

# They Go for Good Government

By EVELINE OEN  
Arts Editor

It's stretching the term a bit to call the League of Women Voters a "hobby," but if devotees are the only requisite of a hobby, then the League qualifies. But the League is more.

As a trophy marks achievement



MRS. GARVIN BAWDEN, president of the League of Women Voters, demonstrates how to use a voting machine. The League explains voting machine operation each year at the Michigan State Fair.

for other hobbyists, "good government" is the goal of the league. Members hope to pave the way through a "well-informed citizenry." To this end their efforts are directed.

**VISIBLE EVIDENCE** of their activity is seen in supermarkets,

banks and other well-trafficked locations during pre-election days as Voters Guide pamphlets are distributed; school children help, too, tutoring home in forms as the League has compiled prior to a school elections.

Another outcropping is the Speakers Bureau. Members are available to speak to groups on a variety of subjects. This spring the bureau scheduled 83 speeches on the new Constitution alone. Another popular item is a talk on government for Girl Scout groups working on "Citizenship" merit badges. (Mrs. Roderick Spann is chairman of this bureau for the Birmingham group.)

**YET—LIKE** an iceberg—the bulk of the League program (synonymous with work) is "underwater."

Issues at three levels (local, state and national) are worked on in a pattern of study, discussion, agreement and action.

**CURRENT AREAS** of study are:

- Local—Bloomfield Township government and the Bloomfield Hills School District (in possible anticipation of the League becoming an area League; at present it can take action only on issues involved with Birmingham government and area "special districts.")
- Oakland County government (part of a two-year study participated in by all eight Oakland County Leagues).
- State—Public welfare and the relationship of federal, state and local programs (a newly adopted item).
- National—The United Nations.

—Foreign economic policy.

**STUDY INCLUDES** hours of library research and interviews with officials and others closely aligned

with and involved in the area being surveyed.

Reports by members of the study committee are made to others in the League. There are also six discussion meetings during the year, held at various times and places.

"On the state and national levels, the "consensus" is arrived at during conventions.

Then the League swings into action.

**ACTION CAN** take any form: from lobbying and writing letters to congressmen to the razz-ma-tazz of a political parade.

If immediate action is not feasible, the item may be held for possible future activity under "continuing responsibilities."

## 3 Primitives Debut Season At Jacobsons

A trio of primitive artists will open the fall season of Fine Arts in Jacobson's Tuesday.

A series of Early American rooms, sent from Williamsburg, will be the settings for the works of Margaret Neiman, 5781 Show-shoe Circle, Birmingham; Frederick Papsdorf of Detroit; and Elizabeth Thompson of Jackson.

Mrs. Neiman, a local resident for 12 years, will make her debut in the art field with this show. She began painting 10 years ago when her family was grown and has since developed into a primitive talent.

She depicts portraits and scenes as she remembers them from her childhood.

**EVEN THE FRAMES,** authentic antiques, which she takes great care to choose, illustrate the exacting interest in detail which characterizes her work. She has shown previously in groups at the Bloomfield Art Association.

Frederick Papsdorf, Michigan primitive painter, will show a series of his flowers, seed pods, weeds and mushrooms which have gained him his reputation over the last 30 years.

His works appear in museums across the country and he has had numerous shows in his years of painting.

Elizabeth Thompson will show her tile paintings in this area for the first time. A student of Braun and Kamarowski, she has retained an unsophisticated primitive style in her portrayal of figures and scenes from the past.

The show will continue until Sat., Sept. 14. Gallery hours are 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and Thursday evening till 9 p.m.

Nine general meetings are held each year, usually at the Community House in Birmingham, on the third Monday of the "winter" months. There are also six discussion meetings during the year, held at various times and places.

**THERE ARE** more than 300 members of the Birmingham League of Women Voters; it is one of the three largest Leagues in the state, and has claimed two of the last three state presidents (Mrs. Thomas Snelham, current state president, and Mrs. Berrien Ketchum—1957-59).

Current president of the local group is Mrs. Garvin Bowden, Jr., 977 Gordon Lane, Birmingham. Membership chairman is Mrs. Lorin Vollmer, 1135 Hillside Drive, Birmingham.

**THE ORGANIZATION** was born of and with the women's suffrage movement; its original purpose was to instruct and inform women so that they would be able to use their new responsibility in an enlightened fashion.

This original purpose has been carried to the point that local League observers sit in on all official meetings of local governmental bodies, including public hearings.

These observers are later called upon when the League feels the need to take a stand on some issues or candidate.

**AMONG LOCAL** club officers and committee heads are Mrs. Donald Zorin and Mrs. John Bryant, vice presidents; Mrs. E. James Gamble, secretary; Mrs. Lawrence S. King, treasurer; Mrs. Robert Vander Beek, on United Nations; Mrs. Leon Spanier, on foreign economic policy; Mrs. Robert Knight, on Bloomfield Township and Bloomfield Hills schools; Mrs. Robert Gray, on "local continuing responsibilities"; Mrs. Brooks Marshall, on "state and national continuing responsibilities"; Mrs. B. James Theodoreoff, on voter's service.

Mrs. Richard Rick, on publications; Mrs. Marcus Pigman, bulletin editor; and Mrs. Roderick Spann, director of public relations.

Mrs. George E. Hillinger of Birmingham is state chairman of the public welfare study. The local chairman has moved, and a new one has not yet been appointed.



MRS. HORACE Sheldon, representing the League's speakers bureau, gives a talk on government to Girl Scouts of troops 995 and 443, Northwest Lake Girl Scouts Neighborhood, Southern Oakland District. They are (from left, front row) Sarah Pfister and Linda Nasenzi; (second row) Mary Pugh, Sara Duncan, Mrs. Sheldon, Kip Boling and Claudia Duncan.

## FROM THE BOOKCASE

# 'Mr. O'Hara,' Says Critic, 'There Are Faithful Women'

ELIZABETH APPLETON by John O'Hara; Random: New York; \$10 pp.; 44 pp.

Reviewed by MARIAN TRAINOR

"The darn trouble with you men is that you don't understand women. You twist facts to suit your selves. You'd like to think that women are all promiscuous..."

Thus does one of Mr. O'Hara's more discerning characters in his latest novel, "Elizabeth Appleton," fastigate her male companion who outwits the fig-leaf school of psychology and who has been simultaneously needing her and just plain snooping.

If the lady could step from between the pages and assume the role of critic she might berate the author with the same words.

**FOR WHILE** admiring O'Hara's craftsmanship and willingly grant-

ing him the distinction of being one of America's best writers, one can hardly forgo the paraphrase: "Yes, Mr. O'Hara, there is (are) faithful women."

However, I suppose, darning around into people's intimate lives does satisfy a curious urge to satisfy oneself that we all travel the road of consciousness, the difference being that O'Hara's characters make sex the points of their compass while the majority of us steer a more surreptitious course into the horizon.

**ACCEPTING THE** premise that in an age of sex obsession O'Hara is more obsessed than most, we can settle down to enjoy a good story which has a great deal to say about the pressures of today's society and its demands that man create the proper image of himself

in the eyes of his peers and to hell with his individuality.

Elizabeth Appleton is a product of the image-makers.

As the daughter of a wealthy family she reflects the background of fashionable New York society, Southampton and the best schools.

The picture becomes blurred when she chooses to marry a history professor and take up residence on his college campus in a small Pennsylvania town.

**TWO CHILDREN** and 10 years later, she suspects that perhaps she has chosen a deprived life and has an affair with a young man-about-town who is more representative of her background.

The war and a latent loyalty to an unsuspecting husband interrupts and finally terminates her (See, BOOKCASE, 2-D)

## Mt. Everest Scaler Opens Series

The fall lecture series at the Cranbrook Institute of Science will feature three topflight scientists and three motion picture programs that will broaden the fare provided to the members of this organization.

The lecturers include a member of the party that recently scaled Mt. Everest, a man who is not a world-famed geo-physicist and a third who is director of the Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology at Harvard University.

First in the series, Oct. 25, is Prof. J. Tuzo Wilson of the University of Toronto, whose subject will be "The Drifting Continents."

**IN HIS** studies and publications, Dr. Wilson has shown that perhaps as late as 150 million years ago all the continents of the world

formed a single super-continent that then broke up and drifted apart, floating as it were on the more fluid rocks below into their present positions.

On Nov. 22, Prof. Maynard M. Miller will discuss "A Geologist on Mt. Everest." During the expedition, his special interest lay in glaciers and there, chiefly around the advanced camp at 22,500 feet, he studied the glaciers for their content of salt, oxygen, pollen, and isotopes.

**ON DEC. 6,** Prof. John Otis Breen, who is chairman of the United States Committee for Salvage of the Nubian Monuments to be flooded by the Aswan Dam, will speak on archeological salvage in advance of technological development.

His talk is titled "The Drowning Sphinx."

The film programs, which will include a wide variety of subjects from elements to Alaskan wild life, some of them being shown for the first time in this area, will be held Oct. 10 and 11; Nov. 7 and 8; and Dec. 12 and 13.

The lectures will be held at 8:15 p.m. in the Cranbrook School auditorium. The film programs are scheduled for 8:15 p.m. in the Cranbrook Institute of Science auditorium.

**ALTHOUGH** the full series for the period after Christmas has not been announced, it will include Joy Adamson whose story of her life with lions in East Africa has fired the interest of American readers in recent years.

## ON VILLAGE GREEN

# Franklin Teens Star in Own Theatre

By NITA HARD

It should be clearly understood that Franklin Junior Players is not a "keep the kids off the streets" type project.

Even though the many rehearsals for their two full-throated productions, "The Silver Whistle" and "The Bishop's Mantle," with performances coming Sept. 4 through 8 on the village green, do in fact, keep over 50 teen-agers busy these summer evenings—it is a matter of tradition, not tradition.

Started in 1957 by several parents who were also members of the Franklin Players, the Junior Players has become a good reason for growing up in Franklin.

**ONE BY ONE** as the seasons pass new youngsters experience the same stages of enchantment under the big tent.

The process of assimilation generally takes several years.

First, between the ages of seven and 10, they are attracted by the big green tent that appears suddenly late in August on the green. As if by magic, they are drawn to it... some peering timidly into the gloomy depths of the canvas... others boldly racing through on bikes, during the hours when the tent is empty... and other times, when a cast is hard at work.

Little by little, as they catch matches of rehearsals, the spell begins to work.

Soon they are quietly watching the actors at work. There aren't many chairs, so they sit on the grass. Some find ways of being helpful, run errands for the directors, take charge of stray dogs that wander in or occasionally cue lines (if they can read).

part, lost to the world of reality. By the time Franklin children are 13 and eligible to become a Junior Player and truly participate, they have had unique apprenticeship and exposure to theater.

Unique in the sense that they are seldom denied the delightful experience of watching a play in rehearsal.

The patience and understanding of Mrs. John Baker, Jr., a trim, breezy, attractive little blond woman, is a prime factor. A leading light of Junior Players since it first started, Mrs. Baker has no selfishness of her own and has somehow found herself surrounded by adoring teen-agers who persuade her to keep Junior Players going, summer after summer.

"WHY DO I do this?" she asks

herself, especially when the cast is having a siege of giggles, or if there is only a partial cast (teen-agers aren't always reliable, you know), or if the dogs and small children have swarmed more than usual. She's an unpaid drama coach, referee, confidante and big sister.

"It means I just don't have any summer cast all, and when the tent goes up and I know that the show is due in two weeks, I just get plain nervous." But then she remembers boys like John Adams.

Now 19, John has been with Junior Players since his junior high school days. After taking a few small parts, John began to realize that he liked the backstage work best and has been functioning as producer of the group, assuming full responsibility. For all the backstage technicalities,

John will be leaving for Ferris University this fall and has trained several boys in the details of staging and lighting. The chain is well established, proving that Junior Players is really an solid ground.

**DURING EARLY** rehearsals, casts meet in the social rooms of the Franklin Community Church. Each cast rehearses two nights a week, alternating nights.

Mrs. Baker has enlisted the help of three mothers. As director of "The Silver Whistle," she is assisted by Mrs. Raymond Adams, Mrs. Philip Price, now in her second season with Junior Players, is directing "The Bishop's Mantle," with Mrs. Donald Hacker as assistant.

In the cast of "The Silver Whistle," who will play Sept. 6 and 7 are Craig Carpenter as Mr. Beebe, Connie DeMatteo as Mrs. Hamner, Mary Jane Robinson as Miss Headley, Nancy Dooler as Miss Tripp.

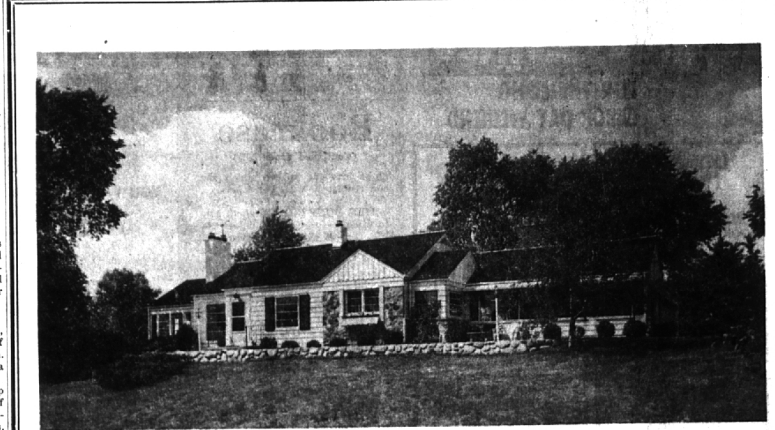
Others are Robert Hampson as Rev. Watson, Sue Courtney as Mrs. Sammler, Judy Kirt as Mrs. Kirt, Gross, Jim Wilson as Mr. Cherry and Pat Horton (who charmed audiences last year as Elmer F. Doud in "Harvey") as the lead role, Oliver Erwiner.

**GROWING** a beard for the part of Elmer F. Doud in "Harvey" is John Bottiers; John (See TEENS, 2-D)

## Carillon Concert To Be Presented

Prof. Percival Price, carillonneur and professor of campanology, at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, will present a carillon concert at 4 p.m. Sunday in Christ Church Cranbrook, Bloomfield Hills.

Concert-goers may sit on the lawn of the church or in their cars to hear the music from the church's 62-bell tower, one of the largest carillons in this area.



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