

Potpourri

(Continued from 1-D)

absorbed in things not material. It suggests that culture is becoming an integral part of our personal lives on a grass-roots level.

Professional cynics might say—"So culture is a new status symbol". If they can think of a better one, I'd like to hear it. I don't think it is a case of status. I think people are becoming aware of the long-time influence of the arts on civilization. Whatever the cause—education or status—the important fact to know is that people are participating in and supporting the arts as never before.

IT IS important that a society knows its shortcomings. These books have served that purpose. Now is the time to take a new look at Americans (and suburbanites).

I think our critics would find a significant trend—away from the material toward the cultural—that is conspicuous in the Birmingham area. I think they would feel reassured about the direction this country is taking.

THE CURRENT TREND in movies, as in books reflects an absorption with "problems." It has resulted in a number of outstanding films. Taken in large doses, the films are a little distorting.

Life still has its good side. It seems reasonable that people see the too.

The Birmingham Cinema Guild has selected six happy-sounding movies for next fall: "Parent Trap," "The King and I," "Midnight Lace," "My Uncle," "The Trapp Family." These are movies that (for a change) you can see with your children.

BOSLEY CROWTHER, the New York Times movie reviewer, has commented on the wave of cynicism in the best of recent films. He has written about Hollywood, sees some 250 movies a year, and knows the industry inside out.

Maybe he can explain the fascination of "the problem." At any rate it will be interesting to hear what he says about movies, television and Hollywood. He is speaking to the AAUW on April 11 at the Community House.

ST. DUNSTON'S is presenting "The Constant Wife" April 6, 7, 12, 13, and 14 in the pavilion on Lone Pine Road. It should be a good play. Somerset Maugham is a sophisticated British writer and a master at this sort of witty, drawing room comedy.

The April 12th performance is a special benefit for the Friends of the Baldwin Public Library. The money raised from the play will buy extra copies of books that are in great demand, and that's a big order to fill.

The circulation of books in this area averages up to 13 books per person—twice the national average.

AN EXHIBITION of contemporary Japanese design is being held at the Cranbrook Academy of Art through April 29. There are 400 objects ranging from decorative and the ceremonial to the utilitarian. It is an intriguing opportunity to see the modern version of the great and historic Oriental art tradition.

Drama

(Continued from 1-D)

are to be commended in meeting its challenge.

John Wallbillich as the tutor, Gertrude Thomsen as the mother and Richard Bagg as the son worked impressively together to bring the complicated psychological situations.

SPECIAL MENTION belongs to Howard Beer for his finely drawn characterization of the father and to Kathy Buhl for her delightful portrayal of the teenage daughter.

To aid this fine cast, Earl Wilson and Jim Halterman provided an impressive stage set. Built on two levels, the set provided visual interest as well as natural and interesting groupings for the action.

The Village Players can be proud of this production.

New Art Shown At Local Gallery

Paintings and drawings by Clifford McChesney and bronze sculpture by Morris Brose will be exhibited at the Little Gallery beginning Sunday and continuing through May 8.

Both artists have been associated with the Cranbrook Art Academy; McChesney received a masters degree in art there, and Brose was employed as an instructor. Brose is now employed as an instructor at the Detroit Society of Arts and Crafts. McChesney is presently teaching at Michigan State University.

Both men have enjoyed a large measure of success recently, though both began to devote their time seriously to art only after being involved in other careers.

Harpichordist, Artists to Appear In Birmingham Musicales Concert

Birmingham Musicales's final concert of the season will take place April 12 at the Community House at 1:30 p.m. The program has been planned by Mrs. Louis M. Randall, Jr., chairman of the Day.

Artists' members featured will include harpichordist Christine St. Clair, formerly of Birmingham; pianist Joan Schmidt, Birmingham resident; a nd soprano Beverly Stief, accompanied by Mary Beck Dolan, accompanist.

The program will also mark the first appearance of the Birmingham Musicales instrumental ensemble under their new conductor, Arthur Stephan.

MRS. MILES G. WELTER, chairman of hostesses, will greet members at the door, assisted by Mrs. Russell E. Zollar and Mrs. Kenneth I. Kevler.

Mrs. Schmidt will present Bach and Ravel compositions. Currently a teacher of piano in the local area, Mrs. Schmidt lives at 2802 Dorchester Road with her husband, John H. Schmidt, their seven-year-old daughter and five-year-old son. She received her bachelor of music education degree from Central Methodist College, Fayette, Mo.

Since coming to Birmingham, she has served as musical director for semi-annual shows at the Fairlawn Center (Pontiac State Hospital) and is founder and director of the newly-organized Village Players chorus.

MRS. STIEF will sing selections from Mozart, Charpentier, Handel and Staub. She is an active member of the Royal Oak as well as the Birmingham Musicales.

Mrs. Dolan (Mrs. Wallis W.) who will serve as accompanist for Mrs. Stief, lives at 7142 Cottonwood Knoll, Birmingham. She attended the New England Conservatory of Music and is a former member of the Birmingham Musicales chorus ensemble.

Miss St. Clair will give the world premier of the "Tocatta for Harpichord" by the contemporary composer Earl Kelly. This work has just been completed and is dedicated to Miss St. Clair by the composer. She will also perform

compositions by Handel and a concerto with the Ensemble.

GRADUATED FROM the Colorado College as a piano major, Miss St. Clair studied harpichord with Dorothy Lane in Chicago, and continued in New York where she won a scholarship for advanced study with Sylvia Marlowe.

She will also be guest artist at the state convention of the Michigan Federation of Music Clubs in St. Joseph on April 28. The Birmingham ensemble will present Bach, Williams and Johann Strauss compositions. During the fall and winter months, the 13 women members of the ensemble have been rehearsing every Monday morning. This

Lecture Series Presents Rathbone

Actor Basil Rathbone will present a program of dramatic readings Friday at 8:15 p.m. in the Pontiac Northern High School Auditorium. The readings will be part of the Michigan State University Oakland-Community Arts Council Lecture Series.

The presentation will include selections from Fox, Conan Doyle, Browning and Shakespeare. Single tickets for the performance are available from the dean of students office at MSUO. Charles Laughton, originally scheduled to appear this spring, has been forced to cancel this engagement. Tickets for the Laughton performance may be used for the Rathbone program.


Assisting tea hostesses include Mesdames A. Frye Ayres, K. E. Bond, A. Edgar Ebersole, Colin S. Grant-Watters, Harry W. Cross, William A. Kintley, Elmer C. Rosenberg and Alan Wolfley.

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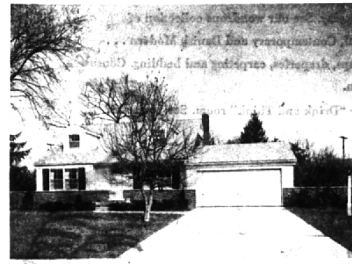
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