

Lack of plain, downright, old-fashioned courtesy on our highways is, say the statisticians, responsible for more fatalities and accidents than any other single cause. Why is it that many drivers, quite kind and thoughtful in their other daily activities, become impatient, impetuous, discourteous—even hogged—when they get behind the wheel of a motor car? Courtesy always pays off!

The Birmingham Eccentric

BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN

Thursday, March 10, 1960

SECTION C

'My Regards to Broadway...'



The outnumbered gentleman is Joseph Whitley, who volunteered to chauffeur some of the wives to downtown Detroit. The St. James theater party got off to an early start. Various groups left as early as 4:30 p.m. and arranged to meet at various eating places near the theater. His passengers are (from left) Mrs. Alfred Wortley, Mrs. C. W. McConnell, Mrs. B. T. Howes, Mrs. Whitley and Mrs. E. L. Whitley.

By AL SANDNER
Guest Society Writer

"... where theater going is a simple matter for the life-of-town visitor," might be the cry of the less stalwart suburban theater-goer, even if he is part of a large group like the theater party from St. James Episcopal church, pictured here.

The New York visitor can hail a cab outside his Manhattan hotel, tell the cabbie "the Mark Belling," "the Antan," "the Helen Hayes," and be at the theater in... well, by curfew time if he leaves early enough.

IN MIDWESTERN suburbia (that is, in Birmingham) it becomes a little more complicated. The 20-mile drive to the theater takes on the nature of a pilgrimage. It was almost that last week as large groups from St. James made the long southward trek to attend the opening at the Cass theater of the Pulitzer prize winning play "Look Homeward Angel," adapted from Thomas Wolfe's novel.

Special arrangements with dinette rooms and baby-sitters were a basic element of the party. It started as early as 4:30 p.m. as groups of wives shared rides to Detroit, and met their husbands who stayed downtown after work.

THE PARTY was sponsored by the St. Martha's guild of the church.

They managed to get 400 into their party and into the Cass on a cold February evening.

One member of the party, Mrs. Andrew M. Gent even managed to find her way backstage to shake an award hand with Broadway star Miriam Hopkins, "Annie's" leading lady (see cut).

An after-theater drink and suburbanites swung north on Woodward or the expressway for another 20-mile drive.

But in New York it's "Taxi!"



Together again in a dimly-lit restaurant are (from left) Mrs. C. F. Trapp, Jr., Mrs. Edward T. Downes and Mr. Downes.



Suburban Scene

By Shirley Adams
Society Editor

Debt Does 'Slow Burn'

A "Mortgage Celebration" at Forest Lake country club will highlight the "Shamrock Ball" Saturday evening. Herbert Gardner and Perry C. Burnett, officers of the Birmingham branch of the Detroit Bank and Trust Co., will assist club president Ralph Hunt in burning the mortgage. The "Four Coquettes", members of the national Sweet Adeline group, will gather around the Blarney Stone and serenade the guests. Entertainment will continue with gala dance music, and Irish folk songs. Members and guests joining the merriment are the James McGuire's, Robert Steichs, Leo Wischmans, John Laheys, John McMurrays, Robert Walls, Robert MacGonnigals, Leonard Orrs and the Douglas Sankeys.

'Luck of the Irish'

Forest Lake country club was the scene yesterday afternoon for a "Cards and Chatter" party. Decor was done on the "Luck of the Irish" theme. A luncheon starting with the "Green Turtle Soup" and ending with Mint shербert was planned by the chairman, Mrs. Herbert Lilley, and her committee. Mrs. Robert Isbell, Mrs. David Underdown and Mrs. William Rice. Special hospitality committee included Mesdames Russell Zink, Robert Spinner, George Creik, Alan Pfaff and Henry Hardy.

European Bound

Honored Sunday at a bon voyage party were Mr. and Mrs. William J. Justin of Pelletier drive, Orchard Lake, who will leave soon on an extended European trip. About 35 friends gathered at the Birmingham home of Dr. and Mrs. J. P. Aldersio. Highlight of the affair was the surprise presentation of many clever and useful gifts for the Justins' trip. Following a buffet, the group also surprised Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Demetrak with a wedding gift. The Demetraks were married January 25.

First Girl in 70 Years

The first girl in 70 years to be born in the Ewen family is Margaret, who was born to Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Ewen of Toledo, Ohio. The proud grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Douglas H. Ewen of Bloomfield Village.

Nederlanders Entertain

The red carpet was rolled out Monday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harry J. Nederlander of Pilgrim road, Birmingham, for theatre-goers who attended the cocktail party before attending opening night of "Music Man". The charming hostess greeted guests in a white satin skirt designed with pink embroidery and a black velvet blouse complemented her outfit. Among the guests seen around the hors d'oeuvre table were Mr. and Mrs. Sidnee E. Chapin, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas R. Restrick, Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Koverson, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Packard and Mr. and Mrs. William Gerhard. Following the performance, guests met at Little Harry's in Detroit for dinner and cocktails.

Colorful Costumes at Tea

Mrs. F. G. Garrison received guests Sunday afternoon at the AAUN's annual tea, looking very lovely in a Roman jade taffeta dress, green silk shoes and a green and white shawl. Also in the receiving line were Mrs. Robert Russell, state president, of Kalamazoo; Mrs. T. W. Hay, Mrs. Joseph H. Shaffer and Mrs. C. J. Shain. Among the guests were Dr. and Mrs. Harold C. DeWint, (See SUBURBAN SCENE, Page 6-C)

DAC to Celebrate 45th Anniversary

Even while Detroit Athletic Club's entertainment committee is shaping plans for a "Young Marrieds" dancing fete scheduled for March 18, it also is completing arrangements for the celebration next month of the club's 45th anniversary.

The club's birthday is marked only every five years and then it is with elaborate festivities. The day is April 17 and this year the anniversary falls on Easter Sunday.

HIGHLIGHT will be the great Lawrence Welk in person conducting an all-star combination of ten men from his famous orchestra to furnish the dance music for a tea dance in the club that April 17 Sunday afternoon. On the same day, Lester L. Colbert, president of the DAC, will preside at the birthday-sake-cutting ceremonies.

BIRMINGHAMITES Thomas J. Bolton, Clyde P. Crane Jr., and Phil de Beaulieu are on DAC's entertainment committee in charge of the upcoming social events, along with chairman Martin C. Callahan and Grosse Pointers Joseph E. Beyers, Leo Fitzpatrick and David C. Gillis.

Also in the anniversary celebration will be a week-long dinner, floor show which opens April 16, and a Fathers' and Daughters' party in the afternoon of that same Saturday.

HOWEVER, the club's young married members will have their special party before the DAC birthday, and from the committee's plans, a merry evening is promised April 18. Invitations, in a striking yellow,

black and white color combination sparked by a pictured lady tossing a rose to knight-on-bended-knee, galily bids all young marrieds (and all "young at heart") to the party.

IT WILL BE in the main dining room starting at 4 o'clock to music by Art Lowry and his orchestra. Following, there'll be a buffet breakfast at 12:30 p.m. and the special twist that is to be served in the DAC's spacious kitchen at a breakfast novelty which made the great hit early in the year.

Talented members and their talented guests who either sing or play will be invited to perform during a so-called amateur hour. In the early evening, cocktails will be served in the Pontchartrain room beginning at 7:30 p.m. both for those who may choose to dine at the club before the dancing party, and for other early comers.

TIME AND PROGRAM for the "Young Marrieds" festivities are planned particularly for convenience of parents who want to see their youngsters off to bed and exercising under control for the adults left in charge.

Nor has "young marrieds" been defined as to age—the committee interprets it as "young at heart."

Retiring as First Clerk of Village

BEVERLY HILLS—All dressed up and ready for the arrival of weekend guests, Beverly Hills Village Clerk Mrs. Robert (Alice) Spencer of Beechwood, gives her house a last-minute touch. She'll be devoting more time to her domestic "extracurricular" as entertaining, now that she's retiring as first clerk of the two-year-old village.

MRS. SPENCER was commended by Village President Marvin Cline Monday night for her services in helping to get the new government established and progressing.

Since she is not seeking re-election at the polls next Monday, a new village clerk will be chosen after swearing-in ceremonies March 21.

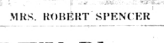
THOUGH she won't be taking the minutes at council meetings any longer, she says she'll keep up the interest in civic affairs that led her to run for election two years ago.

"I'll still be here... in the audience... when the council meets after lunch," she said at Monday night's council meeting.

The tiny brunette has long participated in the activities of the Beverly-Greenfield association of subdivision home owners.

SHE HAS LED a dual life for the last two years, dividing her time between running her home and taking care of her village responsibilities.

The Spencers have a 12-year-old daughter, Judi, a seventh grader at Groves high school.



MRS. ROBERT SPENCER

Honeymoons LWV Plans Five Unit Meetings

Mr. and Mrs. Francis William Haas are residing in Royal Oak after their Nassau honeymoon. The former Susan Adams Wandas became the bride of Francis Haas Feb. 13 at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Edwards Wandas of Kirkcaldy drive, Birmingham.

The bride wore a beige sheath dress and a pink headband with matching veil. She carried an orchid.

Nancy Ann Moore served as maid of honor. She wore a blue sheath dress with matching veiled hat. Best man was Roland Schuler.

Mother of the bride chose a beige dress and pink candles. Mrs. Haas also wore a beige dress.

Policewoman Speaks

Women's auxiliary to the Oakland county Dental society met 15, 8-10 p.m.; Mrs. Walter Jackson, 5000 Winlock road, March 14, 1-3 p.m.; Mrs. John Ruman, 2245 Pine street, March 15, 1-3 p.m.; Mrs. George Hiltner, 15009 Dunblaine, March 16, 9-11:30 a.m.; and Mrs. F. P. Henderson, 1208 Bradford road, March 16, 8-10 p.m.

Tradition Came To Birmingham 25 Years Ago

By SHIRLEY ADAMS
Society Editor

It was a snowy wet day in February of 1935 when 11 Birmingham women met with Mrs. William L. Graham of Vinewood drive, Birmingham, (now residing at 244 Wimbleson) to organize Piety Hill chapter of DAR. Mrs. Graham was the first regent of the chapter.

Nine out of the 12 original members living and still very active in the organization are Mrs. Graham, Mrs. H. G. Perkins, Mrs. G. D. Miller, Mrs. M. G. Kim, Mrs. R. P. Cole, Mrs. C. B. Crockett, Mrs. W. H. DeGraft, Mrs. Mark Harris and Mrs. W. A. Sharrar. The late Mrs. W. G. Stecker, Mrs. Erwin Biggett and Mrs. D. C. James were among the original members.

"PIETY HILL" was originally a nickname for a small community perched atop a high hill on an old Indian trail between Detroit and Saginaw.

The early settlement in 1819 consisted of only three families and it was in the Willis' barn that an itinerant preacher first held religious services in 1821.

As the community grew and churches were organized, the little town became known as "Piety Hill." In 1832 the village was named Birmingham, after Birmingham, England, but it was not until 1933 that it became incorporated as a city.

WHEN IT was decided to organize a DAR chapter here in 1935, it was deemed most fitting to perpetuate the early history of this area in the name of the group.

The group's growth and soundings were made from the oak leaves of the Benedict homestead, which is still standing on Lone Pine road near Woodward. The gavel was made by Mark Harris on Hawthorne road, Birmingham, out of two and a half inch oak beams. The Benedict homestead



Bill Claire (from left), Mary and Bill Steiger and Dick Bliff, relax for a moment before leaving for the nearby theater.



Shortly before curtain time Mr. and Mrs. George E. Montgomery, Jr., make their entrance.



And, if everything really goes well, the theater-goer may be admitted through the stage door. If luck holds, she may get a chance to meet the leading lady and congratulate her on a fine performance. Luck held for Mrs. Andrew M. Gent, chairman of the theater party, who had a brief visit with star Miriam Hopkins (at left).