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## Potpourri

(Continued from 1-D)

That's as it should be. When a volunteer begins to consider it work, it's a drag.

IT'S NOT going to be a drag for The Village Players of Birmingham when they start their season Sunday afternoon with their annual fall tea. The Players are rehearsing their season-starter, a mystery-comedy entitled "The Gazebo." Its cast includes that gorgeous miss who presents meteorological messages over WXYZ-TV, Pat Morris.

Another gorgeous one stars in "Was This the Face?" out at Will-O-Way Apprentice Theatre. Betty Conn fits that cliché about some people having everything.

SHE IS lovely and speaks with a soft, butter-cream voice that could unruffle a grouse. She sculptures and makes handsome fused glass pieces that art critics rave about.

Besides that, she can act. So can most of the others in the cast of "Was This the Face?" including Eleanor Sims of 70 Judy Lane, Bloomfield Township.

The show has been held over for two additional nights, "by popular demand," it was announced Saturday by writer-actor-director, B. Edwin Ahearn. You can see it at 8:30 p.m. this Friday or Saturday. It has some very funny moments.

AFTER THE show we talked to Dr. and Mrs. Meyer O. Cantor, of 4850 Charing Cross Road, Bloomfield Township. Cantor's comment was, "We had season tickets for the Fisher Theatre season last year, but I thought a lot of the shows were mediocre. Our seats were so close to the orchestra that I had trouble going to sleep."

PAINTINGS BY that handsome young Frenchman, Jean Lamouroux, went on exhibition last weekend at Birmingham's Little Gallery. Along with watercolors by Joseph DeFrancesco, they will be on view through Oct. 6. Saturday will be the last day to see the Pablo Picasso etchings, lithographs and woodcuts at Jacobson's Studio of Fine Arts.

Get your Channel 56 tuned up for another season of "Conversations about Literature." It starts at 8:30 p.m. next Wednesday, over WTWS.

THE SERIES will be led by a favorite with many Birmingham lovers of books and art, Seymour Riklin, assistant director of Detroit Adventure. This erudite and interesting storehouse of knowledge has conducted several "Conversations in the Arts" in Birmingham.

During each of the televised "Conversations about Literature," you can telephone questions to Riklin and his panelists.

## Review

(Continued from 1-D)

succeeding in business without really trying."

HERE IS found advice on how to get ahead in a business world managed by idiots and baboons. The young man on the move is counseled on how to fabricate his educational background for the sake of impression; how to select a wife, or better, a father-in-law, to assure his advance.

How to practice Punctuality, "an art which, at a lower level, is called Punctuality," how to chair a meeting; how to prepare an annual report; how to lead without giving the impression of leadership (for the man on the way up, it is vital not to manifest leadership qualities, in the Parkinson scheme of things) and many other "how to" matters of no relevance outside the author's world of myth.

THE PROBLEM is that Parkinson does not deal, at bottom, with matters founded in some solid truth. "Parkinson's Law" certainly did, and therein lies the basis for its impact.

But "In-Laws and Outlaws" springs its shots without bite or sting. The satire carries no wallop. It is clear frivolity.

Yet one gains the impression that Parkinson is a serious observer of American business, which occasionally peeks through the lamppost.

"THE Corporation Octopus," he states, "exact a more complete obedience and conformity than was ever claimed by any emperor or king in modern times. And what individuality is lost is as much a loss to the Corporation as to the individual. It will pay heavily in the end for its mental uniformities."

With respect to the paperwork heaped upon the modern executive, Parkinson observes: "With less time wasted on editing and reading there would be more time, possibly, in which to work and think."

Cheers for Parkinson! There is something worth caring about in the idiot-world after all.

THE BOOK concludes with an enunciation of what Parkinson terms his third law. This appears quite unrelated to the remainder of the text but no Parkinson piece would be complete without one.

This is the law: "Expansion means complexity and complexity, decay; or, to put it even more plainly—the more complex, the sooner dead."

Now this is puzzling. Is the author serious in his conclusion that complexity leads to decay? Is this meant for satire?

SHOULD HE who aspires to corporate leadership, avoid complexity in his organizational structure at all costs? Has Parkinson heard of General Motors or DuPont or General Electric?

However that may be, it is safe to conclude that the young man who wants to get ahead may somehow still make it without reading this book.

cricket on the hearth" referred to the European house cricket which is very common there. It has been introduced in some parts of our own country.

## Friends of Library Sponsor 2 Programs

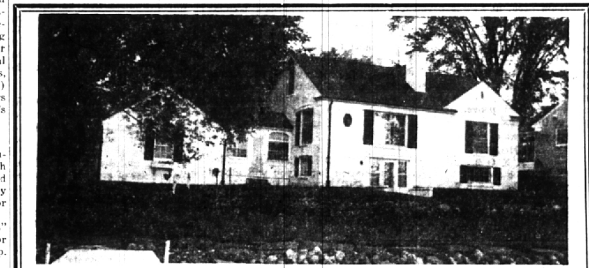
Two programs of current interest, one focused on Birmingham, the other on the United States and its policy in regard to the Common Market, have been scheduled by Friends of the Baldwin Public Library, according to Ramon A. Von Trelic, program chairman.

On Tuesday evening, Oct. 2, at 8:15 p.m., a panel made up of Mrs. Howard Willett, Mayor of Birmingham; Robert Thom, well-known Birmingham artist, and Ward Juradnik, director of Birmingham Community House, will analyze the Birmingham's present and future.

Title of the discussion is "Birmingham Introspection." It will be illustrated by colored slides.

PHILIP H. Trezise, a speaker of national prominence, has been secured for a program on Monday evening, Oct. 29.

He is an authority on the Common Market by virtue of his position as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Economic Affairs for the Department of State.



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Nonfiction

OH YE GIGS AND JULEPS—Virginia Hudson

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