

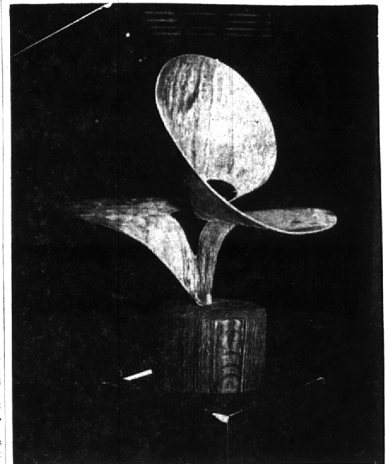
THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC, BIRMINGHAM, MICHIGAN
August 9, 1962 SECTION D

Shain Park Fountain Fund Committee Forms



By EVELINE OEN Arts Editor
Will Shain Park have swans?
Not real swans, sculptured swans.
About five years ago, sculptor Marshall Fredericks offered — for cost of materials only — to design and supervise the construction of a fountain for Shain Park.
"This area needs a focal point, a meeting place," said Fredericks. "I tried to design something that

would appeal to all ages, children as well as adults; something that would be an attractive decoration to that little park."
A COMMITTEE of area residents is being formed to try to raise the money to cover the cost of materials which Fredericks estimates would be something in excess of \$50,000.
Heading the Swan Fountain Fund Committee is William Breech, 585 Lone Pine Road, Bloomfield Hills. Serving as secretary of the group



A METAL SCULPTURE, "Relational Surface," by David Brown, is one of the works in the Cranbrook student art exhibit. Brown has worked with a perfect circle of copper, which has a hole at its center, twisting it while retaining a marble-like balance. The show can be seen in the Cranbrook Galleries from 2 to 5 p.m. every day but Monday.

Potpourri

by ROBIN BAHR



Thucydides X. Tuttle (better known as Ted) is a local architect. He is also an historian—note "Thucydides."
As a historian, Thucydides X. Tuttle wrote "A Hurried History" for the 1962 spring issue of "Voices," a small literary magazine published quarterly in Michigan. World history has never been the same.

BEGINNING with the Stone Age ("a period so ancient that all traces of it have petrified"), he moves through history very quickly. In two pages he touches lightly on just about everyone that was anyone, up to the death of Alexander and the rise of the Roman Empire.

Next installment, coming in the fall issue, begins with Cleopatra (the "bargain-party girl") and ends with "Hey Louise and Abelard" in The Middle Ages. The third and final chapter, to be published next spring, will bring us up to date.

"THIS ARTICLE," says the author, "is a fount of folly, a mine of misinformation, and a source of confusion."

It is also a marvelous piece of historical nonsense inspired, says Ted, by "1066 and All That," a light—very light—history of England described by its authors as "one of the greatest historical guides to practically nothing."

Like "1066," it should delight anyone who has ever taken a history course, including the teacher.

FOR A year-old literary magazine appearing in a day when the "little literary magazine" is defunct as a major (See POTPOURRI, 3-D)

LISTENING as Bill Breech, 585 Lone Pine Road, Bloomfield Hills, explains how funds will be raised to finance a fountain designed for Shain Park, Birmingham, by sculptor Marshall Fredericks are Mayor Florence H. Willett and James Flack, 286 Larchlea, Birmingham. The Swan Fountain Fund Committee will begin its money-raising drive at the end of this month or the first part of September.

Vacation Reading Club Shelved for Another Year

Have you read 40 books or even 16 in six weeks?
Well, many of the boys and girls of the Baldwin Public Library's vacation club have read that many. In fact, 278 members of the club have read 2,925 books and talked about their books with the librarians in the program which ended July 28.
These readers represented 28 schools in Birmingham and vicinity. Adams school contributed the largest number of club members, but Pierce pupils read more books.
WHEN BOYS and girls were reviewed on what they thought of the Century 21 Club they expressed unanimous approval and an enthusiastic desire to join next year. Some even suggested the club's six weeks be extended and "librarians just keep it going all summer."
As to the books they read, a fifth grade boy with 22 biographies, histories and nature stories to his credit said that he had liked "The Wooden Horse" best of all.
"It is about prisoners that escaped during the war," he said, adding, "It was good!"
"First my mother read it, then my father read it and then I read it."
A SIXTH grader preferred history and science fiction. "Starman's Son" was his favorite story.
"Next year," he said, "I wish they wouldn't make us read in so many different kinds of books. Those 600! I thought I would never finish reading them."
The library uses the Dewey system of classification. By this system, all knowledge is divided into ten categories, ranging from 000, 100 to 900.
The 900's contain applied science material and can be much slodding for some.
In setting up the vacation reading program, children were required to read books from more than one of these categories. They could not read all history or all science or all art or fiction. They might read more in their favorite



FROM THE BOOKCASE

O'Hara's 'Big Laugh' Not Very Funny

"THE BIG LAUGH" by John O'Hara; Random House, N. Y.; 398 pages; \$3.95.

Reviewed by Ted Tuttle
The subject of "The Big Laugh" is the evolution of Huber Ward, male movie star, who somewhat resembles an amalgam of Rudolph Valentino and Clark Gable.
The time is the late '20s and early '30s.
The book narrates Huber's career and sex life as one, indicative entity—none of it noticeably concealed.
Besides lack of reticence, the style is remarkable for its use of short sentences and a vocabulary that hardly exceeds the 800 words of basic English (augmented by a handful of familiar monosyllables).
THE RESULTING simplicity will be called "realism," and the book reads as though O'Hara must have either stood behind Kinsey and heard every word or installed a time recorder in a random sample of the bars of Hollywood.
Before concluding that the result in prose paragraphs, however, it would be well to review the Summary. Count them that a work is more graphic if "to the average person, applying contemporary community standards, the dominant theme of the material taken as a whole appears to be prurient interest."
In the dictionary, it means "having a strong, morbid, or unbecomingly lascivious tendency."
AS O'HARA, idealism, propels his characters from acts of say, taking tea to acts of taking ultimate liberties minutely described, a certain conclusion is almost inevitable: that if this book cannot reader 12 members of a jury—each with desire to novel art.
However, the book is for sale and it is therefore possible to hope that pornography has become defunct right out of existence. If so, we can settle back and, helped by

Schmidt Head Of Sculpture At Cranbrook

Julius Schmidt has been named new head of the sculpture department at Cranbrook Academy of Art.
He succeeds Berthold (Tex) Schwitz who had headed the department since 1956.
Schmidt, who received both his Bachelor and Master of Fine Arts degrees from the Academy, comes to Cranbrook from the art department of the University of California.

Art Workshop

Richard Hurd, son of Mrs. R. C. Hurd Jr., 6909 Woodbank Drive, Birmingham, is among 19 students who are attending a Summer Art Workshop at Ferris Institute.
Enrollees in the three-week workshop sponsored by the Ferris College Technical Division are entering freshmen who want a pre-college educational experience and non-college adults who have an avocational interest in art.

What a man thinks of himself, or rather indicates, his fate.
—Henry David Thoreau

IF NOT altogether fitting and proper that we should compare literature, rarely discussed outside clubs and locker rooms.

It is possible to detect romanticism in "Butterfield 8" and mandering in "From the Terrace." No hint of either appears as "The Big Laugh" traces the course of intellectual love to its death.

Books reviewed in The Birmingham Eccentric have been loaned by L. Belles and The Village Bookshelf.

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