw two of her forsythia bushes blooming.

• • •

It's a Family Affair

Other Christmas plans afoot are those of the Oscar Pikes of 544 W. Frank. They expect to have daughter, Mrs. Frederick Sundquist, and Mr. Sundquist here from Peoria, Ill., and son Gerald on leave from Army duties at Fort Hood, Texas.

Those at home who are collecting tree decorations, include three daughters, Janice who this fall was chosen Miss Oil Progress by co-workers in an oil firm, but since has taken a new job at New Center Studios, Vivian, 15, and Sheila, 5.

Among the three married brothers and sister, living in the area, is Marvin Pike who with his wife and daughter, Carole, has moved just this fall to a new home at 17400 Acacia park in the Beverly section. An engineer, Pike is working with the Samuel A. Walker firm here, having moved from Wyandotte.

• • •

Honor Classmate

The Dean Coffins of Gordon lane entertained friends at dinner last Friday night in honor of their weekend guest, Owen Walker, a Brown University classmate of Coffin's.

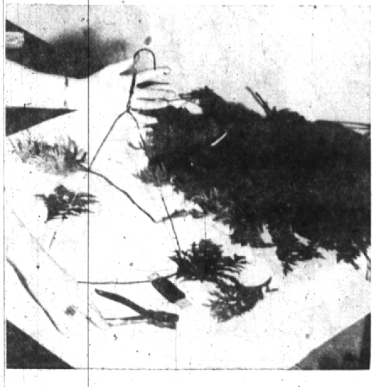
Their guests for dinner and a relaxed evening of conversation were Mr. and Mrs. Brooks Marshall, Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Oldberg, Mrs. Edward Smith of Pleasant Ridge, Mr. and Mrs. Si Williams of Rochester and Mr. and Mrs. Donald Calhoun of Grosse Pointe.

Looking forward to Christmas holidays, the Coffins and their 11-year-old twins, Bill and Fred, are expecting the 15-year-old twins, Howard and Tristram, home about Dec. 10 from Mercerberg academy, Pa.

Cella, their 19-year-old daughter, was home for Thanksgiving weekend and will be coming soon for the Yule holiday from her studies at Ohio Wesleyan.

Weave A Cedar 'Tree' for Your Doorway

ONE OF THOSE VERSATILE coathangers is bent to form the frame for this holiday decoration designed by Alice Morgan of the Eccentric's staff. Florist wire forms vertical and horizontal crisscrosses. Crook at top of the hanger is bent later into a loop for doorway hanging. (Eccentric Photos)



WEAVING THE CEDAR into the wired frame makes a sturdy, wind-proof evergreen piece to welcome guests to your doorway. Easy-weaving at first, it becomes tighter towards the bottom. As she nears the base, Miss Morgan angles twigs towards center, ending with a flat, few-inch wide spot for bow.

A LITTLE CEDAR TREE adorned with a red ribbon takes its place on the Morgan doorway. Little Christmas balls, tinsel, or glitter may deck the hanging trees, or a figurine may stand before the tree if used on tabletop. A variation of the traditional evergreen wreath, it lasts the Yule season through.