

The lives of most people could provide basic material for the theme and environment of a fictional novel. If in the hands of a trained writer, novels do not reveal heroic acts on every page. Readers enjoy descriptions of people and things with which they, too, are familiar. The capable author responds to this fact.

The Birmingham Eccentric

SECTION B

Thursday, December 19, 1957

Because of the CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR'S Holidays, All News and Advertising Deadlines Must Be Advanced One Full Day for the Next Two Issues of The Eccentric. We Will Greatly Appreciate Your Assistance in Getting News and Advertising Copy in Early

Holiday Table Setting

So that time has come! The boss is in-laws... or that new couple next door are having dinner with you. Sure you're anxious—you wouldn't be normal if you weren't! But whoever the guests, there's nothing like knowing you've got a beautiful table to greet those proudest butterflies in the pit of your stomach and give you assurance. And an assured hostess is a successful hostess.

It's not difficult to win the plaudits of guests—and the gratitude of your family—if you keep a few things in mind.

There are two elements to setting a table; the etiquette of correct service and the art of beautiful table decor. To start you off, here are the basic rules of knife and fork etiquette, together with suggestions for tasteful decorations.

BASIC MATERIALS—Your linens consist of tablecloths, place mats, doilies and napkins. At a formal dinner, use your large white table cloth, with 12 square placemats. This also helps protect the table top.

Doilies or place mats are perfectly acceptable at breakfast or luncheon, family meals and informal dinners. If your table has a clear, spotless surface of glass or polished wood, you may omit the table covering altogether. Don't forget to slip a protective pad under hot dishes.

YOUR COLORFUL paper napkins may be used at any meal—except for a very formal dinner. Both linen and paper napkins come in various sizes. The smallest napkins are for party use, medium-sized for breakfast and luncheon, and the large ones for dinner.

After the food, the most important parts of a meal are the dinnerware and flatware. In learning to set a lovely table, forget the old notion that you must have expensive china and sterling silver. The modern trend is to have it pretty and practical.

ETIQUETTE has been defined as "The noise you don't make while eating soup," but it goes something deeper than that. The main purpose of etiquette is to make life more comfortable.

The first rule of table setting is that forks always go directly to the left of the dinner plate, the knife to the right. Spoons go next to the knife. The rest of the flatware should be arranged in order of use—first piece to be used goes on the outside.

EXTRAVAGANZA IN DECORATIONS, from gingerbread house to pigs heads, decked the smorgasbord table for the "Lucia" celebration at the Stockholm. With Mrs. Sigren Sjunnesson, a Jenny Lind member,

Poinsettia Red and Christmas Green Accent Weddings

Mary M. Campbell Wears Gown Of Imported White Peau de Soie

A princess line wedding gown of imported white peau de soie was worn by Mary Margaret Campbell when she exchanged vows with Charles Gordon Langdon Saturday.



MRS. CHARLES G. LANGDON

Her gown featured a sabinra neckline, long pointed sleeves and alencon lace with pearls and sequins curving around the neckline and drifting into the back of the skirt which fell into a chapel train.

A CROWN OF PEARLS and sequins secured her illusion veil which extended beyond the full chapel train. A cascade bouquet of white roses, stephanotis and ivy completed the bridal picture.

The ceremony took place at 8 o'clock in the evening in the Westminster Presbyterian church in Detroit with Dr. John Arthur Visser officiating before 250 wedding guests.

Mary Margaret is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roderick Alexander Campbell of Country Club drive and her husband's parents are the Charles H. Langdon of Detroit.

Mrs. Jon H. Hendrikson was matron of honor in a floor length gown of poinsettia red taffeta with scoop neckline, fitted bodice and apron effect over the bouffant skirt ending in bustle back bow with flowing panels.

IN IDENTICAL FROCKS were bridesmaids, Mrs. Roderick A. Campbell, Jr., Mary Fahy Campbell, Mrs. Robert Wieland and Virginia L. Dawson.

Nancy Alban, cousin of the bride, was the flower girl. She wore a floor length dress of white taffeta with poinsettia red cummerbund forming a bow in back with floor length streamers.

Roderick A. Campbell, Jr., stood as best man. Assisting as ushers were James A. Langdon, David H. Parker, Robert P. Wieland, Jon H. Hendrikson and Thomas L. Jones. Ira Wilson, III, was ring bearer.

Following a reception at the Detroit Golf club, the new Mrs. Langdon changed to a navy blue suit with navy accessories, for her honeymoon to Delray Beach, Fla.

THE BRIDE'S MOTHER had a white orchid pinned to her floor length gown of blue peau de soie with an over panel forming a back drape. Mrs. Langdon chose a blue floor length gown of peau de soie with scoop neckline and three quarter sleeves with a white orchid.

Celebration at Stockholm By American-Swedish Colony

By FRAN MAIER

December 13 is an important event for people of Swedish heritage. Often this day is referred to as "Little Christmas". In Sweden it is always celebrated on December 13 but here the Jenny Lind club tries to fit in a day closest to it and arrange a dinner party.

In Sweden every household is awakened early in the morning by "Lucia"—usually the oldest daughter in the family carrying a tray with coffee and cookies which she serves to everyone.

The old legend tells that December 13 was the darkest and longest day of the year and Lucia, wearing a candle-lit crown of greens, brought light to every home.

I was surprised to see how many members located in this area were interested in this observance and what could be more fitting than the Stockholm restaurant to celebrate the occasion the past weekend. Mrs. Sigren Sjunnesson, proprietor, herself a Jenny Lind member, leaves the entire second floor to the Jenny Lind club's disposal.

As you enter the rooms you immediately feel the atmosphere of something extra ordinary. Through Mrs. Sjunnesson's personality this is definitely expressed in all arrangements and Jenny

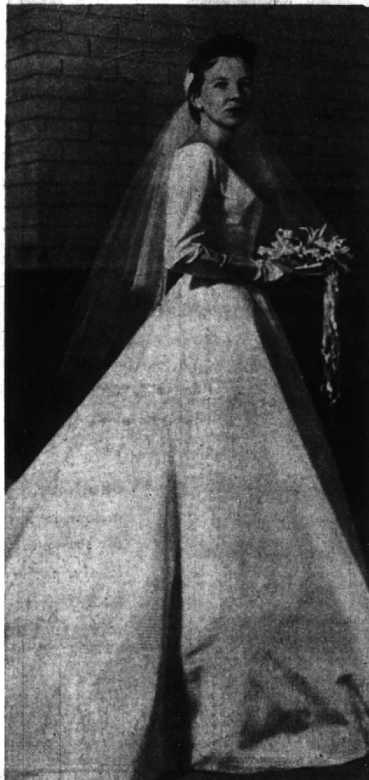
Linders and their families look forward to this observance at the Stockholm.

This year Mrs. LeRoy W. Dahlberg, Mrs. Roy E. Hawkinson and Mrs. Charles H. Bay had charge of arrangements.

TALKING with Mrs. Gunnar Karlstrom I learned that she is a former president of the club, in fact, it was her idea to form a club in Detroit for the perpetuation of Swedish culture. Together with



(from left) is Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy W. Dahlberg of Lone Pine road, Bloomfield Hills, and Mrs. Gunnar Karlstrom of Colonial court, Birmingham. (See additional photos in Section F).



MRS. RICHARD MERRITT WEIR

Suburban Scene

by Fran Maier Society Editor



Leather and Lace

High lace shoes... that's exactly what a member of the Forest Lake country club wore to the Christmas dance last Saturday.

Mrs. Frank Turner of Soden Lake road recently purchased a pair of shoes, approximately 50 years old, in California. She arrived at the dance wearing these shoes... which looked mighty comfortable... and really were. With a little persuasion, Mrs. Turner plans to wear them again to the bowling brunch Thursday morning.

Snowball Dance

Forest Lake country club will present its annual College-Hi Christmas dance for members and guests Saturday from 9:30 to 12:30 a.m. Semi-formal attire is in order and festivities will begin with a "Snowball Dance and Bunny Hop". Don Bari's orchestra has been booked for the event—refreshments will consist of fruit punch and holiday cake.

Beverly Close and James Walls are co-chairmen of the committee, consisting of John Waters, Marilyn Bratton, Janet Nechman and Diane Downey. All members of the committee as well as the chaperones, Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Swanson and Mr. and Mrs. Richard W. Minor, are from Birmingham.

Club Parties

Women bowlers of the Birmingham country club will meet Friday for a Christmas party at the club. Cocktails will be served at 6 p.m. and dinner at 7 p.m. Exchange of gifts will take place after dinner.

Mrs. Neil Marshall will be chairman of the day and Mrs. Harry Day and Mrs. Merle Spurrall are on the committee.

SANTA CLAUS will be stopping at the Birmingham country club Sunday for the annual children's party at 3 p.m. Program for the day will include Christmas stockings for the children, buffet dinner and group singing.

Red and White

Twenty culver cakes and their dates will be entertained at the DAC for a holiday dinner-dance on Dec. 27. Dr. and Mrs. Luther Leader and Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Jackson will act as chaperones. Theme for the dance will be their school colors, red and white carnations.

Among the cadets attending from the Birmingham area are Gus Leader, Richard and Michael Handren, Bill Bushnell, Roger McDonald, Robert Farrington, William Gardner, Kenneth A. Wood and BH Bollinger.

Bermuda Honeymoon For Newlywed Weirs

An exquisite gown of ivory Italian silk taffeta, designed with a scoop décolletage and long tapered sleeves was worn by Jean Elizabeth MacGregor for her marriage to Richard Merritt Weir Saturday. Given in marriage by her brother, Robert Douglas MacGregor, the couple exchanged vows at 3:30 p.m. in Christ Church Cranbrook. The Rev. Robert DeWitt officiated.

The belted skirt of Jean's wedding gown was fashioned with a self front panel, with the back sweeping into a court length train. A double tiered veil of ivory silk illusion cascaded from a cap fashioned of illusion and pearls.

She carried the white satin prayerbook belonging to her sister-in-law, Mrs. Robert Douglas MacGregor. White orchids centered her bouquet of stephanotis. Her only jewelry was pearls, a gift of the groom.

Mrs. Harold Douglas MacGregor of Sandy Lane, Foxcroft, mother of the bride, chose a dress of chiffon and peau de soie in a pale champagne shade. Her flowers were green cymidium and pink.

Richard is the son of Mrs. Dunn Mayne of Chesterfield, Birmingham. She selected a gown of silver gray satin for her son's wedding. Pink cymbidium orchids accented her hat, jeweled in shades of pink.

Idescent frocks of green silk taffeta with the new pouff skirts were worn by the attendants. Their hats were circlets of Christmas green tulle with matching shoes. They carried wreaths of holly.

Antique Furnishings Fit Modern Decor In North Adams Home

By FRAN MAIER

NORTH ADAMS—A lot of imagination has gone into the furnishings at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John C. Wright, 441 North Evansdale.

As you enter the living room there's a coffee table of unusual lines... formerly an old wagon seat with legs added... and on the mantel is a pair of old carriage lamps filled with hard candy... to add a little touch of color for the holidays.

WHAT WAS ONCE an old black kettle, has been burnished to a bright brass finish and has many uses, Mrs. Wright uses one for plants, another for fireplace wood, and according to her they sometimes fill one with popcorn for cocktail parties.

Old kitchen cupboards are a thing of the past... but in the Wright household one has become a handsome bookcase. The glass has been replaced by grill work.

UNUSUAL as they may seem, pieces of furniture which were magnificent to our grandparents or even great grandparents can fit into modern decor.

A good example of this is a sturdy coffee table which can take a lot of abuse. The Wrights took a round oak table, sanded and polished, and simply cut the legs down.

Of course these conversation pieces... which are important in the household furnishings... were not just handed to them.

BESIDES imagination, it took team-work... Mr. and Mrs. Wright spending hours with paint remover and sand paper to achieve a finish and obtain the natural beauty of the grain of the wood.

"Different and sturdy, they serve as household accessories for our three growing youngsters, Rick, 13, Dave, 11, and Laurie, 5," comments Mrs. Wright.



CARRIAGE LAMPS add a different glow to the mantel... they are filled with hard candy for festive decor. Sitting on what was once an old wagon seat for Mrs. John C. Wright displays her novel idea.