

ART FOR ART'S SAKE

Twelve Predictions on Culture '64

1. Look's like the best way to ring in the new year is with a slew of prognostications for the art world in the next year. Having previously limited myself to predictions of a flumper sort, such as "It looks like rain," this seems quite a daring thing to do.

2. There will be a rash of art festivals. Some of these festivals will be aimed primarily at exhibiting visual art like the Birmingham Arts Festival, Michigan's first and biggest if you'll pardon a note of local pride to creep in. Some will use the Oakland University format as a guide to emanate culture; music, art, drama, literature and dance.

3. COMMITTEES will sponsor some of these festivals, but many will be commercial hoopla to promote everything from new banks to car washes.

4. An increasing number of art books will be published. There are already two art-book-of-the-month clubs with voracious appetites. Some of these books will be marvelous since larger sales mean decreased costs per unit and po-

5. GRAPHICS, as an art media, will move into a position of primary importance. Graphic representations are such an integral part of our lives; books, newspapers, magazines, signs, television and more, that people respond easily to this familiar media.

6. Watercolors are coming back in.

7. THERE WILL be a greater interest in traditional art forms this year. An awakened art interest moves both forward and back from the point of exposure. The movement

back to the traditions asks "What caused this form?" and the movement forward asks "What comes next?"

8. A greater interest and understanding in primitive art will emerge. Primitive as a term tends to cover both the early developmental stages of a culture as well as the highly developed work of a culture lacking a written language. More another column.)

9. Pop art will reach a climax this year. I relate pop art to the traditional and primitive movements. All are a reaction to the very esoteric nature of abstract expressionism. Two forms go back and one goes forward (?). (More about pop art next week.)

10. THE MICHIGAN Artists Show will be controversial (as usual). If it is all abstract expressionism, the traditionalist will object that it is academic. Whatever it is like some group will object.

11. More people will buy paintings this year. This one is really too easy. More people have money. More people are making paintings to sell. More people are interested in art. What other conclusion could you come to?

12. SOME SCULPTURE will discover a "new" medium this year. They've worked in stone, clay, metals, junk, light, snow, plaster and wood. It could be anything from macaroni to meteorites. There they are. Since most copies of this newspaper will have long since lined the bird cage or filled the Boy Scouts' paper drive quota, by next year only I will know if I missed.

If, however, you are provoked to follow the art world to see how accurate these prognostications are, I can safely predict that more people will know more about art by 1965.

Valter Poole Takes Role as Conductor At the Symphony

Valter Poole, the Detroit Symphony's associate conductor, will take over the orchestra's concerts at 8:30 p.m. today and Saturday, in Ford Auditorium, Detroit.

The program will include Bizet's Symphony No. 1 in C, Wagner's Entrance of the Gods into Valhalla from "Das Rheingold," Grieg's "Pleasure-Dome of Kubla Khan" and Stravinsky's "Petrouchka."

The orchestra's conductor-emeritus, Paul Paray, will arrive from Europe following these concerts to begin his annual month tenure with concerts beginning Jan. 9-11.

NATURE NOW

Meaning of Conservation: Nothing Can Live to Itself

In its deepest sense the word "conservation" means not only the wise use of our natural resources, it also includes the relationship between these resources and every living thing which they sustain, whether it be a plant, an animal or a human being. For all life is of a piece, and nothing can live to itself.

The practice of conservation is also affected by our individual attitudes and feelings for the outdoors and the life it supports, it is not a "static" word.

Conservation has now become the concern of thoughtful citizens from many walks of life. The sportsman is one of the most vocal and the best organized of these.

THE SIGHT of a handsome buck trussed to a car's fender evokes a variety of emotions for one can see any experience only in the light of his own satisfactions and interests.

The farmer's point of view includes the problem of the city hunter who may trespass on his land,

shoot his cattle or ruin his fences. His greatest problem related to game is the crop damage resulting from an over-populated deer herd which at some critical points threatens to bankrupt individual farmers.

One of these recently reported an annual loss of some \$6,000.

By training and practice the conservation officer is concerned with a multitude of technical and practical problems. These include such responsibilities as fish, game and forest management; water pollution problems; park administration; habitat studies; and educational programs in clubs and schools, as well as countless surveys which are an aid in evaluating existing conditions and a guide toward future gains.

AN EVER-PRESENT problem is the growing highway hazard caused by deer crossings. This results in a staggering expense and a serious loss of life.

The politician may have his own views regarding conservation laws and their administration, but he is deeply involved in his responsibility to his constituency and to future generations as well as to today's needs.

This is particularly true in acquiring recreational areas while

there is yet time. The recent effort to pass the Sleeping Bear Dunes Bill is a good example of the conflict created by such a measure which is generally favored by the conservation-minded citizen.

OUR STATE CONSERVATION Department is at present undergoing a reorganization. With so trusted and able a man as Dr. Stanley Cain as its chairman, we can hope for its increased efficiency and for a wider scope of influence in the future.

The conservation program has long since taken on national importance. Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall has just written a book entitled "The Quiet Crisis" in which he says "America has long had a love affair with the outdoors."

He reminds us of the social awareness of such presidents as Teddy Roosevelt during whose administration most of our great Western parks were set apart.

He goes on to say that the TVA planner and the CCC tree planter typified the conservation program of the New Deal and that the amazing progress of technology has made the scientist the surest conservation symbol of the 60's.

It is most unfortunate that public men during the last two decades have been so preoccupied with both the hot and cold wars that they have in many ways failed to expand and apply the conservation concept to the new world of natural resources and its increasing problems.

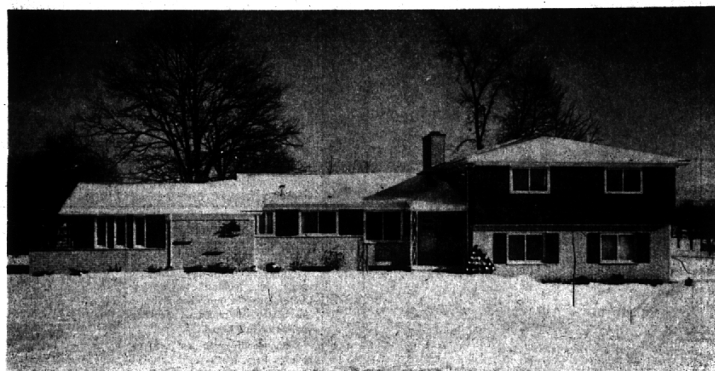
SECRETARY Udall also points out that conservation was a moving force in the lives of such men as Thoreau, Burroughs and Muir. He recalls that Hemingway, Frost and Faulkner grew up in small communities where they were never far from the woods and fields.

A BIOLOGIST like Marston Bates, who is deeply sensitive to man's place in nature, writes, "In spite of our technical advancement we are a part of nature still and we cannot escape the uncomfortable question of how much of nature we can destroy without destroying ourselves."

The viewpoint of the average urban dweller whose personal interest in conservation centers around the availability of recreational areas, represents not only today's but one of the future's most urgent needs. For our exploding population is counted by many as tomorrow's greatest threat.

Conservation at its best must then have as its central aim the "re-creation" of the individual.

Any measure which enhances our opportunity to experience life as it exists in its natural state is worth not only what it costs in dollars and cents but any effort or sacrifice the attainment thereof may entail.



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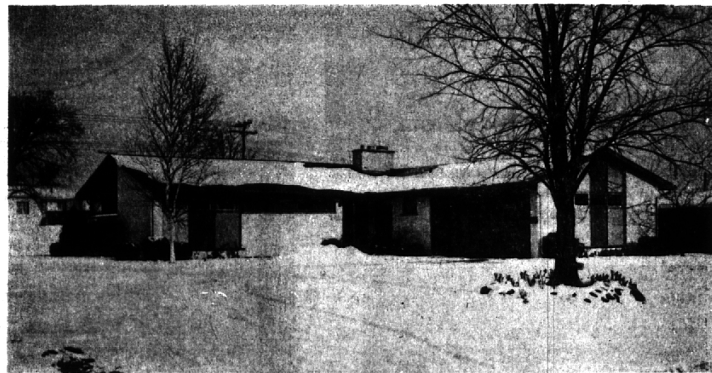
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