



Artist John S. Coppin rests his hand against a maul-stick as he puts finishing touches on a portrait of Detroit attorney Howard C. Baldwin. Coppin was commissioned to do the picture by the Automobile Club. Baldwin is a member of their board of directors. A maul-stick is long, light-weight stick used by artists as a rest for the hand while working.

THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC, BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN August 2, 1962 SECTION D

## Painter Discusses Theater and Art

By EVELINE OEN Arts Editor

"I wish I could find a way of pleasing the mind as well as the senses in a painting. I would like to paint pictures that would have a philosophical content, that would make people think."

Most widely known for his por-

traits, John S. Coppin is one of the happy few who makes his living mainly by the brush. He works primarily in oils and water color.

But Coppin not only paints, he also writes, directs and acts in plays and is currently president of St. Dunstan's Guild.

He is also a member of two philosophical discussion groups, the Acanthus and Prismatic Clubs in Detroit.

### Local Best Sellers

FICTION  
 PORTRAIT IN BROWNSTONE—Hugh Auchincloss  
 SHIP OF FOOLS—Katherine Anne Porter  
 DEARLY BELOVED—Ann Morrow Lindbergh

NON-FICTION  
 OH YE JIGS AND JULEPS—Virginia Hudson  
 THE ROTHSCHILDS—Frederic Mott  
 PSALMS FOR THE COMMON READER—Mary Ellen Chase

IN AN interview at his studio last week, Coppin, (who is 57), philosophized on painting and the theater.

"Theater is a great hobby," he said. "It's a team thing—and to me, a relief."

"But painting is a one-man thing, and as such gives a great deal of satisfaction. You are completely responsible for a painting," he said.

FOR THE same reason, Coppin likes to write, especially for the theater.

"Only one man could write Hamlet; a committee couldn't. But a committee can produce a play!"

One of Coppin's plays was produced, though not locally. "It had sort of a philosophical turn," he said, and indicated that he was less than satisfied with his accomplishment on opening night.

"I love to write but I hate the first night jitters," he said.

### WHAT ARE Coppin's observations on his specialty, portrait painting?

"You must achieve two things for a good portrait," he said. "One is a good likeness and a good painting."

A good likeness is important, said Coppin, who limits himself to fairly realistic work in portraits. But a good painting is hard to achieve.

"There are more restrictions in portrait painting than in any other art," he noted, "and, therefore, a (See PAINTER, 4-D)



Sharon Snyder prepares for her trip to Washington, D. C., along with 11 other dancers and the National High School Symphony Orchestra, to perform Monday before President and Mrs. Kennedy and an invited audience of 1800 people. The performance will be given in a shell erected on the White House lawn in connection with the event.

## 2 Area Girls Perform at White House

Two area girls will perform at the White House Monday. Both are students at the Interlochen Music Camp near Traverse City.

Sharon Snyder, 17, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Louis W. Snyder, 1455 Lochridge Road, was chosen as one of the 12 dancers from the camp to dance in the special performance requested by Mrs. John F. Kennedy.

Playing violin in the National High School Symphony Orchestra which will accompany the dance troupe will be Kay Buchbinder, 17, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Willis Buchbinder, 3065 Woodside, Franklin.

MISS SNYDER will be a senior at Bloomfield Hills High School this fall, and Miss Buchbinder, a senior at Groves.

Last year, Miss Snyder received the Toscanini scholarship which is given to the outstanding ballerina of the season at Interlochen. She has been a dance major there for six summers.

She began ballet lessons when she was four years old at the Irene Mortensen School of Dance, which has been located for the past six years at 859 Forest, Birmingham.

Miss Buchbinder is attending the camp this summer on a Martha Ludwig scholarship.

THE GROUP will leave Traverse City Sunday at 7 a.m. on two chartered DC 7s, arriving in Detroit at 8:30 a.m. Buses will meet them at the airport to transport them to the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village.

They will have lunch at the Dearborn Inn and give an afternoon concert at Fairlane Lawn, home of the late Henry Ford, which will probably be broadcast over local Detroit stations and featured on local television programs.

THE PERFORMERS will then leave Detroit in their chartered planes at 6:30 p.m. for Washington, where they will be met by government officials and taken to their hotel.

On Monday morning they will have to rise early for an 8:30 a.m. (See GIRLS, 3-D)

## FROM THE BOOKSHELF

### Story of Marriage Shallow, Sentimental

A THOUSAND SPRINGS, by Anna Chennault, Paul S. Erikson, Inc., New York, New York. 318 pp., \$5.00.

and impending tragedy, and the real people and the setting are more unlikely than any that Hemingway concocted.

During World War II in Kunming, Anna Chan (Chinese, Catholic), fresh out of college, is a girl reporter for the Central News Agency.

(See MARRIAGE, 4-D)

### Paintings, Crafts Wanted for Exhibit At S'field Library

All artists are asked to start rounding up their original work now for display at the second annual art exhibit and sale sponsored by Friends of the Southfield Library and Robert Jordan love with an intensity heightened by their knowledge that the bridge is yet to be blown up?

You know then what gripping scenes these were with the characters dominated by the force of love, and somehow unable to communicate fully to each other the depths of their feelings.

"A THOUSAND Spring," should have been as exciting. The story itself has all the requisite ingredients. It too is about great love men.

## Polpourri

by ROBIN BAHR

Nothing ever stands still. The day may come that man controls the passage of time, but until that day, everything will continue to grow old.

This applies to ideas as well as people. Age can bring to the individual or the idea wisdom and maturity. It can also bring rigidity.

People get crotchety and unwilling to change. Ideas get rickety and outdated.

BUT EVEN assuming wisdom and maturity are the by-products of age, these are not enough to keep a society in pace with the inevitable changes brought about by time.

There must be creativity. By creativity, I mean the imagination to see a new and perhaps better way. The will to implement that idea is important.

This is, to me, what creativity is, whether the field is industry or the arts.

Age may be the best vantage point from which to judge creativity, but it is rarely the origin of creativity.

THERE MUST be new ideas, new thinking, new works, and new participation in every realm.

The "new" is not always the best. But in continually devising the "new," man is creating his own changes. He is able to select from choices of his own making to guide his future course.

This capacity to guide his own fate, in my opinion, is man's greatest responsibility, his greatest gift, and the origin of progress.

(See POTPOURRI, 3-D)

## Show Offers Chance to Judge Judges

By ROBERT BRONER Art Reviewer

The new exhibition at the Birmingham Art Center, which extends until Sept. 1, allows for the second-guesser's game of judging the judges' choice. Almost all of the 1961 and 1962 prize winners of the Birmingham Arts Festival



Reviewer Robert Broner studies works on display at the Birmingham Art Center in their 1961-62 Art Festival Award Winners show. The show opened Sunday. Five works of each prize winner are on display, including those juried judged worthy of a prize.

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