

Valparaiso U. Guild Is Planning Benefit

Birmingham members of the Valparaiso university guild will sponsor a benefit here on June 4, beginning at 8 p.m. in the Redeemer Lutheran church social hall.

Mrs. Lee Krueger and Mrs. Martin Otto, co-chairmen of the affair, said this is the first time Birming-

ham had participated in the campaign to raise funds for the buildings at Valparaiso, Ind.

Others planning the benefit are Mrs. Arthur Brenner, Mrs. J. M. Dremann, Mrs. Alvin Knorr, Mrs. Robert McKee and Mrs. Theodore Wuggazer.

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THE COMMUTER'S WIFE

Today's Home Waste Would Deeply Shock Frugal Grandmother

By HELEN BRUNSON
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

My Holland-Dutch grandmother would be spinning in her grave if she could see the discards going out of our houses today—to the Goodwill and other salvage agencies. To her this would look like sheer waste.

For Henrietta Van Delden had come from over-crowded Holland as a child, and though later her hard work helped bring plenty from a lush Iowa farm, she never got over the idea that every usable item in the household should be saved and made to serve some purpose.

In later years she'd visit our home (her son's), and observing my small, dainty mother's ineptitude with mending, she'd pull out the treadle sewing machine and with a few motherly (in-law) sniffs, go to work.

FIRST IT WAS the worn-thin bath towels. She'd take two of them, sew them together around the edges by machine, then criss-cross back and forth a few times with the stitching, and one thick towel was made from two thin ones. If the edges were frayed, she'd either hem them anew or bind them with tape.

A towel with a hole through the middle could still be salvaged. She'd cut squares from the four good corners, hem them and make wash cloths.

All this time I'd be hanging around watching her make the foot-treadle fly and listening to the whir of the machine. Next she'd make linen napkins out of the good parts of worn tablecloths.

THEN CAME the sheets. She'd tear a worn sheet down the middle, hem the two halves together to make a seam down the middle, providing a still-usable sheet. I can see her to this day, with her deft blue eyes and determined chin, bending over the sewing machine.

Then she'd ask if there were any old sweaters around and she'd set to work raveling them out. In the evenings she'd knit mittens from the yarn, thriftily making one extra for each set, in case a mitten got lost.

And one time she completely "turned" a tailor-made suit of my father's, ripping it, turning it to the un-worn side, and completely resewing it. It looked like new, when she'd finished her tailoring and pressing.

NOW NOBODY ever asked if grandmother ever had any fun. Obviously she didn't play bridge, scramble or dress all up and go to women's clubs.

Nor did style ever enter her head. Utility was the thing. So, in some ways it's a good thing she can't see the way we discard good clothing in order to get new styles.

Nor would she understand that it is now necessary that things become quickly obsolete, in order to keep our factories running and our people at work.

Dancing and Golf Highlight Holiday Weekend BCC Plans

Memorial Day weekend at Birmingham Country club promises to be a busy one with golfing and dancing holding the spotlight.

The Decoration Day Dinner dance will be held Saturday evening beginning at 9:30 p.m., to the music of Les Shaw's orchestra.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Lynas are heading the party committee, with the Edward Colbys, Thomas Colbeyes, George Connellys, Henry Fettes and Mrs. Charles Turner assisting.

On Sunday practice sessions for the mixed two-ball foursome will be held, with competitive play being scheduled for Monday.

The club will be closed Tuesday, June 1.

Potluck Luncheon Concludes Season

The Birmingham Musicales Choral Ensemble closes its season with a potluck luncheon at the home of Mrs. Elliott Kinney, 1125 Chesterfield road, on Thursday, June 3, at 12:30 p.m.

Gertrude Heinze Greer, director of the chorus, will be present to audition prospective new members before the luncheon.

Mrs. Howard Hallas has charge of the luncheon. Her committee includes Mrs. C. E. Bouchard, Mrs. Kenneth Mansuet, Mrs. Edwin Pipp, Mrs. James Wilson and Mrs. John Whitehouse.

Mrs. A. Frye Ayers will assume her duties as the new choral chairman.

Society deadline is 3 p.m. each Tuesday.

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Club Calendar

MAY 28
WCTU, potluck lunch, business meeting and program, 1 p.m., First Baptist church.

JUNE 2
Birmingham Hammond Organ Society, final meeting of season, 8 p.m., Grinnell Bros.

Birmingham chapter 220, OES, 8 p.m., Masonic temple.

Ladies auxiliary 9 of Metropolitan club, 8 p.m., with Mrs. Walter Leibold, Cranbrook road, Bloomfield Hills.

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Centennial Editor

Margaret Jo Ireland was named next year's index editor for the Michigan Centennial yearbook at Michigan State college. She also will be chairwoman of Alpha Chi Omega society. Margaret Jo is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Dwight D. Ireland of Pierce street.

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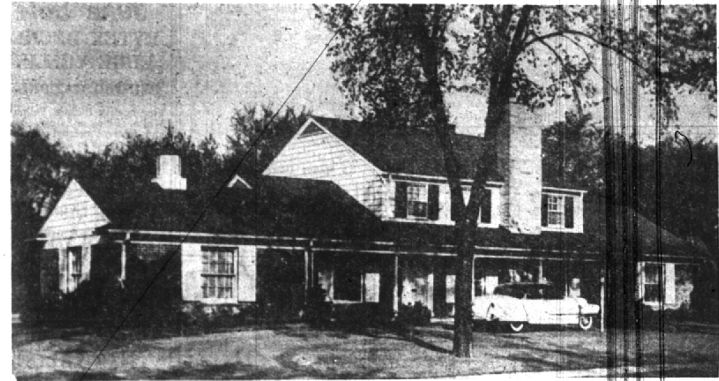
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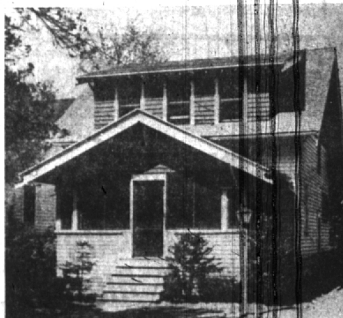
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