

# BITS OF BIRMINGHAM

Patients have a ball making over-bird hats in the occupational therapy ward at Pontiac state hospital. But volunteer hospital workers have run out of hats. They sent out a request to Birmingham area residents for any hats that could be used for hat construction—feathers, flowers, ornaments or even old ready-made hats would help cheer the patients. Materials can be delivered to Mrs. Charles Fittler, 3941 Quanton road, Gilbert lake. Arrangement can also be made to pick up any items Birmingham people wish to donate.

Christmas is officially here! The Eccentric staffers were busily opening mail last week and what to our wonderin' eyes should appear but . . . our first letter to Santa Claus. It was obviously a fake. No one could read the red crayon jottings. But we suspect they are a form of bribery. It reads: "X O."

He's "pining away" and nobody seems to miss him. So Birmingham police employee in charge of dogs, Al Sundell, wonders if anybody knows the identity of a little dachshund found Oct. 23 near Baldwin public library. Sundell says the long fellow is wearing an Ohio license, No. 12945. He's waiting for a call to Birmingham police to claim him.

When he was introduced Friday to this Wanderer, who was labeled as being "Of The Eccentric" by fish journalist Alistair Cooke recently, "I'm Cooke of the Guardian." Later he told his Town Hall audience that he had advised her to speak he made Thursday. "Or," he claimed, "Telephone calls come in from The Birmingham Eccentric saying the man's a fake. Cooke, though misquoting whoever told him to make both talks the same, was referring to the time when a speaker gave different slants to his two talks here. The Birmingham Eccentric reporter who handled that story covered the Thursday talk, then was advised later of the different slant to the Friday talk. It took a lot of "digging" to write up the two talks when only one had been heard.

Birmingham's newest publication arrived in this Wanderer's mail Tuesday morning. It's the Birmingham educational association's "Newsletter". The 8x11-sized, 6-page first issue contains a variety of articles—all of course of special interest to the system's teachers. Such as the BEA's goals, teacher-of-the-month (Miss Muriel Brasie), editor's editorial, superintendent's comment, Editor in Chief Buell, high school English instructor.

recipe for Brownies?" Celeste Hols. "I'm in favor of some of the old-time mystery which used to surround theater people," she has said. "I make it a point to keep my professional and personal life separate."

Expecting an aloof sophisticated, 1950 style, we were somewhat surprised at the warm welcome she extended in her hotel room.

SEEMS THAT father Theodore Holm, who headed Loyds of London in New York, and mother Jean Park, a painter and author, not only understood and encouraged their daughter's ambitions but also taught her genuine graciousness. Instead of the custom-made clothes of the "unglamorous stars," Miss Holm was dressed in a pink cardigan sweater, black frontie and a pair of black socks and loafers. She had just finished an all-day rehearsal of "Third Best Sport,"

By ALICE WESSELS BURLINGAME  
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric



## UN Work Explained by UNESCO Head

William Frye, (center), director of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), discusses the special UN Day program held at the Community House last week with program chairman Mrs. G. B. D. Peterson and Mayor Carl F. Ingraham. Frye explained the work done by the UN and UNESCO to more than 200 business, civic and club people who attended the program.

## Birds Get Bands from Cranbrook Naturalist

BLOOMFIELD HILLS—"When you band a bird and give it a number, it becomes an individual," says Walter P. Nickell, naturalist at Cranbrook Institute of Science here, who has himself been responsible for individualizing 9,040 birds in this manner since the first of the year.

The Cranbrook naturalist obtained his first banding permit from the Fish and Wild Life Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, in 1932, and in 26 years of indefatigable banding during spring and fall migrations, has banded 57,000 birds from 160 species.

ASIDE FROM the obvious romance of bird-banding (from what country or state will the band be returned, and by whom?) Nickell insists that bird-banding has three practical aspects:

- (1) furthering of scientific knowledge.
- (2) education, including appreciation of the local migration routes, as well as nesting and wintering grounds, birds can be protected from the exterminators, the pestiferous pigeon, and this in turn can help keep the "balance of nature" from being upset as it sometimes is where DDT and other poisons are used in quantity, killing birds and allowing insect pests to take over.
- (3) economic—by learning the migration routes, and nesting and wintering grounds, birds can be protected from the exterminators, the pestiferous pigeon, and this in turn can help keep the "balance of nature" from being upset as it sometimes is where DDT and other poisons are used in quantity, killing birds and allowing insect pests to take over.

IN HER INSTINCTIVE style of humor, she related an incident in which she "starred" as "champion drinker." Miss Holm is testator simply because she doesn't like the taste of liquor, often drinks plain water "on the rocks" with a twist of lemon at parties. To intoxicated guests, she appears to be downing pitchers of martinis.

No doubt the actresses "searching for their identities" would be surprised to learn that Miss Holm enjoys parties and never feels embarrassed to take a drink.

"It's so simple to be yourself and have a good time," she feels. "People who are so serious that they drink, eat, and worry themselves into serious conditions."

WITH BREZZY unconcern, Miss Holm eats moderately and never worries about her naturally beautiful figure.

"I'll start with the lamb chops and have the shrimp cocktail as dessert," she announced to the waiter bringing dinner into her room.

Noticing the glint in Miss Holm's eyes, the waiter joined her laughter. He has served this "theatrical personality."

Walter P. Nickell, naturalist at Cranbrook Institute of Science, releases a white-throated sparrow from his black nylon net. To date he has banded 9,040 of these birds and received only one return—from Mississippi. Migration habits of the white-throated sparrow are still a mystery.

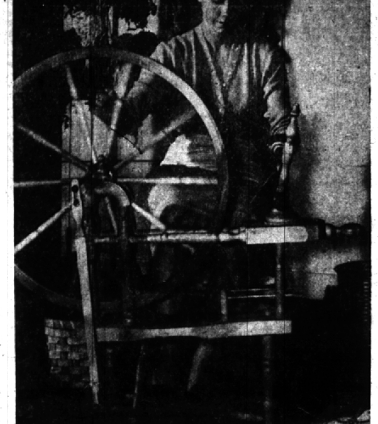
THIS OCCASION should be topped off with a carriage ride around Old Rome at night. There you see night lighting performed by masters in art, and it is late when the city is quieting down, there will always be the noise of a rippling fountain.

I would never go to Rome again without first studying ancient history to have a real appreciation of this cradle of civilization. Hundreds of years ago they were performing engineering feats which leave our 1958 engineers agast.

Your writer was fortunate to be the guest of General and Mrs. C. G. Gera. He directs the Air Force and the command of the John F. Dulzas, well known in Birmingham.

A LEISURELY ride to Villa de Està is a prime spot for a garden lover. This garden was built in the 16th century. The geometric patterns of boxwood and the development of many levels of topography with fabulous fountains, such as expressing in sculpture the lore and history of the era, will always provide moments to bring out the best in you.

Italy is wonderful. If a trip to Europe is on your agenda double your visiting time to this country. Now don't unpack, we have that trip up the Boot yet.



Mrs. Joyce B. McGee spins her own wool on one of the three spinning wheels she uses at the Cranbrook Art Academy weaving studio. She also makes her own dyes from natural materials.

## She Learns By Doing At Cranbrook Studio

CRANBROOK—Joyce Barnett McGee is having the time of her life out at Cranbrook this fall, carding and spinning her own wool, and boiling up her own beautiful dyes. Weaving the spun thread will come later.

"Meantime I'm learning such a lot of exciting things," she says. "For instance, this hunk of gray wool was dyed with walnut husks; that dusky orange came from the boiled heads of Marigolds."

Joyce is working for her master of fine arts degree in textiles, and the things she is learning in a down-to-earth manner will undoubtedly go into her thesis.

SHE IS also the wife of Charles McGee who heads the Academy's design department. Chuck received his M. F. A. at the Academy in 1954, and he and Joyce spent the following year on a Fulbright Scholarship in Finland where she first became interested in weaving and in making dyes from natural materials.

Last summer in New Mexico, she pursued the subject further, but

## Holm Is Where Her Heart Is, Says Celeste

By BETTY PAYNSER  
Special Writer

If Oscars were given for irony, our nomination would go to Celeste Holm.

Not that she doesn't deserve an academy award for her acting ability which she proved in "Gentleman's Agreement," winning the title of best supporting actress in 1947.

But Miss Holm is in a unique position in theatredom's latest publicity pitch—the "unglamorous star."

BEHIND THE smokescreen they exhale some weary sighs and glimpses of bleary eyes—souvenirs of last night's "beauty party" they had to attend," when, really, they would have preferred to go for a romp with Kover, attend a PTA meeting, or try a wonderful new

## DOWN TO EARTH

Your garden editor for "Down to Earth has felt like the "old lady who lived in a shoe" didn't know what to do" as she drove through Westchester village subdivision nearly every day since the early development of this residential area.

As I watched the new homeowners plant their shrubs and trees, I was tempted more than once to say: "Are you sure you want your plant in that location? It will spoil the architecture of your house."

But in my book, it is more important that these couples enjoy growing in the soil and creating their own beauty at home. Mistakes will be made, but I dare say that lots of the plants will be shifted many times before the owners are satisfied with the results.

HERE ARE some examples of where the plant placement is good. Perhaps these patterns can help those who are feeling green at their planting assignment.

At the southeast corner of Whitehall and South Geryard the owners have built an attractive brown fence which offers them privacy for a corner lot. The color of the fence is good.

At 800 Westbourne, they have a striking stone wall around the

crest of their lot. The evergreens are good. To avoid taking away from their design, they should think in terms of saving flower color for their rear property.

At 501 Westbourne is a fine example of a well-planned motif within the circular driveway, to complement the fine evergreen planting around the structure.

At the entrance of Middlebury lane from Cranbrook, members of the Westchester branch of the W.N.P.G.A. have established a split lot fence design which is an asset to the entire subdivision.

AT MIDDLEBURY and Farmington on the northwest corner, your critic noted a good design, with dignity and a minimum of upkeep required by the owners.

2767 Middlebury has a pleasing design which carries through to

## Westchester Yards Get Bouquets for Design

the rear, giving the occupants privacy for terrace living with American Arboretum. On the same street, 3111 has a good treatment of a corner lot.

When you pass Kennedy's home at Breckenridge and Middlebury, you know that they just love gardening and don't mind the work called for with their extensive plantings. They share a great picture of beauty unselfishly with others. The yard at 3245 has a good design.

DRIVING ALONG on Middlebury to 3285, you like their grouping of evergreens, which give an elegant effect in their respective "islands." The use of birches on their west side is superior placing of plant material which should give them the needed shade without "oversteaking their rooms" too much.

At 3603 Bradford road you see an example of good maintenance and good taste in plant placement.

Ahem—as all of you still have your suitcase packed and we are in Rome, let's start out with a terrific Italian dinner at Alfredo, a must on your travel list. You will want to order fettuccine, the specialty of the house. Be sure and go to night when the stars are out and you can eat outside, with

age of 'returns' from as far away as Alberta on the S.W. New Brunswick on the N.E. Ecuador, Peru and the Central American countries on the South.

THE 2,000 BANDERS in North and South America, called co-operators, receive their bands from the U. S. Fish and Wild Life Service. They must be over 18, must send annual reports to the Service, and be licensed by this or a similar agency.

So, if you find a banded bird, dead or alive, send the number of the band itself to the U.S.F.W.S. in Washington, D.C. with the date, place and circumstances of capture; also your own name and address.

Who knows—the bird you find may become one more link in a chain of information about birds that began 3,000 years ago when the first recorded observations of bird migrations were written.

You will find many bargains in The Eccentric Classified Columns.

CORRECTION  
TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF PRECINCT 9  
City of Birmingham, County of Oakland, State of Michigan

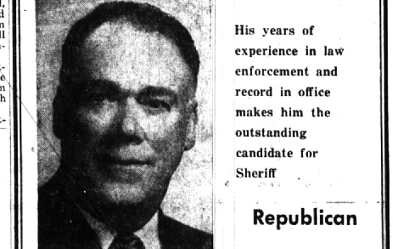
Voting Place will be at  
PIERCE SCHOOL  
1829 Pierce Street

... the above information was inadvertently omitted from the general election notice which appeared in The Birmingham Eccentric issues of October 16 and 23, 1958.

POLLS Will Be OPEN From 7 O'Clock A.M. Until 8:00 O'Clock P.M. On  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1958

Paid Political Advertisement

## RE-ELECT FRANK IRONS SHERIFF



His years of experience in law enforcement and record in office makes him the outstanding candidate for Sheriff

Republican

Vote Tuesday—November 4, 1958

Paid Political Advertisement

ONE GOOD TERM DESERVES ANOTHER!

IF YOU LIVE HERE

VOTE FOR BILL DROOMFIELD

REPUBLICAN  
YOUR U.S. REPRESENTATIVE  
18th DISTRICT, MICHIGAN

VOTE NOV. 4th

HERE'S THE MAN FOR YOU

Re-Elect  
FREDERICK C. ZIEM

YOUR PROSECUTING ATTORNEY  
(Republican)