

Decoration Hints For Holiday Color

By ALICE WESSELS BURLINGAME
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

This is the time of the year to begin planning to make your home, inside and out, the "prettiest in the block." The preparation of holiday decorations has become quite an art and the competition among the belles is terrific. If you haven't caught "the bug," you are over 21 and there isn't much I can do for your case.

At the YMCA on Nov. 29 the entire afternoon buzzed with demonstrations on how to embellish your treasures with new Christmas ideas. Mrs. J. C. Calhoun and Mrs. Thomas and Mrs. Thomason directed this program. This was sponsored by National Farm and Garden.

For the 23rd year, the Birmingham branch of the National Farm and Garden has invited the entire town to the Birmingham community house on Nov. 30 and Dec. 1 to help them celebrate "Christmas At Our House." Mrs. George Dixon invites you to be sure to come even as late as the hour you receive this edition as the show will be open until 9 p.m. Here you will see artistic expression done by local masters.

THE JUNIOR WOMEN'S association of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra is sponsoring a "1960 Christmas Walk." On this occasion, you will be invited into the homes of the business women you can see the practical application of Christmas decor. Mrs. Edouard J. Dore Jr. and Mrs. James F. Martin are the local directors of this treat.

All of these announcements make me attack the Christmas storage boxes at our home to try to discover what treasures are therein and how they can be jumbled up to give a "new look." We have in our town Scavenger Stashdown, affectionately given this name by her family and gardening friends. She really knows how to put things together. Here are some ideas Mrs. Duffield Stashdown has to share with you.

PINE CONES are ideal accessories you can collect during the year to make holiday decorating easier. The most desirable are collected while still green, wrapped in aluminum foil and baked for

two hours in an oven at 250 degrees. These green cones will open up and result in attractive color tones. They cut best with a saw if you aspire to cut them in alone. To make flowers out of them, if you pick cones off the ground, catch as catch can, wash them in detergent and dry them slowly in the oven at 250 degrees for one hour.

Leaves which are especially attractive (rhododendron, magnolia and lemon leaves) can be dried for a couple of weeks in prestone, using half water and half prestone. This will be cheaper than using glycerin. Jeanette suggests making your decorative arrangements with your leaves during the period you are awaiting their saturation with prestone.

THE SPRAYING OF decorations is loads of fun. Secure a few old cards and boxes and set it on a table in your garage with plenty of ventilation. I have seen large old cats and dogs (thermosounds bad—I mean old hat decorations, dried up plant branches) sprayed and they look terrific. I saw a can of bronze, silver and gold, white is a good addition, too. I saw a rubber leaf yesterday which had given up the ghost, it

was sprayed gold, and looked wonderful needed with other sprayed objects in a dining room table arrangement.

If you have sprayed, give your art object a spray of transparent lacquer, then toss on some glitter, and you have a colorful product. You will use less spray if you can give the art work its color upon completion.

IF YOU HAVE old bottles with an interesting profile or odd globes which you can fill with paraffin for candles, you can spray and glitter them. Large tree bulbs which have lost their hooks can be covered with sheer hose and sprayed. They look wonderful.

We all admire the washed pewter appearance. You can achieve this effect by spraying a container aluminum and then highlight the total effect with a copper spray.

You will discover that many tricks of renovating your possessions as well as creating new ideas will result if you surround yourself with sprays, glitter and sundry accessories you can pick up at the dime store. Project something you have created yourself into your home this Christmas. It will result in a happier occasion for you.

Signal Equipment Bid Is Accepted

Birmingham city commissioners have accepted the low bid of \$4,078.18 by Spilane Electric company, Detroit, for purchase of traffic signal equipment for the police department.

As Police Chief Ralph W. Moxley explained, the equipment is needed for a new signal installation at Henrietta and Maple and for replacement parts at the intersections of Maple-Adams, Brown-Woodward, Percel-Lincoln and Southfield-Lincoln.

Pvt. Ralph S. Pyc Completes Training

PORT SILL, OKLA.—Army Pvt. Ralph S. Pyc, 17, son of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen L. Pyc, 865 Norwich, Birmingham, has completed eight weeks of advanced individual training at the artillery and missile center, Fort Sill, Okla.

He was trained to service and maintain the 105 millimeter howitzer, a light field-artillery weapon. Pyc entered the Army last June and completed basic training at Fort Knox, Ky. He attended Seaholm high school.

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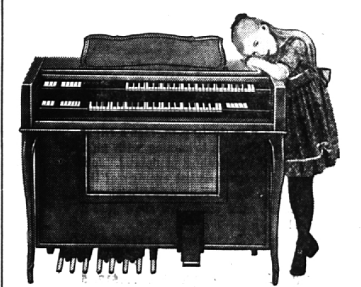
CLYDE HORNING



Named to Honors College

Susan Aitken, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Murray Aitken, 4615 Coachmaker drive, Bloomfield Hills, has been named to Honors College at Michigan State University. She's shown here with her Honors college adviser, Emily S. Hobbs, instructor in the department of home management and child development. Susan, a sophomore at MSU, is majoring in child development and education.

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