

Young folks who really do love the desire to be associated with an uplifting environment, can do this by reading good books, talking with people more intelligent than themselves, and there is so much available to help you!

The Birmingham Eccentric

Teaching Art to 800 at Pierce, Has One-Man Show for Students

Through experimenting in many mediums, an art teacher new to the Birmingham school system this year is gradually finding an identity in art.

Stanley Hench, 39, is a small, slender young man with some clear ideas of the how and why of art. He has recently turned to black-on-white drawings whose few carefully placed lines tell Bible stories. "It's a way for me to identify myself with the religious," he says, adding "and the Bible has good subject matter."

BIT ONE WAY to paint isn't enough for this graduate of the Chicago Art Institute. "Each idea you paint has to be interpreted in a different way. The artist doesn't live in a vacuum," he says.

Realism shows itself in his self-portrait, and in the still-life of his uncle's belongings. The latter painting he explained to the many classes he took into the cafeteria to view the display during the show's week.

He said, "I had an uncle who encouraged me in drawing. He was an architect, was crippled and almost blind. After he died, I wanted to do something to show my appreciation of that first lead into the art field.

"INSTEAD of a portrait, there in the painting on his little piercest table are his cards, his cigarette smoldering in the ash tray, his glasses, the cane that I used to get for him, and the photos, old-fashioned ones."

His cubistic works include large oil paintings, one of which was admitted in the Michigan Artists show in the Detroit Art Institute. Overlapping areas show many sides of personalities, Hench feels, and reflects a "mixed-up personality," and the world's "unrest and uncertainty."

"BY SIMPLIFYING a thing you make it more effective and powerful," he says, and shows this sim-

Board of Canvassers

THOMAS — Clerk Clifton Triebel, Treasurer Fred W. Hildebrandt, and Supervisor Norman R. Barnard appointed last week by the charter commission to serve as a board of canvassers for the special election Dec. 12 on the proposed city charter. They will canvass the vote Dec. 12 at 8 p.m. in the township hall.

News copy submitted early is necessarily given preference, so the "early bird" usually gets the space.



Oakland County's death rate has dropped from 8 per thousand in 1940 to an all-time low of 4 per thousand in 1954 according to statistics of the Oakland County Planning Commission.

schools' art instructors, and he works with about 800 youngsters at Pierce each week, some in their own class rooms and some in the cafeteria. Projects such as murals are begun, and then in most cases the class's own teacher goes on with the projects in other class periods, since Hench only sees each group once a week.

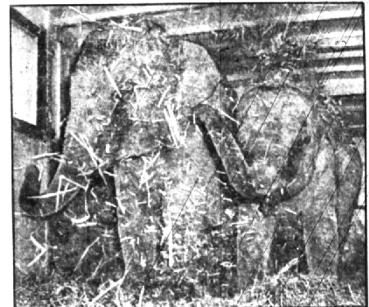
With this his first year in Birmingham, Hench taught previously for two years in Manhattan and one year in Northville. He attended Art Institute of Pittsburgh and the American Academy of Art in Chicago before going to the Chicago Art Institute because it dwelt more on fine arts rather than commercial arts.

He met and married his wife, a nurse in a hospital, during his school years.

He turned to teaching because, he says, "I had to find a way to live. I don't know any artful personally who lives on art alone—it's kind of a frustrating thing."

He hopes ultimately to find a line of fine arts, perhaps children's books illustrations or his Bible illustrations, for a livelihood.

Hench lives in Walled Lake with his wife and three children.



STRAWSTORM — Photographer is greeted with truckful of straw by two playful youngsters as they arrive in New York City for one last fine before settling down to work on an annual cut with an American circus, which purchased them abroad.



CUTTING OUT DETAILS: as in the modernized version of Christ's head shown with its realistic counterpart both held by Stanley Hench, gives a clearer and more dramatic meaning, the artist feels.

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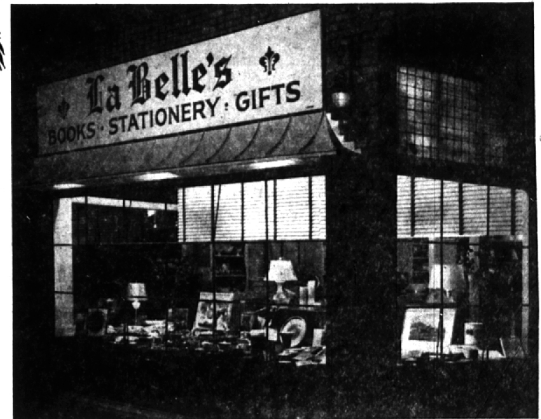


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