

Orient Decorates Doctor's Garden With Miniatures

By MADGE LANE
Special Writer

There is a little bit of the Orient in the garden of Dr. Robert J. Mason on Millerway. It has crept in by way of tiny trees grown in pots. Both Dr. and Mrs. Mason share this hobby of cultivating dwarf trees and have some 25 of these miniatures.

"I started with a four-year-old dwarf Japanese pfitzer that I bought seven years ago," the doctor says. "This evergreen now stands about a foot tall, the "small" size by Japanese standards. In Japan the "bonsai" may be miniature, small, medium or large.

"The "miniature" tree can rest on the fingertip and be no taller than one inch. The "large" specimens displayed in restaurants and public gardens may reach a height of four feet. But those seen most often in the United States are the "small" variety.

proportions according to the plant's needs. Some varieties require more of one ingredient than another."

"WE FERTILIZE the evergreens with a mild liquid fertilizer of rapped meal three times a year. Dwarfs must be fertilized, but not too much."

The bonsai have been known in Japan for more than a thousand years, and some rare living specimens 500 years old may be seen in the Imperial gardens in Tokyo. There are Japanese families who own trees several hundred years old that have been handed down from generation to generation.

The owners of these "heirlooms" have a great affection for the tiny trees and feel a keen sense of responsibility for them. There are nurseries in Japan that "baby-sit" bonsai when their growers are on a holiday.

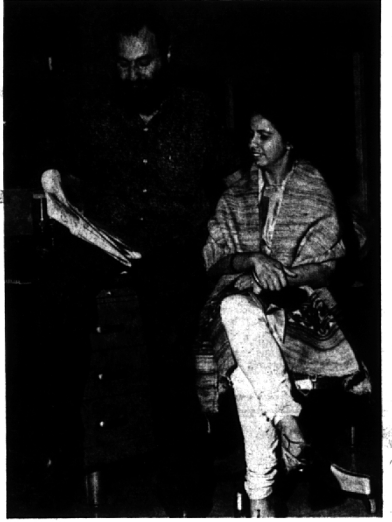
"WE ARE lucky to have a good neighbor who looks after our trees when we go on vacation," Mrs. Mason says. "For during the summer they must be watered twice a day down to the roots."

When the Masons first became interested in the cultivation of the tiny trees, there was a course of instruction offered at the Birmingham Community House.

Mike Goorke, a member of the Detroit Bonsai Club, taught the class. The Masons soon discovered that it is a serious, though fascinating, undertaking.

ORIENTALS believe, or at least like to feel, that these small plants have souls. Many Buddhist priests carefully tend them in the temple.

(See ORIENT, 4-D)



COUPLE FROM BOMBAY IN NATIVE DRESS
Film producer Sethna shows wife's textile work.

Area College Students Tutor Detroit Children

Garnet Cousins of Birmingham, Ken Erickson of Birmingham, Marc Anderson of Bloomfield Hills and David Gimbel of Southfield, all college students, have volunteered their time this summer to tutor educationally deprived inner-city youngsters.

These tutors meet twice weekly with junior high and high school students in churches and other tutoring centers in the city.

THE FEELING of the people, who are affiliated with the Detroit Education Project, is that personal, enthusiastic attention and academic guidance from a sympathetic young person will help these children to overcome the barriers of poverty and discrimination.

Lack of educational stimulation at home and antiquated and overcrowded schools are factors which have contributed to the high rate of unemployment in the inner city.



DWARFS INHABIT POTS IN MASON GARDEN
Japanese bonsai trees are dainty and fragile looking.

Cow Call Brings Herd Thundering Toward Us

EDITOR'S NOTE — This is the last in a series of four articles by Birmingham resident Audrey Marriner who, with her husband Philip and three children, has been camping in the Southwest.

By AUDREY MARRINER
Special Writer

Ever wondered what a real cattle drive is like? We've viewed this scene on television many times, but on an unnumbered Colorado road leading to over 12,000-foot high Cottonwood Pass, we experienced the excitement of a trail drive.

As we approached a small bridge spanning Taylor Creek, Craig shouted his "moo-o-o-o" greeting to a few steers alongside the road.

Suddenly, through the trees came hundreds of steers, cows and branded calves seemingly in answer to Craig's call. Surrounded we came to a halt as the herd made its way across the one-way bridge.

PHIL REACHED for his camera. As he turned toward the side window to focus, a shortbush, with horns of considerable size, changed his forward direction to investigate us. Fortunately Phil closed his window in the nick of time.

The screams coming from the children added to the excitement. A few minutes later, we were laughing as the children nuzzled their usual seating on the rear seat

after their quick descent to the floor.

TWO COWBOYS, yelling and whooping, urged the cattle across the bridge and turned them off the road through Lottis Campground. One calf had gone under the bridge and was posing a problem for the cowboys as it refused to budge until the bridge was too low for the cowboy to ride under.

As we finally resumed our way we decided that, in spite of the beautiful scenery and apparently excellent campsites, Lottis Campground was one where we would not camp.

REACHING Cottonwood Pass in the afternoon, our frontier spirit was damped slightly as Suzy, signing the register, informed us that we were the number 10 entry for the day.

There are 87 passes in Colorado with elevations of more than 10,000 feet, and now Phil has traversed all but two or three.

As the children clad in shorts slid down a bank of solid packed snow still eight feet deep on the sheltered side of the pass, we found it hard to believe that this was July 1.

AT COTTONWOOD Lakes Campground, elevation 9,550 feet, in the San Isabel National Forest, we pitched camp at the base of a steep hillside. Suzy and Craig, slipping and sliding in the soft dirt, made

Students Perform 'Whatchamacallit'

"Mutiny at Camp Whatchamacallit," a comedy written and performed by two Junior Humanities classes, was presented for parents and other summer school students Friday at Westchester School.

The four-scene play was described by the teacher, Joan Hannon, as "chaos at summer camp that culminates in a mad pillow fight."

The Detroit Education Project is the local branch of the Northern Student Movement, NSM, which was formed in Philadelphia in 1962, has been operating tutorial projects in many northern cities.

Another recent project of the Junior Humanities classes, composed of upper elementary students, was attending a Detroit Symphony Orchestra concert at the State Fairgrounds.

Science classes in the summer program at Westchester and Adams schools spent Thursday and Friday camping out at Proud Lake. Parents also attended.

Daytime activities included nature study and, in the evening, astronomy using telescopes.

Two science sections in each school, with 35 students, are taught by Richard Davidson and Tom Richards at Westchester and Bruce Hayes and Will Hinz at Adams.

Other outdoor activities of the science students have been a visit to the Cranbrook Institutions in Bloomfield Hills and to the Energy Farm plant of the Detroit Edison Co. in Monroe.

Indians Combine Artistry, 'Set Patterns to Music'

By ETHEL SIMMONS
Arts Editor

His artistry is on film and hers in textiles and both of their talents are combined in "Weaves," an experimental art film by Homi Sethna in which the work of his wife Nellie Mehta Sethna is shown.

Sethna, a film producer from Bombay, said the documentary presents "visuals of patterns set to music." It is one of three films he will offer at 8 p.m. Friday at the Bloomfield Art Association, 1516 S. Cranbrook Road, Birmingham.

A second film is "Himalayan Tapestry," his photographic record of the arts and crafts of Kashmir. The president of India awarded this film the gold medal as the best documentary for 1963.

He also is screening the art of the potter in "Man the Creator," which the Sethnas showed at the World Congress of Craftsmen in New York.

Mrs. Sethna's exhibition of textiles at the BAA continues through Sunday; a reception, opening the show, and a slide film program by Sethna were held Friday.

said, explaining the kind of textiles she designs.

The products of her loom, "They are she."

She noted that her color scheme is very well balanced, and Sethna said he would classify her work as contemporary. This would be the logical choice in designing for today's interiors, she said.

The Sethnas arrived in Birmingham July 8 and stopped in at The Birmingham Eccentric the following day, just after she had hung her show at the BAA.

MRS. SETHNA usually wears a sari but was dressed in a North Indian native costume which she

said she found more comfortable dress while hanging the exhibition.

The Sethnas translated the attire: The top is like a chemise, in brown silk, embroidered with colors; the cotton pants, resembling jodhpurs, are cut on the bias and come long enough so they can be worn pushed up; the shawl, of stole, is in raw silk.

The couple will give a lecture and demonstration Monday at the University of Michigan, their next stop after leaving Birmingham when her exhibition closes here.

THEY HAVE BEEN touring the country, presenting Sethna's film

programs and showing Mrs. Sethna's textiles and expect to wind up their work schedule in the South west and then Mexico.

Sethna was controller of production for "The Clerk and the Coat," India's entry in the 1963-68 Edinburgh Film Festival. The neorealistic full-length feature was made in the 50's by a cooperative film society.

"It is straight off the shoulder," said Sethna, "with the angle of lower middle class life in India, about a post office clerk and his worn-out coat. It is from a beautiful short story by a well-known Indian writer."

FROM THE BOOKCASE

'Worst Novel in Years'

Reviewed by
TED TUTTLE

On a white, dust jacket the title of this book appears in bold, but graceful, large, black letters; beautifully proportioned and neatly spaced. Behind them is possibly the worst novel of the postwar years.

Which war?

This book has so many faults the careless reader may miss some. The author unerringly selects the wrong word, the flat phrase, the ludicrous metaphor. He says "different than" and "identically the same."

The writing is amateurish, inelegant, awkward, verbose, and sometimes so stilted it is embarrassing to read. Here is a sample:

"SCRIVER WITH his Casulin coat, officer's moustache, a sort of watery, tallo softness to his body ... nodding his foxy face with a close-lipped smile ... 'Excuse me, his sensual lips would whisper ... as he pressed against her ... or she would see him boldly drooling down her décolletage ..."

"The man's lewdness left her furious and brooding ... Sally

finally ... just threw up her hands and laughed. Scriver looked as if he had eaten some tainted bear ribs in a Greek diner. Thereafter, this swaggering rooster left Sally alone."

THESE EXCERPTS are from three, short, consecutive paragraphs. Now a "Cassius look" must mean "lean and hungry" so how could Scriver have a watery, tallo softness to his body at the same time?

And if a watery-tallo, how then foxy? (and a fox with close-lipped, smiling, sensual lips at the same time?)

Stanley Quartet Presents Concert

The Stanley Quartet will perform at 8:30 tonight at the Rackham Educational Memorial in Detroit. The concert is an activity of the Detroit Adventure Arts Festival, in which several Birmingham-Bloomfield area organizations are participating.

The performance is sponsored by the University Center for Adult Education, composed of Wayne State University, the University of Michigan and Eastern Michigan University.

TAYLOR FEELS that such a drooling beast can be easily discouraged, however; just throw up your hands and laugh.

Thus, ineptly, with two out of three sentences proving to be irrelevant, the book banally recounts the rise and fall of a presidential candidate with a mistress named Sally.

Only the least critical of readers will experience the suspension of disbelief the enjoyment of fiction requires. Nor has the book, originally, either personal, political, or

(See NOVEL, 4-D)

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