

"Sweet are the uses of adversity" sang the great Shakesp... and he must have had some to be able to express himself so well on this subject. It should not be man's quest to seek out trouble, unhappiness... but wise is he who, when adversity strikes, determines to face it with optimism, even with a cheerful mind. He will use adversity sweetly."

The Birmingham Eccentric

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SECTION C



ABOVE: SCASSI at work with Helene Freund, commentator, and Grace Nash (right), Kingsley social director.



Walnut Lake's Helene Freund led the finale for the dynamic young designers new fall collection... shown for the first time anywhere in the country... at Kingsley. For commentating she wore a Scassi original with the new "broad shoulder" look in peacock blue, green and black.

Suburban Scene

by Fran Miller
Society Editor

As August and September roll by, many young couples will be starting a new life as "Mr. and Mrs."... in new homes, apartments or back-to-college.

These two months reign as popular as June for weddings and when all the "do's" are repeated and writeups are in the newspapers, perhaps many will feel the same way one priest expressed himself after he had married quite a few of his students this summer.

A bit weary of the groom being only a "necessary accessory" as far as the wedding writeups were concerned, he wrote up his idea for the groom, and presented it in scroll form.

On the twenty-eighth day of June, in the Year of Our Lord, Nineteen hundred and fifty-eight.

Mr. Thomas Van Wontgen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Van Wontgen, became the bridegroom of Miss Clare Margaret Knapp at St. Anthony Shrine in Detroit, Michigan.

As the groom approached the altar he was the cynosure of all eyes. Blushing prettily he replied to the questions of the priest in low tones, but firmly.

He was charmingly clad in a three-piece suit, consisting of coat, waistcoat and pants. The coat of light worsted material was draped about his shoulders and tastefully gathered under the arms.

A pretty story was current among the guests that the coat was the same worn by his father and grandfather on their wedding days.

Conspicuous at the cuffs of his shirt were his cufflinks, which it was rumored were the gift of the bride, which flattered and gave the wedding touch of brilliance to the costume in perfect taste and harmony.

The groom's trousers were of dark worsted material, with a satin stripe, and were suspended from the waist, falling in straight line to the floor. Blue suspenders were attached fore and aft to the trousers and passed in graceful curve over each shoulder. This charming and useful part of the costume would have passed unnoticed had not the groom dropped the ring. When he stooped to recover the errant circlet, the delicate blue of the suspenders was brightly revealed.

His neck was encircled by a collar characterized by the soft pearl tint of old celluloid and around the collar a tie or cravat was loosely knotted, exposing a collar button of bright gold.

The cravat extended fully under the left ear with that studied carelessness which makes for supreme artistry in dress.

The best man's costume was essentially like the groom's and as the two stood at the altar, a hush of admiration enveloped the congregation at the complete and wonderful harmony of their attire.

As Miss Knapp left the church with the groom, it was noticed she wore the conventional veil and orange blossoms.

The scroll was prepared for Thomas R. Van Wontgen, who claimed Claire Margaret Knapp as his bride at a ceremony in St. Anthony Shrine, Detroit, Michigan.

Needless to say, the guests at the breakfast at Devon Cables had many a good laugh over it... along with the champagne. Then at the garden reception at the home of the groom's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Van Wontgen of West Lincoln, Birmingham, the scroll was tacked to a tree, and again added to the spirit of the day.

Will Women Follow 'Scassi' Look?

Knees Will Be Showing With New Raised Hemlines

You can "sack the sack" according to designer Arnold Scassi, who showed his fabulous fall collection to the public for the very first time anywhere in the country last week at Kingsley Inn.

"If you ladies are wearing 'long' dresses... before you stand up, you'll want to cut them off or you will be out of style," commented Scassi.

Skirts are very short in his collection, (at least 19 inches from floor) and his emphasis on the "broader look" on top was due to the shorter skirts.

silhouette—characterized by a raised waistline—marked either by a seam, a thin drawing, a wide belt, or contrasting fabric colors, below which the coat, dress or jacket hangs lightly fitted. There is no great emphasis on the bustline or waistline, whether the garment hangs slim and straight, is gently fitted, or slopes outwardly to sufficient fullness.

THE SECOND new look, which can also embrace the "Empire" line, is the trapeze silhouette, fitted closely to sloping shoulders and under the arms, then slanting outward to a wide and very... very short hemline.

His designs ranged from the most luscious cocktail and evening dresses—extreme, yes—but, a one-of-a-kind look.

Scassi says, "I try to design pretty clothes, to make a woman beautiful. It must always define, enhance, and compliment the personality of the wearer."

"THERE'S A LOOK of importance throughout his collection," commented Helene Freund of Walnut Lake, coordinator and commentator for the showing. "Every ensemble has that wonderful, elegant, ladylike look of Scassi."

Most important new look is the so-called "Empire"

Dyed Poodles Accent Kingswood Fashion Benefit

Two professional poodles dyed to match the new fall ensembles will accent the Kingswood fashion show at 2 p.m., Sept. 9 in the school auditorium.

Mrs. Ronald Ballantyne and Mrs. Richard Weir will co-chairman the venture with proceeds going to the Eilon Wallace Memorial scholarship fund, which sends a girl to Kingswood each year.

Alumnae models include Mrs. Paul Connolly, Mrs. Fritz Flesselmann, Mrs. Richard Williams, Mrs. James Morton, Mrs. Robert Graham, Mrs. Bruce Craig, Mrs. Nicholas Martin, Jr., Miss Frances Dawson, Miss Phoebe Otter and Mrs. William Beardie.

Pouring at the tea table will be Mrs. Henry Booth, Mrs. Warren Booth, Mrs. Harold MacGregor, Mrs. Arthur Moore, Mrs. James Sanders, Mrs. Earl Thompson, Mrs. Harry Hoey and Mrs. William Hargreaves.

Kirk Gardens Setting For Vela-Wright Wedding

Dorothy Gay Wright, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Russell M. Wright of Bloomfield Hills was married Saturday to Luis F. Vela, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter A. Vela of Caracas, Venezuela, formerly of Birmingham.

The ceremony was performed in the gardens of Kirk-in-the-hills by the Rev. Harold C. DeWitt and followed by reception at the bride's home on Lower Long Lake.

Given in marriage by her father, her sister, Katherine Wright, was maid of honor. The bridegroom's sister, Phay Vela, acted as junior bridesmaid and bridesmaids were Mrs. Gerald Hauser Gilbert, Barbara Mason and Jean Moore, cousin of the bride of Pennsylvania; William Boutell of Bay City was best man. Richard Wright, brother of the bride, was head usher and other ushers were James Wenas of Akron; William McLean of Massillon, Ohio; Terry Laundry and Donald Hile of Birmingham; and Donald Kestener of Grosse Pointe.

THE BRIDE WORE a three tiered French embroidered silk organza gown with a sabrin neckline trimmed with pearls and sequins. Her gown had short sleeves with matching gauntlets, a pointed collar with a chapel train, and her veil was fingertip with pearl studded crown.

Maid of honor wore a white nylon organza over dark orchid translucent tulle, fitted bodice and short sleeves, fitted bodice over bouffant skirt ending in inset of orchid tulle and finishing in large ruffle. Delicate tulle bow accentuated the skirt. Her large picture hat with ruffled brim in horsehair was trimmed in tulle and same as gown.

Bridesmaids had identical gowns and hats with pale orchid trim and all carried flat Italian baskets with shades of orchid garden flowers.

THE COUPLE will fly to Boston, picking up their car and tour the New England States.

Dorothy Gay attended Kingswood and Cranbrook College of Art. She has her BS degree from Michigan State where she is now working on her masters and is affiliated with Phi Beta Kappa.

Luis was graduated from Birmingham high and MSU where he was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon and the Varsity Tennis team.

The couple will reside in New York while Luis is completing his masters in business administration at Columbia university and Gay will use the New York libraries and museums as references for her thesis.

Out of town guests include the bride's grandmother, Mrs. Alex Wright; aunts and uncles, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Maoroff and daughter, Joan and Bonnie, all of Grove City, Pa.; Mr. and Mrs. B. W. Foster of Des Moines, Iowa.

Others besides the groom's parents are his aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Cal Wieland of Weston, Mass; and his grandfather, Rudolph Klein of Philadelphia, Pa.



MRS. LUIS F. VELA

Bride Wears Pearl Tiara Over Lace

Mary Margaret Mink became the bride of John Francis O'Brien Saturday morning at St. Brendan's Catholic church in Elkins, W. Va. The Rev. Fr. Joseph O'Brien, cousin of the groom, officiated at the double ring ceremony and nuptial mass, attended by a number of relatives and friends of the young couple.

The bride is the daughter of Mrs. Ma Mink of Elkins, and the late Mr. Mink. Her husband is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John A. O'Brien of Bellevue trail, Westwood.

THE BRIDE, given in marriage by her brother, Anthony Mink,

Wore a white floor length gown of chantilly lace over nylon and tulle, featuring a fitted bodice, sabrina neckline, long tapering sleeves and very full skirt.

Her fingertip veil of nylon was caught with a tiara of pearls and sequins over lace. The bride carried an arm bouquet of French white carnations with cascading arrangement and ivory foliage.

The maid of honor, Kathleen Biens, wore a gown of pink organza with matching hat. Her bouquet was of carnations in tones of pink fashioned similar to that of the bride's bouquet.

THE FLOWER GIRL, Rebecca White, wore a short dress of pink organza with a matching headband. She carried a basket of pale pink carnations.

Daniel Agajemian, brother-in-law of the groom, stood as best man. Ushers were John Sainato and Raymond Biens.

Mother of the bride wore a gray sheath dress with jacket of silk and cotton blend, and a sapphire blue velvet hat. The groom's mother wore navy blue with matching accessories. Both mothers wore corsages of pink carnations.

Dinner Party Reveals December Altar Date

At a dinner party at the Edward T. Burroughs' home on Hamilton road, Birmingham, they announced the engagement of their daughter, Carolyn Anne, to Edwin Whiteman Tower, Jr. He is the son of Mrs. E. H. Burke of Monte Vista, Colo., and Ed. W. Tower of Caspar, Wyo.

Miss Burroughs received her bachelors and masters in music from Northwestern university, Evanston, Ill. She is a member of Alpha Chi Omega and Sigma Alpha Iota, national professional music sorority, and Pi Kappa Lambda, national professional music sorority, at Bedford school for Girls in El Paso, Texas.

Edwin was graduated from Colorado State college, Greeley, Colo., with a bachelor in music. He was a member of Phi Mu Alpha, national professional music organization, and Kappa Kappa Psi, national band honorary. He has recently completed two years of military service at Ft. Bliss, Texas, and is presently teaching in Sterling, Colo.



CAROLYN BURROUGHS A December 27th wedding is planned.

Local Women, Contest Winners

Over 1,000 pieces of beautifully crafted handwork made by Michigan residents will be on display Aug. 29 through Sept. 6 during the J. L. Hudson company's needlework fair in the 12th floor auditorium of the downtown store.

Local art needlework contest winners were Mrs. Catherine Rehner of Harmon street, Birmingham, and Joann Charnawakas of Old Court, Birmingham.

English Author Guest in Village

Mr. and Mrs. Rolfie Scott-James of London, England, are visiting his sister, Mrs. Frank Barcia of Sunnydale road, Bloomfield Village.

Mr. Scott-James, lately given the Order of the British Empire by Her Majesty the Queen, is the author of several books. Among them are "Fifty Years of English Literature" and "The Making of Literature." He was the editor for several years of Britain Today and The London Mercury.

Early Copy for our Issue Will Help Us Immensely

Because Labor day falls on Monday, we have one day less to produce the next issue of The Eccentric. Copy received as early as possible will be of great help to us.

SOS Has Opening for Members

All his musicians, South Oakland Symphony conductor Henri Nosco emphasizes, are drawn together by one bond—the love of music manifested in hard work. He notes that the symphony, made up of those who are musicians both professionally and by avocation, is for musicians' enjoyment as well as the audience's.

Although the 1958-59 concert season will not begin until Oct. 8, of course, always interested in adding to the string section.

DURING the coming year, members of the SOS Orchestra will be given the opportunity to form chamber music groups within the orchestra itself, such as trios,

quartets, quintets and woodwinds. They will, from time to time, be coached by Nosco.

Members who are studying concertos, or have a favorite, will have a designated rehearsal for that work when they can with the orchestra. Persons interested in becoming members may contact Mrs. Henri Nosco, 1260 West Saratoga, Ferndale, and are welcome to attend a rehearsal.

UNDER the leadership of Henri Nosco, the orchestra is receiving wide acclaim. This, along with an increased appreciation for fine music has resulted in the group becoming an important part of this area's cultural life.

Another season, featuring outstanding artists, will open Oct. 8 with guest William Sabatini, who plays First French Horn for the Detroit Symphony orchestra. He will present Cesar Franck's Symphony in D.

The evening's program will also include Three Vermont Sketches by Jerome Neff, a Michigan composer whose works have a freshness and beauty while capturing the qualities discerned in great classics.