



Your Church Schedules Varied Activities



MRS. JOHN HOBART
Specialist in herb gardens

Page 6 THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC May 6, 1954

Herbs Hold Spotlight At Annual Plant Sale

With a new location for the St. Elizabeth guild of St. James Episcopal church, a new twist is being added to the sale, itself.

Herbs, their legends, history and uses will be introduced this year as a major attraction of the sale, scheduled for May 20-22 at the Y.M.C.A. building lot on East Lincoln.

Mrs. John Hobart, 7515 Parkhurst, a comparative newcomer to Birmingham, will introduce the herb department, supplying the legends and Biblical lore related to each.

While a resident of Clarence, N. Y., Mrs. Hobart had developed a garden of more than 60 varieties, reproducing the setting of the old 18th Century Elizabethan herb garden.

With each plant labeled with both the scientific and common name, along with information on the legends, cookery or medicinal uses it enjoyed, her garden became one of the highlights of the Clarence Garden club's annual tours.

AT HER NEW home here she is working to again establish such a planting.

"We might well take note," she says, "of the Biblical, historical and fictional lore which has grown around herbs, for some might not be just 'old wives tales'."

"Parsley, we are told, will cure baldness if the seeds are sprinkled over the head three nights in a year. Onion juice was considered a good substitute for hair oil. To legend, 'it bringeth the hairs again speedily.'"

Mrs. Hobart said parsley was used to discourage intoxication.

ANOTHER HERBAL legend said that a drink of French thyme would cure a nightmare, while the English variety denoted strength and courage. This belief was the basis for the custom of soldiers to walk through a bed of thyme before leaving for the battles.

"Bedstraw," she tells us, "according to Biblical lore, was the herb used to line the manger of Jesus. Cumin and dill were accepted currency in those days for the payment of tithes."

"In Biblical days the castor bean was known as Jacob's gourd, while today it is often planted to keep moles out of a garden."

"Cat sage in May and you'll live for aye," was an early legend about this well known seasoning. The plant is also said to have inspired the moulding of the seven-branched candelabra.

"SESAME IS another herb," Mrs. Hobart continued, "which was believed to have magic powers."

1954 plant sale sponsored by the St. Elizabeth guild of St. James Episcopal church, a new twist is being added to the sale, itself.

In an article for the New York Botanical Garden journal, last summer Mrs. Hobart wrote that perhaps we do not believe in these old legends or in the medical qualities of herbs, adding, "but we cannot help loving their fragrance and flavor."

At present her home is teeming with tiny pots of young herb plants which will be introduced at the sale. Among them will be sweet basil, summer savory, borage, coriander, fennel, lovage, tarragon, chives, rosemary and thyme.

Mrs. Frank P. Russell and Mrs. Kenneth Sproule are heading the committee planning this 29th annual affair.

Community Church Women to Install

On May 12, at 6:30 p.m., the Women's Association of the Community Church—Congregational, will have their annual banquet.

Mrs. James Spreano and Mrs. John Rose will provide a musical program.

Following the dinner, a candle-light installation ceremony for new officers will be held in the sanctuary of the church. Mrs. Harold Nash will install.

Mrs. Myron Bonnell of Hudson, Mich., will be the speaker for the service.

The officers are Mrs. I. R. Kappeler, Mrs. John Bates, Mrs. Richard Stone, Mrs. Linn Hobbs and Mrs. Gerhard Kasch.

Also Mrs. Charles Kaufman, Mrs. Harold Becker, Mrs. Verne Wake, Mrs. Stanley Dwoek and Mrs. Harry Dale.

St. Columban Parish To Have Family Day Program on May 23

Plans for the "Family Day" affair for St. Columban parish will be completed with the Sodality of Our Lady meeting at the Community House May 10 at 8 p.m.

The affair will be held at the Ford Trade School Alumni building May 23, with movies, pony rides and refreshments as program highlights.

The Sodality is planning a Mother's Day sale of geranium plants after each mass. Services are being held in the Shrine of the Little Flower high school, 13 Mile road, Royal Oak.



SATURDAY WAS a busy day for the junior and senior high school groups of the Congregational Church of Birmingham as they went about their "Work Day for Christ" duties. Some 30 young people earned \$170 which was dedicated to the morning service to home and foreign mission work. Burhard Huseh and Marian Ruby (11 to 12) are typical of the group which included Bennett Wright, Hill Hagan, Nancy Kelly, Art Weeber, Kirk Flack, Gail Christie, Dave Allen, Bill Watkinson, Nancy Hagan, Tom Weeber, John Kerley, Carol Goodhue, Pat Donaldson, Mary Dell, Marjorie Donaldson, Steve Taylor, Sue Cooper, Cathy Olmstead, Peggy Bensinger, Ed Busch, Mary Ojala, Jim Taup, Philip and Gordon Strong. The group washed windows and cars, did housework, cleaned basements and garages, put up screens and cleaned yards. These with regular Saturday jobs turned their wages into the fund.

Congregational Club Plans First Session

A planned pot luck supper on May 14, is the first activity of the newly formed Congregational Supper club. Mr. and Mrs. Howard Riemann, chairmen.

Slides will be used by John W. Kinsey to illustrate his talk on "My Trips Around the World."

All couples are eligible to participate in the club's activities. Other committee members are Mr. and Mrs. F. F. Barber, Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Lomhart, Mr. and Mrs. Leon Jackson and Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Sims.

SUNDAY SERMON TOPICS

SUNDAY, MAY 9

Community Church

Observing "Family Week," the Rev. John D. Rose has chosen "Holding the Home Together" as the topic of his morning sermon.

Unitarian

"Religion and the Public Schools," a discussion on the present attempt to make sectarian religion an integral part of the public school curriculum, will be the topic of the Rev. Russell L. Lincoln. Services are held in the Y.M.C.A. building.

First Baptist

The Rev. Emil Kontz has selected "Home Is Where the Heart Is," for his Christian Family Sunday sermon, taking his text from 1 Corinthians, chapter 13. The service will also mark the dedication of infants and parents to the church.

Congregational

Taking his text from 1 Timothy, 1:15, the Rev. Robert D. Dewey will preach on "Faith Dwells in Families."

Christian Science

Man's real spiritual status as the perfect image and likeness of God, not subject to sin or other weakness, will be emphasized in the sermon.

First Presbyterian

Discontinuing the 8:30 a.m. services, the Rev. W. Glen Harris, Ph.D., will preach at 9:45 and 11 a.m. on "Comfortable Religion." "People like to be comfortable. This human trait, that is not always to be condemned, enters the sphere of man's religion. There is danger in easygoing religion. It is likely to become purely selfish. It is among the leading comments Dr. Harris has made on his sermon."

Unity Center

Speaking in the reading room at the Theater building, Frank Glabach announces his sermon topic to be "God and Mother."

First Methodist

Dr. Harry O. Martin will occupy this pulpit, delivering a special Mother's Day sermon entitled, "High Noon of Motherhood."

Use this page to keep every member of your church and its several organizations fully informed on what is going on. News items and pictures are needed to make this Church Page a valuable instrument.

Plan to Confirm 80 In Special Service At Cranbrook Church

There will be a service of confirmation on Thursday evening, May 13, at 8 p.m. at Christ Church Cranbrook. The Rt. Rev. William L. Essex, D.D., S.T.D., of Quincy, Ind., will administer confirmation to about 80 young people and adults.

Afternoon, Evening Meets Set by Guild

President of St. Catherine's guild, St. James Episcopal church, Mrs. James Everett, will be hostess to the 1 p.m. meeting on May 11, at her home, 1805 Stanley.

On May 12, the evening group will meet at 8 p.m. in the church's guild room to hear Mrs. Helen Reid speak on "Interior Decorations."



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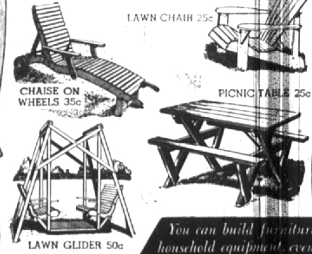
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