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Vol. 2

DECEMBER, 1927

No. 12

Published Monthly by THE ROLAND PARK COMPANY
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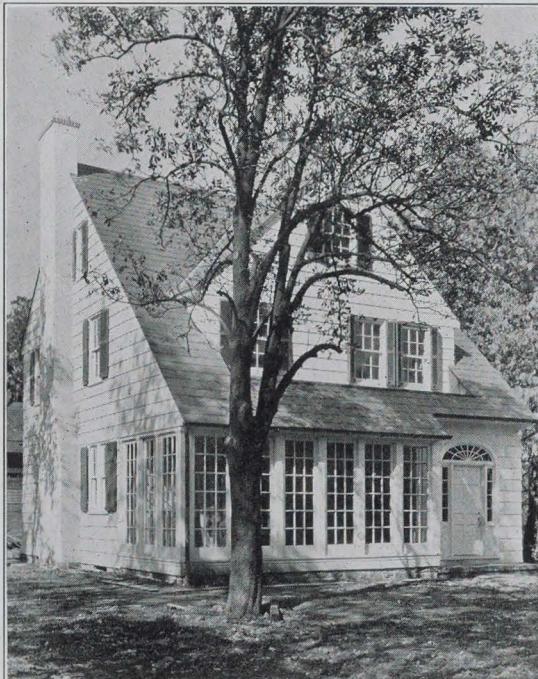
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The Roland Park Company's MAGAZINE

VOLUME 2

BALTIMORE, MD., DECEMBER, 1927

NUMBER 12

LIVING CHRISTMAS TREES

GLIMMERING like beacons lit to symbolize the good-will and peacefulness heralded by Christmas, a myriad lights will burst into flame through branches of living trees in all parts of The Roland Park-Guilford District on Christmas Eve, their brilliant, multicolored gleams echoed by countless "vigil" candles in the windows of near-by homes.

If the revival of the custom of the lighting Christmas Eve Candles and the singing of carols has brought back much of the traditional flavor of Christmas, the Living Christmas Tree—the evergreen planted on terrace or lawn for annual decoration—has introduced one of the very few modern innovations into the Yuletide celebration which have worthily added to its color and appeal. Most of these innovations, dear knows, are commercialized consummations devoutly to be un-wished.

The Living Christmas Trees inevitably contribute a great deal to community spirit and, after dusk when all their gay lights are lit, they vibrate a strange and elfin loveliness. There is something so steadfast, so cheering about them as they burn brightly in the darkness.

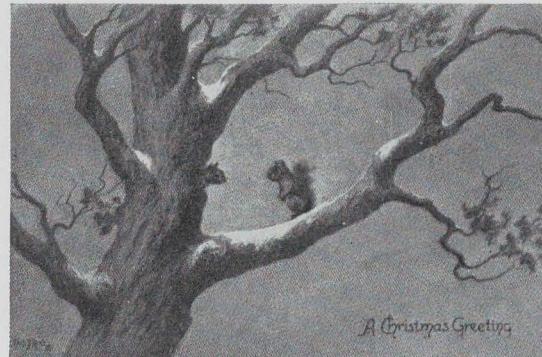
Each season finds more of the Living Christmas Trees. Latest of them in The District is that given the Roland Park Public School by the Thomas Johnson Chapter, D. A. R., of which Mrs. Edward Passano is regent. It is a splendid thirty-foot Austrian Pine and it will undoubtedly attract no end of attention on the part of passers-by on much-travelled Roland Avenue, the site selected for it being a conspicuous spot on the lawn in front of the School.

This tree will in reality be a "community" Christmas Tree and is the first, it is said, presented by the D. A. R. to a school in this city.

Details of the gift—selection and purchase of the tree (which comes, by the bye, from the Moss Nurseries)—and so on, were in charge of The Chapter's Conservation and Thrift Committee, headed by Mrs. J. Mason Hundley, Jr., 204 Ridgewood Road, Roland Park, chairman. The moving and planting of the tree was taken care of by The Park Board.

The night of December 23, a celebration will be held around the tree. Children of the Roland Park Public School, residents of the neighborhood and members of the D. A. R. will take part and there will be carol singing and addresses.

Other Living Christmas Trees in public places in The District will be those at Second



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS
(From an etching by Earl H. Reed, well known Chicago artist)

Presbyterian Church, St. Paul Street and Stratford Road, and on the grounds of The Pro-Cathedral, University Parkway and St. Paul Street. They will be illuminated every night during the holidays.

"MADONNAS IN ART"

One of the interesting features of the December calendar of the Woman's Club of Roland Park is the address by Miss Lilian Giffen, president of the Baltimore Water Color Club, on "Madonnas in Art," set for December 15. A program of Christmas Music is included in the same day's program, with Mrs. Martin Garrett as the soloist. On December 20, Mrs. Francis A. Davis will discuss "Christmas Stories Old and New" and on the twenty-eighth there will be a card party.

Among the events earlier in the month were Mrs. R. Hyland Cox's address on "From the North to the South of Europe;" a Concert by the Chaminade Quartette, consisting of Louise Schuchhardt, Marie Smith Duffy, Hannah Greenwood and Anne Baugher Marks with Frank Bibb as accompanist, and a talk, "Thrills of Club Work," by Mrs. John F. Sippel.

"In the bird as it flies in the blue sky, the shimmer of light on its wing, in the solitary tree, the quiet meadows and the little stream that wanders by, in the flower, there dwells divinity; they are the truth of life, they are the real expressions of spirituality."

JEDDU KRISHNAMURTI
in
"The Kingdom of Happiness."

THE LAMENT OF THE HOLLY

by WARREN WILMER BROWN

(Copyright)

(This monologue was written for *The Wildflower Preservation Society* with a dedication to Mrs. Edward H. Bouton, its corresponding secretary. It was first produced in Mrs. Bouton's garden by Nell Harrison Powers at the same time as Marietta Minnigerode Andrews' "Voice of the Wildflowers." More recently it was arranged as a melodrama with piano accompaniment by Franz C. Bornschein and was broadcast by Hazel Knox Bornschein from WBAL. It is to be given at the Cedarcroft Garden Club's Conservation meeting in January.)

Scene: A barren hillside, whose rich loam has been rudely wounded. Mutilated stumps are thickly scattered around and all of the tender undergrowth has been cut away. There is, however, an encompassing cluster of oaks whose brown leaves, still clinging to the boughs, are dusted with frost.

It is evening, and the moon, rising in a miraculous sky, discloses a maiden seated mournfully at the foot of a solitary Holly Tree. She wears a dress of rich green and around her head is a circlet of scarlet berries. It is the Spirit of the Holly Tree.

The Spirit of the Holly Tree:

*Alas for beauty that passes!
Alas for beauty that is slain!
Alas for the destruction of the dwelling places of loveliness!*

I, who have been chanted from time immemorial because of the sign of cheer and happiness I brought to man, now by man have been betrayed!

I, to whom poets, great and small, have paid homage—I must now plead for my very life.

(She has risen to her feet and her voice is like a mysterious whisper that, coming from a far distance, finds flight through the trees).

Hear, O you mighty protecting oaks, once again my lamentation! And hear, too, all you men and women who, through ignorance, greed or thoughtlessness, but ignobly, have become despoilers of nature!

Ages ago you made me your Symbol of the Christmas Festival, and under that sacred guise I have entered countless homes to weave the magic spell of love and peace that binds hearts closer together in sympathy and understanding.

I have made untold thousands happy. I have taken joy to wretched souls. I have cheered little suffering children, all because of my attributes as an emblem of the beautiful Christmas Spirit—attributes you yourself bestowed upon me.

And yet, you have made me the prey of your cruelty!

Once I flourished everywhere. My groves were thick and large and the seekers after the treasure of beauty I had to offer had no cause to complain of my bounty.

Where are those groves? Alas, how many of them have been felled by the same rapacious hands that snatched away from them their tender and exquisite wards, the laurels, the azaleas and the arbutus!

My sanctuary has been despoiled. My coronet of emeralds and rubies has been torn from my brow, dragged into the market place and sold at a price that makes even the most vivid of its jewels blush a deeper red for shame.

*Oh! Vandals of the cities,
What recompense have you to offer
For the wreckage of beauty that marks
Your pathway through the woods?*

You do not merely take. Armed with cruel weapons, you hack life to pieces all about you, careless of your crime



THE SPIRIT OF THE HOLLY
(Drawing by Howard Frech)

against nature. You tear it up by the roots; you assassinate every vestige of it that you may happen to desire!

Only in remote places do I now have a chance to survive. Here on this hillside that once was God's unblemished masterpiece, but which, since the curse of the city has drawn near, is now a ruin—here, I am all alone.

All others of my kind have been destroyed, one by one, and only the great oaks remain to watch, in pity, my sorrow and degradation.

They shall see my doom, too . . . shortly! Perhaps, tonight! . . . Ah, . . .

(Her voice has sunk through a wailing decrescendo and at last mingles with the wandering winds and is lost. She looks hurriedly around as if warned of approaching danger. Then she clasps her hands in a gesture of despair, and, terror stricken, disappears along the patch of a moonbeam.)

Pantomime

Two motor cars pause on a nearby road with much commotion, blowing of horns, etc. A crowd of men and women, merrymaking, alight. They carry large baskets and have hatchets and knives. They search through the woods and finally the lonely holly tree is found.

Shouts of gladness at the discovery arise and the people crowd around, laughing and talking loudly. They attack the trunk with their weapons and in short time it is stripped of every branch, down to the tiniest twig.

When the party, still in happy holiday mood, departs, the Spirit of the Holly reappears. She kneels beside the broken tree like one weeping at an isolated tomb.

FINIS.

"And because the breath of flowers is far sweeter in the air, where it comes and goes like the warbling of music, than in the hand, therefore nothing is more fit for that delight than to know what be the flowers and plants that do best perfume the air."

Francis Bacon

THE SONG SPARROWS OF
THE ROLAND PARK-GUILFORD
DISTRICT

BY WILLIAM M. THORNTON, JR.
Drawing by Florence Beall Thornton

(Continued from the November issue)



Having thus written at some length on the quality of the Song Sparrow's song, it would seem in order to say something in regard to its time and place of singing. To begin with, this bird makes itself evident very early in the spring. In the part of Maryland that I have under consideration, it is not uncommon to hear this friendly neighbor on warm clear days in February—perched in a low tree, which as yet is entirely devoid of any signs of foliage—pour forth its gentle ditty, thus reminding us that the advent of the welcome season is not far distant. As the spring wears on, the Song Sparrows increase in numbers and their song is much more frequently heard. All through the summer and well on into the autumn they sing at frequent intervals during the day—only ceasing for the few inhospitable months of winter; and even then it is difficult to believe that a being so joyous as the Song Sparrow could ever lose heart.

In the late spring, even before the dawn, or certainly when the rising sun just begins to tint the horizon, the little cock sparrow may be heard cheerfully announcing the coming of the day; but this early morning song is not apt to be a long one; for during the mating and nesting season he has other business on hand, which he doubtless considers of more importance.

Accordingly, he flits down from trellis, or rose bush, or from whatever may have been his point of vantage, and for the time being we see him no more. In the late afternoon, however, our songster, having established himself in some rather conspicuous position, gives of his melody without stint and with an artlessness that is no less than charming—a song which in the calm of the twilight produces that sense of abiding peace which the finer souls may know.

As already indicated, the Song Sparrows are fairly plentiful in the Roland Park-Guilford District. Thus far, however, I have discovered only one nest; though I have little doubt that diligent search would reveal many others. This one was situated in a barberry bush beside a prominent thoroughfare, over which, I venture to say, hundreds of automobiles pass daily. There sat the little brown dame on her speckled eggs; faithful to her trust; quite unperturbed amid the tumult; a perfect picture of peace.

Those of us who make our homes in the suburbs of a large city are indeed thankful for such manifestations of Nature as we may be so fortunate as to possess. Grass plots, hedgerows, trees, flower beds—for all of these we are duly appreciative. But to my way of thinking, the song birds that year after year come to dwell amongst us are even more welcome.

They come of their own accord; man can do but little to allure them. They give freely of their exuberant spirit, and, in so doing, continually remind us that after all the world is not so ugly and that we live surrounded by those things that are truly akin to joy. But of all these airy sojourners, the Bluebird, the proverbial harbinger of spring, is conspicuous by its absence. The blue-coat is far too shy to venture into these districts. Albeit, we have the Song Sparrow: a bird of sober plumage, to be sure; yet withal one not lacking in song and good cheer, and one, moreover, whose faithful reappearance can be confidently relied upon. May I not suggest then that henceforth the suburbanite shall accept the Song Sparrow in place of the Bluebird as his herald of the glad season?

Viscount Grey, in his delightful address on recreation, encouragingly tells us that Nature will in nowise disappoint us. Year upon year She will give new birth to her many creations. The grass will put forth, the trees will bud and leaf, the flowers will bloom and the birds will return to gladden our hearts. And not among the least of these, I take it, is the Song Sparrow and its singing.

NEW YEAR'S DINNER

Following an annual custom, a table d'hôte dinner will be served at the Baltimore Country Club in the Roland Park Club House on New Year's Eve. Dancing will follow until midnight.

The Club House and Golf Course at Five Farms were closed on November 14, until further notice. So much interest is being shown in duck pins at the Club this winter, that the Indoor Sports Committee, of which William D. Waxter, Jr., is chairman, has offered a prize for the highest score made each month.

HOMELAND ASSOCIATION MEETS

A business meeting and nomination of officers of The Homeland Association was held the night of December 6, at the residence of the president, B. Frank Bennett, 119 Upnor Road. Plans were discussed for a dinner party to be given by the Association later in the season. The election of officers will take place at the January meeting.

THE CHRYSANTHEMUM SHOW IN RETROSPECT

THE Guilford Garden Club certainly put a feather in its cap when it walked off with the Silver Medal of the Garden Club of America for the best and most artistic display of hardy chrysanthemums at the National Chrysanthemum Show, held at the Fifth Regiment Armory in mid-November.

Mrs. Parker Dix, 841 University Parkway, took first prize for a vase of single chrysanthemums consisting of 25 sprays, arranged for effect, and Mrs. E. Cary Nalle, 309 Suffolk Road, took second prize in the same class and second in the dinner table decoration class. Mrs. C. Braxton Dallam, Wendover Road and Greenway, was awarded first prize in the dinner table competition.

Mrs. Dallam's table had a centerpiece of small yellow chrysanthemums, amber candles and green plates; Mrs. Nalle's had an unusual centerpiece, consisting of dried gypsophila (or was it statice?) with Snowberries and Indian Currents, that struck a fine note of contrast with the deep blue of crystal goblets.

Other table decorations that were notably beautiful were those of Mrs. Harry D. Swope, 20 Whitfield Road, (the scheme of which was worked out with pale yellow roses among sprays of asparagus plumosus; yellow candles, white crystal and white lace cloth) and the Garden Club of Twenty. The latter exhibit was a rich conception in which ruby crystal, exotic fruits and a cloth brocaded with threads of gold were happily combined.

The Chrysanthemum Show as an entirety furnished a great deal of material for admiration. Memory dwells first on one phase and then on another, recurring most frequently to a display that was intended, perhaps, as a detail but which really took on the importance of a feature that dominated despite so much compelling competition. It was a display, not of chrysanthemums, but of lantanas. It held the center of the vast Armory floor space and as we watched the crowds jostling around it and heard their expressions of pleasure in the unaccustomed brilliance of this flower, we wondered how many knew it by name.

It was as good an object lesson as could be desired of the surprising decorative possibilities of an annual that will grow for anybody, almost, in any sort of ground, provided it has plenty of sun. It is a flower that ought to be far better known than it is.

The colors of those in the Armory exhibit—which consisted of hundreds of robust pot-grown specimens—ranged from fiery orange through saffron, lemon, orange-red, pink in several tones to white. They were grown and entered by R. Vincent and Sons of Whitemarsh, Md., which firm likewise was heartily to be commended for

its large showing of hardy chrysanthemums, one of the best, we thought, in the entire show. A particularly praiseworthy detail of its entries was that each of them was plainly labeled as to variety.

It is by learning types and colors of varieties at flower shows that one is able to make selections for one's own garden and at the same time increase one's familiarity with the varying characteristics of types or families. It would be a good thing if the marking of all exhibits that at a glance would disclose their "market" names were incorporated into all flower show rules.

Another local nursery that made a striking impression was Philip Welsh and Son. Its contributions, particularly of outdoor chrysanthemums were remarkable for variety, vigor and wealth of color. No wonder it took so many prizes that we lost count.

Unusually warm fall weather forced chrysanthemums to such an extent that some varieties could not be held back for exhibition purposes, so that the show was somewhat smaller numerically than it would have been otherwise. As it was, it was sufficiently large and the whole effect was excellent. The Armory (a difficult place to decorate satisfactorily), looked quite handsome and close study indicated that the arrangement of the Show had been influenced by general good taste. Most of the booths measured up to high standards of design and color and several of them were ingenious.

We came away more rampantly antagonistic than ever to size as an end in itself where flowers, or anything else, indeed, was concerned. Some of the "Exhibition" Chrysanthemums were simply unbelievable from the dimensional standpoint—such monstrosities that, actually, tanks had to be supplied for clusters of them. These tanks, by the bye, were among the few annoying incidentals. They looked rather like sawed-off boilers. Instead of having the impulse to say "Dear me what beautiful flowers" one felt more like remarking "Good Lord, what Freaks!" Fit for a modern Trimalchio's Feast—and nothing else—except a Show, maybe. Wonderful, amazing, phenomenal, startling, etc., etc.—oh, yes—but where was loveliness?

You had to seek it in the more modest blossoms. Fortunately they were vastly in the majority. And how delightful they were! Almost every color imaginable but blue was woven into that picture and, as a rule, it was deftly done.

The booths were diversified both as to style and content. That of Isaac H. Moss, whose greenhouses are just opposite the York Road entrance to Homeland, had a graceful background of tall ferns and other hothouse foliage plants against which tall vases of golden and white chrysanthemums, speciosum lilies, Claudio-

Pernet roses, Lilies of the Valley, bouvardias and other beautiful flowers were telling accented.

Not far off, in the Kingsville Nursery Booth, H. J. Hohman gave a valuable practical demonstration of the proper method of planting, pruning and protecting dormant rose bushes.

The Towson Nurseries richly merited the First Prize won by its miniature garden, an arrangement of dignified beauty that depended for its effect upon the skilful massing of evergreens and the equally understanding placement of garden sculpture.

The Japanese Booth of Mary Johnston had pronounced pictorial appeal with its characteristic architecture and ceramics serving as a setting for chrysanthemums, calendulas, cyclamen and old-fashioned corsage bouquets of myosotis, sweet peas and roses.

The Old English Boxwood Company of Cockeysville, was another firm that showed admirable restraint in its garden exhibit—a bit of lawn on which were planted several fine box trees, with the facade of a white, green-shuttered, Georgian house in the background.

Robert L. Graham's booth was in yellow and green relieved by notes of brown created by a myriad regularly disposed dried hydrangea panicles. The canopy plan was handled with considerable individuality and the whole impression was heightened by the concrete garden benches and urns shown by Miller-Nelson of this city.

The Loudon Nurseries did not attempt an elaborate entry but its collection of rock plants—150 varieties were included—was the only one of its kind in the Show and more than repaid attention.

MUSICALLY SPEAKING

AMONG the more notable song recitals we have recently heard were those by Mme. Ernestine Schumann-Heink and Lawrence Tibbett at the Lyric. Schumann-Heink is one of the musical marvels of the age. After 51 years of continuous singing she is retiring with her voice still beautiful (though, of course, it has not the lustre and power of earlier years), and an art that remains supreme—the sort of vocal art that should serve as a lesson to all young singers. We have been hearing her since childhood and there was no little sadness connected with the thought that probably we shall never hear her again.

Tibbett's performance brought the conviction that he is nearly as well equipped for the recital stage as for the operatic, and the exigencies of the former are by far the more exacting. Here, in our opinion, is one of the great young voices of the day. Not only is his barytone of quite extraordinary scope (it has a descending range

almost like a basso-cantante and an ascending range equal to many tenors) but it is of beautiful quality and most evenly produced. His method is such as one never finds divorced from a fine musical intelligence.

The Philharmonic Orchestra's first concert of the season and that of the Philadelphia Orchestra made widely divergent impressions, which naturally was not surprising. If we have heard Tschaikowsky's *Pathetique Symphony* once we must have heard it seventy-five times, but never has any reading struck quite as deep as Mengelberg's.

It was quite obvious that the greater portion of the Philadelphia Orchestra's opening program gave the more conservative of the audience a rather terrific pain. One could see the signs of acute mental pain and anguish on many a face during Rieti's "*Arca di Noe*," Strawinsky's "*Feuerwerk*" and even Respighi's "*Pini di Roma*." Why anyone accustomed to the caterwaulings of Jazz should shiver over discordancy in the hands of a master of the modern orchestra, is hard to say.

Personally we do not care to hear the Rieti score again; it is rather too obviously "different"—one of those manifestations of insurrection and defiance that bespeak an overwhelming self-consciousness. "*Feuerwerk*" is typical of Strawinsky's radicalism and is interesting from a suggestive standpoint—but only casually. As for the Respighi composition—it strikes us on a third hearing as being among the more important things of its kind written since the big Strauss orchestral works, though it is far more of a Suite than it is a Tone-poem.

An event in which Baltimore singers figured to advantage was the benefit concert given at the Lyric early in November. Leslie Frick's singing made it apparent that her art is all the time growing. Her voice, warm, richly colored and well-produced, especially in the lower and middle range, was in excellent condition and her interpretations were skilfully and accurately conceived. Miss Frick has a very strong asset, indeed, in her aristocratic stage manner.

Other agreeable features of this concert were the operatic arias by Hilda Hopkins Burke and the songs by William Gilbert Horn, barytone.

Notably good Peabody recitals of the last few weeks were those of Alexander Sklarevski, pianist, who once more made it plain to the discerning that he is a virtuoso who plays for art's sake and not merely the sake of virtuosity, and of Beatrice Harrison, British 'cellist. Miss Harrison has a tone of fascinating beauty and her interpretative gift is pronounced.

It was not surprising that Doris Niles made such a favorable impression at her Baltimore debut. She is an uncommonly able and graceful dancer—but the Spanish Night bill she headed was, to us, on the whole rather a bore.

The Roland Park Company's MAGAZINE

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WARREN WILMER BROWN, *Editor*

Upon request The Roland Park Company's Magazine will be mailed to any address.

The editor will be happy to receive for publication items of news and personal interest about things and people generally of **Roland Park, Guilford, Homeland.**

The Roland Park Company's Magazine accepts only advertisements that it feels are truthful both in statement and in intent.

Copy must be received by the first of each month.

VOL. 2

DECEMBER, 1927

No. 12

Santa Claus *A La Mode*

DO you suppose for an instant that, with everything rushing vertiginously ahead in a perfect orgy of progress, Santa Claus, of all persons, is going to lag chauvinistically a century or so behind the times?

Picture him possessed of no other means of getting about than an old sleigh and some reindeer (and they probably, every one, badly moth-eaten), and, horror of horrors, with No Radio. The thought is too awful.

Surely, if anybody deserves the latest, as well as the best, it is he. So it is not at all surprising to learn that he has become the most Up-To-Date old party imaginable. Not content with the protean power of a myriad street-corner manifestations and of making himself the gaudy means of High Powered Advertising, he has now taken to broadcasting.

Santa's on the air! Almost any of these nights you are likely to get him while tuning in. First, an announcer, in a more or less distinct and remote voice (when we are around it is invariable less), will warn the unseen audience to stand-by, as he is about to introduce "The Jolly Old Saint"—a function he manages rather gloatingly as if he were presenting an obese and frightfully over-paid tenor.

A moment, punctuated as such moments are prone to be, with weird sounds ranging all the way from low and dismal growls to piercing shrieks, static in a word—and then: "Dear Children, this is Santa Claus," or something to that effect.

There's one advantage the vocal Santas have over the street-corner visitations: innocent childhood is not quite so apt to be thrown into hysterics when they adopt playful pranks. When the kittenish mood strikes them the worst they do, as a rule, is to simper.

Is Santa a greater joy and marvel than ever to children because he has developed so many hitherto undreamed-of attributes? We try to fancy how we would have felt if, at the age of six, simply by having somebody turn a button, we could actually have heard Old Kris (by that name we used to know him and no other) talking away for dear life and he sitting back in his Toy Palace way up there in the Frozen North, with a Polar gale raging, ice and snow piled miles high, the whole scene simply crawling with seals and Esquimaux. What would we have thought and done when we heard him promise, in his own best and most rotund oratorical fashion, that on Christmas Eve the dreams of children would come true—if they were good. Of course, any such consummation as that would have to have some mean proviso attached.

Maybe the ensuing emotions would have produced fits, for that was quite a time back. Nowadays children are born more or less sophisticated; immune, so it seems, to

wonder, and taking as matters of fact things that just a few years ago even the scientifically versed and worldly-wise regarded with amazement.

If it be possible for a Sandman to soothe you to sleep (or make that heroic humanitarian effort) with a Bedtime Story fired into the air, *viva voce* in Canada, why, pray tell isn't it easy for Santa Claus to get his spoken message through from ICE, Frigid Zone Super-Power Station?

Easy? Why it's not only that but the most natural thing in the world.

It takes more than science to kill Romance or Tradition. The legends that belong to Christmas are too closely woven into our lives to succumb before the onslaught of modern innovation and change. They are part of home-lore and they will survive, praise be, as long as there are human hearts to love firesides and children.

So let Santa broadcast to his heart's content! We don't care a whoop if, between now and Christmas, his station crowds every other out of space. We don't even care if, going the full length of the century's mechanical possibilities, he decides to make the trip from the Pole to our house, à la Lindbergh, in a Non-Stop Flight.

Between ourselves, we wish to goodness he would, for a number of reasons, though we should sorely miss the reindeer, moth-eaten or not—especially Dunder and Blitzen.

Pointed Comment

"Nature never lies. We may misunderstand her, we may not always be able to speak her language, or properly translate her thoughts, but Nature never lies."

LUTHER BURBANK

quoted in

W. S. Harwood's "New Creations in Plant Life"

Horticultural Magic

NEW Creations in Plant Life" (Macmillan) is W. S. Harwood's story of the life and work of the late Luther Burbank. The book is written in orderly fashion, starting as we, in the old days, used to think such a work ought to start (a proceeding contemporary biographers no longer regard as at all essential), with the subject's birth and his formative years.

The sketch of Burbank's life is brief, but adequate in the light it throws upon the influences that turned him towards his life work. The first chapter is devoted entirely to "Luther Burbank, the Man" and the second to his general methods of work. From this point, Mr. Harwood embarks upon a discussion of the marvels of hybridization that made Burbank one of the most talked about men of his day.

Anyone at all interested in plant life must necessarily find such a work as this absorbing, even if a great deal of the experimenting impresses one as grotesque and its results but little more, frequently, than so many additions to the world's freaks. But however that may be, the methods of this astonishing horticultural genius cannot be considered without a feeling of deep admiration for his patience and for his masterly technical skill, or without stark wonder at a power for modifying nature so radically that it seemed almost a manifestation of unearthly magic.

Mr. Harwood quotes Burbank, quite copiously at times, and his own observation was evidently of the most minute and adequate kind. His descriptions are clean cut and have the ring of authority. All of his statements, he remarks, of both a scientific and practical bearing were unreservedly vouched for by Mr. Burbank, the work having been written several years prior to his death.



Photo by Willard R. Culver

A PRIZE WINNING GUILFORD GARDEN

VIEW OF THE GARDEN OF MRS. J. L. WHITEHURST, 3902 ST. PAUL STREET, WHICH WON THE SILVER VASE FOR THE BEST GUILFORD GARDEN IN THE ROLAND PARK-GUILFORD DISTRICT GARDEN CONTEST CONDUCTED LAST SUMMER BY THIS MAGAZINE

TRY THESE IN YOUR GARDEN

THE Jerusalem Cherry (*Solanum Psuedo-Capsicum*) is very easily raised from seed. If you happen to have a plant that is already full of the bright red berries that make this member of the night-shade family so popular for window garden decoration, save a couple and as soon as they are dry, sow the seed in shallow boxes, which must be kept in a warm, sunny spot.

They should germinate in a week or ten days and if the small seedling are thinned out and kept growing without interruption, they will make plants sufficiently large for individual pots in the Spring, and which will bloom and fruit in time for bringing into the house next fall.

It is better to cut the old plants back as soon as they begin to drop their berries; they are very susceptible to gas and are hosts for white fly and aphids. Keep them in a room well aired and spray with Black Leaf 40 several times a month.

Hellebore, sometimes called the Christmas Rose, and the earliest of all plants to bloom outdoors in the spring, is a low European perennial. Sometimes it blooms in mid-winter if the weather

is mild, the flowers being white or pale purple. The seedlings bloom in a year and it may also be increased by division. It is a member of the Crowfoot family and stands very severe weather.

Grevillea is an ornamental plant desirable for table decoration. Its vulgar name is Silk Oak and in its native habitat (Australia), it grows into a very large tree. The leaves are beautiful in form and are of a good shade of green. Grevilleas may be raised from seed and they are as valuable house plants as ferns and survive many more hardships. If given too much pot room, they will eventually become entirely too big for the ordinary living room.

Cyclamens are useful window garden plants because of the long periods of their bloom. The only way to have them for immediate use is to purchase the plants from a florist, and it is better to select small specimens well set with buds, than large ones in full bloom. They require plenty of sun and enough water to keep them from drying out. The raising of cyclamen from seed is scarcely an amateur's undertaking.

DEBUTANTES

AMONG the girls presented to society at the first Monday German of the season, on December 5, were the following from The Roland Park-Guilford District:

Miss Mary Louise Ridgely Dorsey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Dorsey, 207 Hawthorn Road; Miss Elizabeth Hoffman Duval, daughter of Mrs. Hanson Duval, 11 Northfield Road, and the late Mr. Duval; Miss Katherine Emory Hurst, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hurst, 4 Merryman Court; Miss Katherine Wethered Lilly, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William D. Lilly, 302 Edgevale Road; Miss Mary Gould Richardson, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Edward H. Richardson, 3 Whitfield Road; Miss Margaret Bardell Roberts, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Frank Roberts, 4007 Greenway; Miss Charlotte Ludlow Whiteley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stockett M. Whiteley, 3931 Canterbury Road; Miss Julia Whitridge, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Morris Whitridge, Greenway and Charlote Road; Miss Isabel Jackson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Everett E. Jackson, Jr., 105 Elmhurst Road and Miss Helen Young, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Hugh H. Young, Cold Spring Lane.

The Bachelor's Cotillon, which sponsors the Monday Germans, is said to be the oldest organization of its kind in the United States. The earliest known record its origin is a hand-written invitation dated 1807, which is now in the archives of the Maryland Historical Society.

At first it was called the Cotillon of Twenty Couples, then, in turn, the Baltimore Assembly, and The Assembly and, finally, the Bachelor's Cotillon. The old-gold brocade hangings and the candelabra which are still in use, have been in possession of the Cotillon for 75 years.

The candelabra trace the evolution of lighting from the dip candle period. When gas was found satisfactory they were piped and then when electricity came along they were wired. They are now equipped with seven or eight hundred small bulbs.

Autres temps, autres moeurs—but the Bachelor's Cotillon is still unique in its field and in more ways than one. Despite radical changes of custom and of viewpoint, it clings to its venerable traditions, retaining its prestige undiminished and, in surprising degree, its characteristics.

Every year girls from other cities are added to the list of Baltimore debutantes. This season two young ladies came on from England to be presented at the first German: the Hon. Barbara Bagot, daughter of Lord and Lady Bagot (Lady Bagot who was formerly Miss Lily May, is a sister of George May and a cousin of Mrs. John W. Frick), and Miss Barbara Buckler, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William H. Buckler, who have been living in Oxford for a number of years.

Entre Nous

In connection with the Junior Cotillons, which will be held at The Alcazar, there will, as usual, be considerable dinner entertaining. Gen. Francis E. Waters, 4101 Greenway, Guilford, will entertain before the Cotillon on December 23, in honor of his granddaughters, Miss Margaret Waters, Abercrombie and Miss Fanny Scott Matthews.

Before the Cotillon of January 2, Mr. and Mrs. W. Canby Marye, 109 Elmhurst Road, Roland Park, will give a dinner at the Roland Park Country Club for their daughter, Miss Alice B. Marye. Mr. and Mrs. Heyward E. Boyce, 4 Club Road, Roland Park, will give a dinner at the Kennels the same evening for their daughter, Miss Rebecca Boyce.

Fashionable leaders of The District were invited to subscribe to the series of three Morning Musicales at the Hotel Belvedere, scheduled to start December 14 with a recital by Elizabeth Rethberg, soprano of the Metropolitan Grand Opera. Other artists announced are Edward Johnson, tenor, and Lucrezia Bori, soprano, both likewise Metropolitan stars. This course of recitals introduces an innovation in Baltimore's musical and social life and is being managed by Mrs. Wilson-Greene of Washington. Miss Anne Kinsolving is the secretary. Among those on the committee are Mrs. John W. Garrett and Mrs. Hugh Hampton Young.

Dr. and Mrs. R. Tunstall Taylor, who returned to their home, 11 Overhill Road, Guilford, some time ago, have been entertaining Hon. Barbara Bagot. Mr. and Mrs. William S. Hilles and their daughter, Miss Mary Catherine Hilles who occupied Dr. and Mrs. Taylor's residence while they were in Baltimore, have gone back to Villa Clemintina, their house at Cannes, France.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald L. Greenleaf, 7 Norwood Road, gave a tea on November 28, in honor of Mrs. Greenleaf's father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Van Zile of New York.

Mrs. David H. Fulton, 5 St. John's Road, gave a luncheon and bridge party on November 25.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Calvin Chesnut, 111 Ridgewood Road, Roland Park, have announced the engagement of their daughter, Miss Mary Mace Chesnut, to Stanley Carman Snow, of Philadelphia, son of Rear-Admiral and Mrs. Elliott Snow.

Mr. Snow is a graduate of Harvard University and Harvard Law School. He served in the navy during the war. Miss Chesnut is a graduate of the Roland Park Country School and also of Bryn Mawr College.

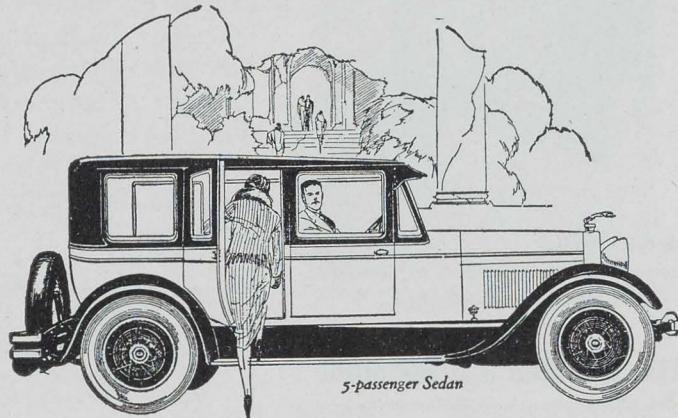
Mrs. George C. Smith, who was taken ill with pneumonia during a visit to Atlantic City, is recuperating at her home, 3911 Juniper Road, Guilford.

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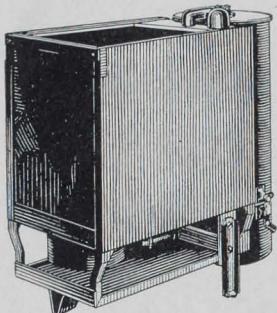
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INC.

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have done. Shown above, for example, is a Wells-Built home on Upnor Road, Homeland, only one of the many you will find in the District. See them for yourself, and then see us for the home you are planning to build. Perhaps, like many others, you want to be free from the countless details of building. In that case we can build you a home with all the details falling on our own organization—from submitting plans drawn by an approved architect, to installing screens in the windows and laying linoleum in the kitchen. Let us tell you about our complete-home service and give you an estimate. It will put you under no obligation, but it will put you in touch with an organization that builds homes of beauty, permanence and lasting satisfaction. Write for our illustrated booklet.

Wells-Built Garages are built like Wells-Built Homes—the same quality materials and the same careful construction. The prices for brick, stone, stucco or frame are reasonable. Call us for an estimate.

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Please send me your free book telling all about your revolutionary, labor saving method of modern house cleaning.

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GARDEN HINTS

IN putting the garden into final condition for the winter, one must not forget that the sort of protection some plants require will not be stood at all by others. Manure, for instance, is an excellent mulch for the bulb beds and most of the perennials, but it is almost sure to rot bearded iris. Cover the iris with leaves, which may be held down with branches or litter from the compost heap.

A Everything in the herbaceous border except plants that hold their leaves, should be cut back to the ground before mulching and the last covering should not be applied until the ground is solidly frozen. In the case of perennials that remain green, work the mulch around each plant but do not cover the leaves.

Tie up loose branches of climbing roses and before you start put on the thickest gloves you can get. The modern climbers are fiendishly equipped for self-defence. Not being content with mere thorns, some of them are armed with veritable daggers. Following a recent encounter, in which we were nearly torn to shreds, we decided never to go near one of the plagued things again without a full suit of chain armor.

The potted plants of the window garden not only need frequent spraying, but they should be fed regularly. There is nothing better, in our own experience, than Plantabbs and we have found that the easiest way of using them is to dissolve them in water, one tablet to a quart.

Always use tepid water on the house plants and give them as much fresh air as possible without creating a direct, cold draught.

Mrs. T. M. Maynadier writes us to suggest that sticks be placed in bird baths during the winter to prevent them entirely freezing over and, consequently, perchance cracking.

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Buy Gifts for Christmas.

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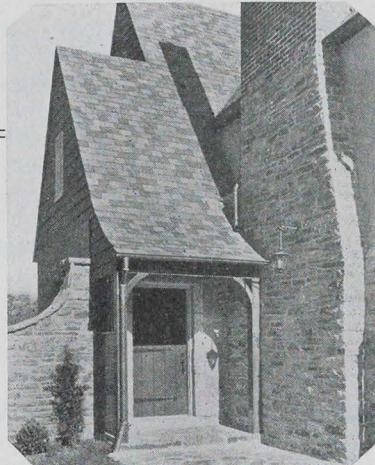
Where prescriptions are filled with the utmost accuracy, by thoroughly competent, registered pharmacists.

CHRISTMAS GIFT SUGGESTIONS are now on display in our various departments; Imported Perfumes, Perfumizers of rare and beautiful design, Compacts, delicious Candy attractively boxed, Safety Razors, Cigars, Cigarettes and many other articles which will make acceptable gifts.

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Detail of residence of Joseph Ward Sener, 200 Upnor Road, Homeland. Built by Wells

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WE could use double this space to tell you about Wells service to the home-builder, about the outstanding architecture and construction of Wells-Built homes. But after all, the best proof lies in the work we have done. Shown above, for example, is a Wells-Built home on Upnor Road, Homeland, only one of the many you will find in the District. See them for yourself, and then see us for the home you are planning to build. Perhaps, like many others, you want to be free from the countless details of building. In that case we can build you a home with all the details falling on our own organization—from submitting plans drawn by an approved architect, to installing screens in the windows and laying linoleum in the kitchen. Let us tell you about our complete-home service and give you an estimate. It will put you under no obligation, but it will put you in touch with an organization that builds homes of beauty, permanence and lasting satisfaction. Write for our illustrated booklet.

Wells-Built Garages are built like Wells-Built Homes—the same quality materials and the same careful construction. The prices for brick, stone, stucco or frame are reasonable. Call us for an estimate.

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HOMES - GARAGES

NEW MUSICAL CLUB

At a recent meeting of students of Gilman Country School, a Musical Club was organized. Armistead Rust was chosen president, "on account of his musical ability and the work he has done to organize this club." Donald Hooker, was made vice-president and Harrison Garrett was made secretary and treasurer.

The first steps, an announcement in *The Gilman News* stated, will be "a campaign to get the lower-formers interested in the orchestra." The definite object of the Club, it was added, was to cultivate interest in music and "get the ball rolling for a lasting appreciation of the same."

Note is made in the school paper that D. K. Bruce, son of United State Senator William Cabell Bruce, who recently resigned his post as Vice-Consul at Rome, and that Joseph L. Brent, who will leave the Vice-Consul-ship at Sault-Ste. Marie, Ontario, to enter the Foreign Service School in Washington, are alumni of Gilman.

THE PIRATES

GILBERT and Sullivan's "The Pirates of Penzance" was presented by the girls of the Roland Park Country School the night of December 10 in the school auditorium.

Miss Mary Leeke Dashiell and Miss Offutt were in charge of the scenery, Miss Jean Graham and Miss Katherine Knox handled the tickets, Miss Virginia Triplett and Miss Anne Poultney were costume and properties directors.

The principals were Miss Louise Shoemaker, Miss Polly Norris, Miss Isabel Hegner, Miss Margaret Nelson, Miss Sarah Miles, Miss Elinor McCurley, Miss Becky Dobbin, Miss Kitty Wirt Walker, Miss Anne White and Miss Virginia Porterfield.

Others who took part were Misses Betty Earle, Christine Rouse, Nancy Mitchell, Mary Louise Lockard, Annesley Baugh, Louise Mast, Margaret Wohnlich, Frances Beck, Barbara Potter, Louise Ogier, Henrietta McComas, Dorothy Smith, Helen Tunnell, Mary Page Haydon, Betty Miller, Frances Dornin, Virginia Thompson, Frances Morton, Frances Beck, Sarah Harrington, Virginia Bledsoe, Virginia Triplett, Anne Halliday, Katherine Field, Margaret Fayerweather, Mary Edwards and Sarah Dunlap.

The double French ranunculus is a small growing bulbous flower worth a trial. It is not perfectly hardy, however, and it may be advisable to postpone planting it, just as is the case with the French and Irish anenomes, until spring. Sometimes if they are in a protected spot and are thickly mulched they will winter safely. They like plenty of sunlight.

A GIFT

not necessarily costly, but ever desirable, expresses the very spirit of

"Good Will Toward Men"

DO you realize that in a few short days the *Holiday Season* will be with us—almost before we are aware of it? The time grows shorter and shorter and we delay our buying until at the last moment; must hurry out; buy of limited selections and not be able to obtain just what we wished to purchase.

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"Buy them early, before the Holiday Rush begins"

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Ladies' and Family Accounts solicited.

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PLANTABBS—a good food for all indoor plants.

VOLCK—a spray that kills white fly, aphids and scale on house plants.

SHEEP MANURE, COW MANURE and PEAT MOSS for enriching and bedding down the borders.

A touch of red is essential for the Christmas decorations. Nothing is more brilliant than Red Ruscus.

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VERSES BY CHILDREN OF
THE DISTRICT
ROSES

BY Florence Thornton, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. William M. Thornton, Jr., 2 Chancery Square, Guilford, written when she was nine. This poem first appeared in the *New York Herald-Tribune* and was latter put in the anthology of its Children's Section called The National Sunshine Club Annual.

I went out in the rose garden
To watch their snowy petals fall.
Surely they are fine enough for a fairy queen
To wear at a fairy ball.

Some are soft and red,
And some are soft and white.
What a shame that all their petals
Will have fallen by tonight!

I went out in the garden tonight.
The only rose left was deep red,
And behind the dark green bushes
I thought I saw a fairy's head.

And then in came a troop of fairies
With their queen at their head,
And they plucked the red, red rose
And went back to their mossy bed.

A MIDNIGHT DREAM

BY Betty Bennett, 11-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. B. Frank Bennett, 119 Upnor Road, Homeland. This poem appeared in the latest number of *The Scarlet and Gray*, Friends School magazine.

Listen, my children, and you shall hear
Of a midnight dream, so very clear.

I sat on the edge of a mossy hill,
So green and fresh—and such a thrill!

At my feet was a dear little lake,
It was made, I think, for only my sake.

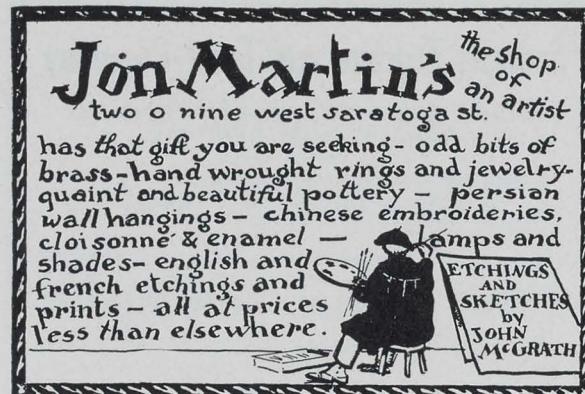
From an island came a bee,
And on its back was a child of three.

The child looked 'round and saw me there;
Quickly she flew up in the air.

I did not move, nor anything say,
So she came down in her sweet little way.

We talked and talked of many things—
Of fairy queens and rainbow wings.

Of princes and pages, a rocky stream—
When there it ended. Gone was my dream.



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If you are looking for a joy giving gift
you can find it in our shop. A plant
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flowers, brings brightness to the entire
household.

To add to the natural beauty of cut
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make beautiful and lasting remem-
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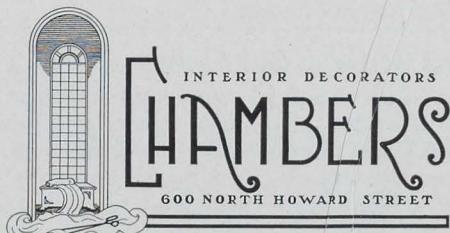


Christmas

That Happy and Joyful Season!

But—there is the ever difficult problem—
What shall I give Mother, Sister or Aunt?

Your gift problem will be quickly solved by
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Lamps	Chairs	Mirrors	Tapestries
Rugs	Desks	Clocks	Occasional Tables

and many other suggestions

"Our Customers Must Be Satisfied"

CHRISTMAS IN THE SCHOOLS

NO wonder children love Christmas! Santa Claus, Romance, Sentiment, Gifts—these might all be put into the discard by hard-hearted, cynical and frowning wretches, yet wouldn't there be still a whole blessed week of holiday in the "dead vast and middle" of the educational year when even the most brilliant mathematical genius is likely as not to consider Euclid something of a bore?

Now if there can only be some snow for sledding and ice for skating!

In all of the schools of The District there will be special Christmas entertainments and at most of them the boys and girls will not be thinking merely of themselves, either, since it is the annual custom for them to bring gifts of food, clothing and toys for children not so well off as they.

At the Country School and Calvert School

Tableaux Vivants will be a feature of the Christmas entertainment at the Roland Park Country School on December 23, and at Calvert School on December 21.

The Country School girls will pose in compositions after the old masters, the selection of subjects being confined to The Nativity and other episodes of the childhood of Christ. The gifts the students bring will be distributed among The Baltimore County Children's Aid Society, The Family Welfare Association, The Happy Hills Home and the Roosevelt Park Recreation Center.

The Calvert School entertainment will open with a Nativity Play, after which will come a representation of the Mediaeval Christmas and a modern Santa Claus play. Fifty or so small children will take part under the direction of Virgil Hillyer, the headmaster, and Miss Helen Knight, his assistant.

Each child will bring presents and baskets of food for distribution among the poor. The Henry Watson Children's Aid Society is one of the charities this school assists.

At the Girls' Latin School

The Girls' Latin School will hold its first Christmas celebration in its new home on Club Road, Roland Park, the evening of December 22. The program will consist of Christmas carols, sung around a beautifully decorated tree, short pageants of an appropriate nature and one-act plays. Special features will be a play with the faculty as the actors and the arrival of Santa Claus with a bag of gifts.

School closes the next day and resumes on January 9.

At Gilman

The Gilman School boys will start the Christmas holidays with the blessed knowledge that

Exams are behind them. Their vacation extends from December 20 to January 3.

A Christmas Dinner will be held as usual the night of the Twentieth. It will be given by the Upper School to the alumni and E. Boyd Morrow, the headmaster, will preside. On December 13 the boys of the Lower School assembled in the dining room to sing Christmas Carols.

At Roland Park Public School

All departments of the Roland Park Public School will take part in the Christmas entertainment on December 23. Miss Grace Fairbanks, the principal will be in general charge, assisted by her staff.

The children of the school are keenly enthusiastic over the gift for the school lawn of a Living Christmas Tree, which will be planted this year and decorated with colored lights during the holidays. Details of this gift will be found elsewhere in this issue.

At Friends School

Friends School, which is planning a new home at Wilson Field, its Homeland property, held its annual Christmas Bazaar and Supper on December 9. This event is the only means the School uses to raise money to support the different charities to which it subscribes. These include French War Orphans, The Community Fund, The Fresh Air and Milk and Ice Funds, Red Cross, McKim Kindergarten and the endowment of a bed at Union Memorial Hospital.

The Bazaar had such attractions as a brass table, a Grab Bag, handkerchief, pillow, flower, fancy article, art, doll, cake and candy tables. The Primary and Kindergarten departments had their booths, too, and the Senior and Junior Square, girls' organizations, presented special features. There was, further, a Foreign Country booth, a Ginger Bread Shop, a Fortune Teller and a play—Booth Tarkington's "Bimbo, the Pirate."

The Bazaar Committee consisted of Bebe Dreyer, Chairman; Ruth F. Wrightson, Faculty Chairman; Florence Tottle, Lucille Eley, Mary Clark, Margaret Smith, Van Lear Rogan, Evelyn Gisriel, Ida De Alba, Jessie Erdman, Ann Eley, Margaret Miller, Eleanor Foote, Dorothy Luebers, Isabelle King, Margaret Rawlings, Virginia Crunkleton, Anna Dorcas Eyler, Ellen Ann Dunham and Gaillard Frey.

Little School

The children at The Little School in Guilford are busily preparing for their Christmas play. They will present it at the school on December 21, the closing day for the Christmas vacation. School will reopen Monday, January 9.

Cadeaux Charmants

Do not give up the quest for something original---something out of the ordinary, until you have considered our Jewelry and gifts.

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Many times it's simply because Plantabbs, the little odorless plant food tablets, are not used. But F. F. Rockwell, noted horticulturist suggests lots of other causes in the special 32-page book he has written for us. Highly illustrated and brimful of interesting data about your plants and flowers it will be sent to anyone upon receipt of 4 cents to help cover postage, etc.

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A Letter to the House of Stieff from the **Stanley-Crandall Company** Direction Stanley Company of America Washington, D. C.

Chas. Stieff Piano Co.,
North Howard Street,
Baltimore, Md.

Gentlemen:

The Stieff pianos* that we are using in the theatre are superb as to the quality of tone and the action is wonderful. I have found in my past experience that the Stieff instruments have met my expectations to the greatest extent.

Both Mr. Depkin, the manager, and myself want to congratulate you upon putting out such a wonderful instrument.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) FELICE S. IULA
Musical Director, Stanley Theatre.

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HOMELAND GROUP READY

The group of twelve houses in Homeland on Taplow Road at Tilbury Way, designed by J. Winthrop Wolcott, architect, and built by Henry T. Sorrell and Son, which was started late last summer, has been virtually completed.

Mr. and Mrs. David Perine Platt, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Wharton Smith and their infant son (born November 12), and Mr. Smith's brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Wharton Smith have moved into their homes in this group and the remaining residences will all be occupied by spring.

The other owners are Mrs. O. Bird Bidwell, mother of Mrs. Harold Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Francis Symington, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas R. Symington, Jr.; Mr. and Mrs. William Coke, Mr. and Mrs. Philip Haxall Harrison, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Hoge, Mr. and Mrs. Sydney Doolittle, Mr. and Mrs. Robert V. Whitehurst, Mr. and Mrs. Walter W. Abell, II.

THE GARDEN CLUBS

AT the recent election of officers of the Guilford Garden Club, Mrs. Anna Geare, 12 Elmwood Road, was made president. Mrs. Richard Meade, 517 Roland Avenue, and Mrs. Parker Dix, 841 University Parkway, are the vice-presidents.

New features of Mrs. Geare's administration now under consideration are the organization of a Garden Library and the appointment of a Historian for the Club. The next meeting will be held late in January.

Mrs. Wilson Levering Smith's address at the November meeting created much favorable comment. She discussed the arrangement of flowers as a factor in interior decoration.

The Homeland Garden Club celebrated its first anniversary on December 12, at a meeting at the residence of Mrs. Hastings Hopkins, 316 Thornhill Road. Mrs. L. D. Cleveland, 117 Tunbridge Road, continues as president, other officers re-elected having been Mrs. Charles H. Schnepfe, Jr., vice-president; Mrs. Presley D. Bowen, treasurer; Mrs. B. Frank Bennett, secretary; Mrs. Chauncey Hall and Mrs. J. Ward Allison are new members of the Board. Mrs. David Perine Platt and Mrs. Randolph Fenton have been made members of the Club.

The Roland Park Garden Club held its December meeting on the twelfth at the home of Mrs. Heyward E. Boyce, the president, 4 Club Road.

Philadelphian to Speak

An address on "Rock Gardens and Perennials" will be given at Arundel Hall, February 16, by Richard Rothe of Philadelphia, under the auspices of local garden clubs, including those of The District.

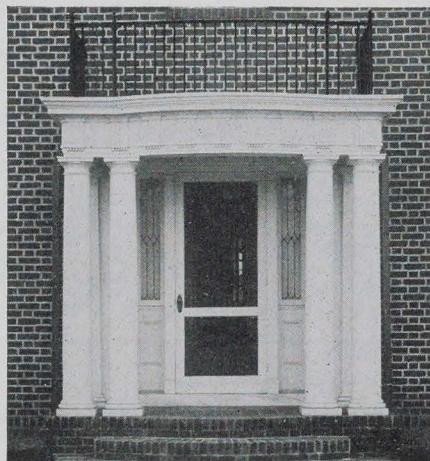
CHRISTMAS BOOKS FOR CHILDREN

MISS D. ROYALL RICHARDS, librarian of the Roland Park Branch of the Enoch Pratt Library, has selected the following Books in the Library's collection as particularly suitable for children's Christmas reading:

- | | |
|---|--|
| Alden..... | <i>Why the Chimes Rang.</i> |
| De la Ramie..... | <i>Dog of Flanders.</i> |
| Dickens..... | <i>A Christmas Carol.</i> |
| Dickinson..... | <i>Children's Book of Christmas Stories.</i> |
| Ewing..... | <i>Snap-Dragons, a Tale of Christmas Eve.</i> |
| Page..... | <i>Tommy Trot's Visit to Santa Claus.</i> |
| Page..... | <i>Santa Claus' Partner</i> |
| Pringle..... | <i>Yule-Tide in Many Lands.</i> |
| Skinner..... | <i>Little Folks Christmas Stories and Plays.</i> |
| Stein..... | <i>The Christmas Porringer.</i> |
| Thomas..... | <i>A Christmas Guest (a play).</i> |
| Wiggin..... | <i>The Bird's Christmas Carol.</i> |
| <i>The Christmas Eve of a Puppy, a Mouse and a Kitten</i> | |
| by Mittens (a cat). | |

GUILFORD CIVIC LEAGUE

An address on The Merit System was made by Oliver C. Short of the State Employment Commission, at the meeting of the Guilford Civic League held December 5, at the residence of Mrs. Robert F. Roberts, 4319 Charles Street. Mrs. Golden Shumate, 225 Wendover Road, President of the League presided. Meetings of the organization are being held regularly the first Monday of each month.



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CLUB GROWS

The Rodgers Forge Golf Club now has a membership of 318, among those who enjoy its facilities being many residents of The Roland Park-Guilford District. Three hundred and fifty members has been fixed as a limit and on December 1 the initiation fee was advanced to \$150. John E. Raine continues as president.

Many informal entertainments are being held constantly at this Club. On Thanksgiving a dinner was served and there will be a number of parties there during the Christmas holidays, culminating with a New Year's Eve dance.



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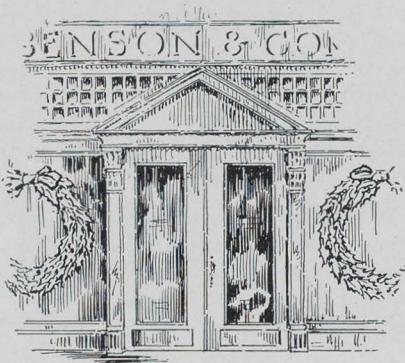
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THINGS DRAMATIC

DURING the last few weeks, changes have occurred in the Baltimore theatrical firmament which will bring about some innovations, which, we earnestly hope, will be to the good of all concerned. The Schubert attractions will move to the Maryland Theatre from The Auditorium and the Keith Vaudeville will move further down town, from The Maryland to The Garden.

Edwin Knopf is bringing a stock company to the Auditorium, which he has leased for two years. Mr. Knopf's top price during the regular season will be \$1.50. We hear there is a possibility that he will re-engage for a spring and summer season some of the people who made so many friends here while appearing at the Auditorium last summer—Douglass Montgomery, Eliot Cabot (who has made a hit in the New York production of "Coquette") Sylvia Fields, Robert Rendel, Doris Rankin and other delightful ladies and gentlemen.

The first Shubert booking at the Maryland is Leon Errol in "Yours Truly" for the week of December 26. We wish to congratulate the Messrs. Shubert on being able to retain the services of Leonard McLaughlin as the Maryland's manager. Mr. McLaughlin not only knows the theatrical field thoroughly, but he

knows Baltimore from A to Izzard—which is very important, especially where Izzard is concerned.

Looking back over the last month, several productions stand out clearly. The Guild's reading of Shaw's mordant satire, "The Doctor's Dilemma" was very accomplished. This is a tricky play; uncertain in its direction and only saved from sheer impossibility by Shaw's wit and his dramatic feeling—a feeling, by the bye, that is far stronger for climax than it is for continuity. The cast was, on the whole, excellent. Seldom indeed have we seen young actors do a more beautiful bit of work than Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne in the death scene. They lifted it into the realm of high poetry. It is good news to learn that The Guild is planning to return to Baltimore regularly for an annual season of two weeks. Wish they could make it more.

Mrs. Fiske was, to us, the outstanding figure in the all-star performance of "The Merry Wives of Windsor" at Ford's. Her *Mistress Page* was a typical Fiskian apotheosis of sly humor—a conception that it will be an enduring joy to look back upon. Miss Crossman's *Mistress Ford* had its familiar smoothness and accuracy of pitch; it, too, caught all of the role's potentialities for fun. Mr. Skinner, somehow or other, rather missed fire as Falstaff. His performance was admirable technically and from the scholarly viewpoint—but in our notion it was too tame and refined. The casting of the other roles was more than ordinarily efficient.

Other things coming to Ford's before the New Year are "She's My Baby," with the inimitable Beatrice Lillie, the week of December 19 and "Honeymoon Lane" the week of December 26.

CONSERVATION

VERY attractive and stimulative of idea, indeed, was the exhibition of Christmas decorations arranged by the Conservation Committee of the Garden Clubs, in cooperation with the Women's Civic League, to show the possibilities for beauty by using substitute materials the fast-disappearing holly, laurel and ground-pine.

The wreathes, which were shown in a downtown Charles Street window, made an impressively handsome appearance. Some were of natural evergreen cut from trees not threatened with extinction; others were entirely artificial. One of the most novel was ornamented with small potatoes shellaced and painted a cheerful red. This was entered by Mrs. Edward McKeon and was awarded a prize. Mrs. Cary Nalle, of the Guilford Garden Club, was among the prize winners. The judges were Mrs. John T. Love, Miss Mildred Murdoch and Miss Nancy Lee Webster, one of the junior landscape architects of the Roland Park Company.

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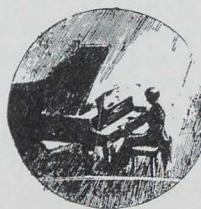
We have recently been engaged to build homes in Homeland for Mr. Guy T. O. Hollyday, sales manager of The Roland Park Company; Mr. William Kornmann and Mr. Ernest G. Walden.

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CHRISTMAS IN THE CHURCHES

THE custom of singing Christmas carols has grown rapidly during the last few years and as a result of the research into musical literature caused by the desire of musical directors of the churches to give their programs as much variety as possible, many rare old songs have been added to the chorister's repertoire.

These are sung as special numbers, the familiar carols without which no Christmas service would be complete, being used for congregational or for community singing where there are outdoor celebrations.

At the Guilford Community Church

One of these open air events will take place at Second Presbyterian Church, The Guilford Community Church, on Christmas Eve when carols will be sung around the Living Christmas Tree, which is just celebrating its first birthday. Douglas McComas, choir director of the Church, will direct, and the Choral Society will lead the singing.

On Christmas morning the pastor, Rev. Dr. Robert G. Leetch, will preach and in the evening the young people will present a special program. On December 16 the Sunday School will give a Nativity Play in the main auditorium of the church. About seventy will take part in the Pageant, which will be arranged by Miss Martha Parsons, director of young people's work. Gifts will be contributed for charitable distribution.

At St. David's

A Children's Festival will be held at St. David's Protestant Episcopal Church, Roland Park, Christmas Day at 4 P.M., following the celebration of Holy Communion at 8 A.M. and Communion and a sermon by the rector, Rev. Dr. S. Tagart Steele, at 11 A.M. At midnight Christmas Eve, the Choral Eucharist will be observed.

The annual St. David's Christmas Bazaar was held December 8 and 9, under the management of the Women's Guild, of which Mrs. William Sailer is president. Proceeds will be used for the benefit of church work.

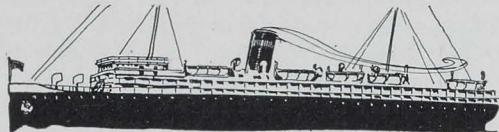
No successor to the late Eugene Wyatt, organist of St. David's has been chosen. Dr. Hobart Keech is serving during the interim.

At Roland Park Methodist Episcopal Church

The quartet choir at Roland Park Methodist Episcopal Church will sing anthems Christmas morning at 11 o'clock, preceded by a group of numbers to be played by May W. McCauley, organist, Vivienne Cordero Friz, violinist and Elizabeth K. Gawtrop, harpist.

The annual Candle Light Service will take place Christmas at 8 P.M. Mauder's Christmas Cantata, "Bethlehem" will be sung by an augmented choir. The regular quartet consists

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of Katherine S. Grinnalds, soprano; Nellie McFrederick, contralto; W. Elmer Riggan, tenor and Alfred C. VerValen, barytone. Others who will sing at the Candle Light Service are Edith Gwynn, soprano; Anne Baugher Marks, contralto; Douglas McComas, tenor and Harry Rosenberger, basso.

After January 8 the Roland Park Methodist Episcopal Church and Grace Methodist Episcopal Church will permanently unite for worship in the Roland Park Church.

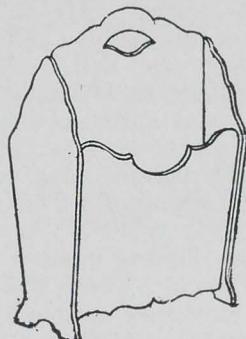
At University Baptist Church

William Gilbert Horn will sing solos at the Christmas services at University Baptist Church. Mr. Horn, who is one of the best known barytones of Baltimore, is musical director of this church. Mrs. Imogen R. Matthews is the organist and there is a volunteer choir.

Rev. Russell Bradley Jones, the pastor, will terminate his series of sermons on "Death, The Great Mystery," on December 18, when his subject will be "Questions Concerning the Dead in Christ."

At Roland Park Presbyterian

The Christmas program at Roland Park Presbyterian Church will start December 18, with a Pageant appropriate to the season in which a number of the young people will take part.



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A Magazine Holder attractively designed in soft clear wood. 21 inches high, 12 inches wide and 8 inches deep. Price \$3.45.

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Christmas night, Rev. J. W. Douglas, the pastor, will conduct a Candle-light service and carols will be sung.

Rev. Dr. Douglas' series of Sunday night sermons on "The Articles of The Apostles Creed" will be continued in January.

PROPAGATING FROM CUTTINGS

THE best amateur method, perhaps, for propagating grapes and roses is to make the cuttings now, bury them with the tips down and put four or five inches of earth over the upper end. Place a strong stake in the ground to serve as a marker and cover the spot with a heavy mulch of leaves or manure.

Well matured wood should be used and the cuttings should be tied together in bundles. The advantage of this method is that the wood calluses where it was cut and is ready to send out roots as soon as the cuttings are dug up and planted—of course, right side up—when the weather is sufficiently warm in the spring.

Many deciduous shrubs may also be propagated in this manner. In the case of conifers, the cuttings should be planted two or three inches deep in moist sand and kept in a light place where the thermometer will not drop below 45 degrees. After they have callused, they will need more heat in order to root properly.

A ROSE EXPERT'S LETTER

ARTHUR E. WARNER, president of the Maryland Rose Society, has written us a letter which we are happy to print. Mr. Warner's work for the Society has been of the most efficient kind and during his administration its membership has considerably increased. His letter is as follows:

"I note with great interest, the beautifying of homes from the landscape angle, as published by your Magazine.

"It is very gratifying, indeed, to notice the interest your community is taking in this direction. I, for one, believe no landscape designs are complete without the Queen of all flowers—the Rose, and no doubt you will be gratified to know the great percentage of membership of the Maryland Rose Society is coming from Guilford, Roland Park and Homeland.

"The Society not only has interested your communities but has spread its influence through the entire City and many sections of our State, boasting now of a membership of three hundred and seventy. You readily can see the wieldling influence of such an organization which has for its aim the cheerfulness of a garden.

"The rose exhibition which takes place annually at the Woman's Club of Roland Park has been a great educator and creates enthusiasm which spreads delight with every lover of flowers. Not only this, but through the channels of the Society thousands of roses find their way into the hospitals and sick homes of our City.

"May our Society enlist your support and the support of our evening papers until Baltimore will be known as one of the great centers for roses growing throughout our land.

"This is the season when we are wondering how to care for the rose in order to have it come back to us in the spring in all its matchless glory.

"The Hybrid Tea is not a rose which can fight its way through heavy winter without protection, especially during zero weather, and while this latitude does not have much zero weather, we must be prepared should it come. We should hill up around the bush as much soil as possible without interfering with roots of other bushes. After hilling up of earth, strawy manure should be used plentifully to fill up exposed places from which dirt was taken. This should be left alone until freezing weather is over in the Spring, say about March 15 to 25.

"I do not advise pruning much in the Fall as very cold winters often do their share of pruning. If we care for our roses as though we were interested in their coming to us again, we must do for them what they are unable to do for themselves and that is to protect them as far as possible against very rough weather. Where very bleak winds have access to your roses, a very good idea is to put wind breaks on the west side, and sometimes entirely around the bed, two feet high."

RANDOM JOTTING

Since Pavel Jerdanovitch confessed that he was no such thing, but Paul Jordan Smith, Los Angles author, and that the weird and crazy canvases with which he won "fame" were a fake, there is nothing left for art critics to do but take a preventive course in the Russianizing of English names.

Little did those who hailed "Jerdanovitch" as a discovery realize just how much of a one he was going to be. Poor things! How must they feel? Still they can always say in self-defense that it was an authentic case of dual personality and that as Jerdanovitch, Smith painted better than he knew.

Meanwhile, as Mr. Wells would say, they had all better offer prayer lest a plague of confession fall among modernist fakirs.

ABOUT BOOKS

CRUDE" (Payson and Clarke) is the first novel of an evidently gifted young American writer and as such it has attracted quite a bit of attention. Robert Hyde, the author, shows thorough familiarity with his *mise en scène*—the Western oil fields. The chief fault of the book, as we see it, lies in its physical aspects, due to an over-indulgence in technical phraseology. Its chief merit—and it is a very considerable merit that makes one anticipate big things for Mr. Hyde's future—is the evidence it shows of insight into mental states and ability to project them and endow them with vitality.

The episode dealing with the feelings and emotional reactions of a youth while he is being lowered, head-down, into an oil well to clear away wreckage caused by a shiftless brother, is almost startlingly revealing—one of the best things of the kind we have recently encountered in an American novel. It is a subjective fragment of no mean importance, sufficient in itself to make the book worth while. The portraiture of the novel is uneven and lacks the touch of certitude.

Mr. Hyde is the son of the well-known artist, Robert Hyde, whose beautiful illuminations have won hosts of admirers wherever they have been shown. The senior Mr. Hyde used to exhibit with the Baltimore Handicraft Club in its early days and has many friends here.

"Trees at Night" by Art Young is a collection of black and white drawings of varying degrees of technical worth and interest. At times they are charming, at others they are fantastic or grotesque. Occasionally the "imagery" is far-fetched but the work, on the whole, is characterized by poetic conception.

This and the remaining books of our present review list, bear the Boni and Liveright imprint.

"Samples" is an anthology of short stories compiled by Lillie Ryttenberg and Beatrice Lang. The selection is excellent, comprising as it does characteristic stories by such writers as Sherwood Anderson, Conrad Bercovici, Dorothy Canfield, Willa Cather, Theodore Dreiser, Edna Ferber, Ernest Hemingway, Elinor Wylie and John Galsworthy—to mention a few.

"Civilization or Civilizations" is the attempt of E. H. F. Goddard and P. A. Gibbons, to present a concise interpretation of Oswald Spengler's philosophy of history, notably as outlined in his much talked about "The Decline of the West." If you want to know something about Spengler and his abstruse theorizing, but can't stand direct literary contact with him, this is the book you need. An admirable feature is the frank introduction by F. C. S. Schiller, who warns one that "it is probably better to take Spengler's ideas as interesting suggestions rather than as established dogmas."

"Ballyhoo," by Silas Bent, has it as its subtitle "The Voice of the Press." Herein is depicted graphically, often amusingly, The Fall of Journalism. By all means read it if you are interested in the whys and wherefores of screaming headlines, and journalistic exploitation of criminals and Bathing Beauties, in the explanation of the "acres" of white paper a Roumanian or a Hollywood Queen, to say nothing of a Channel Mermaid, can obtain for free publicity; in the causes of Tabloids and the obscene invasion of privacy practised by the less scrupulous sheets.

Such a book could only have been written by a thoroughly seasoned and well-equipped reporter. Not one in ten thousand could have handled the subject as ably or would have dared approach it so fearlessly.

From Ballyhoo to the Lyric Muse is a wide jump, but the slim volume of verse by Kathleen Millay is worth it. Miss Millay is the hitherto unknown sister of the famous Edna St. Vincent, but that fact need not influence one's opinion of her "The Evergreen Tree". It is quite capable of standing upon its own merits. The poems it contains are fragile embodiments of fugitive moods and impressions and if they are at times imitative (not so much of sister as of others), there is a clear light in them, a fine sense of cadence and melody and many a poignant touch.

The Black and Gold Library has been enriched by the addition of the Satyricon of Petronius, adapted from Firebaugh's translation; "Il Pentamerone" by Giambattista Basile, translated by Sir Richard Burton and The Dialogues of Plato, edited, with an Introduction, by Prof. W. C. Green of Harvard.

These are beautiful books from the standpoint that takes account of binding, typography and presswork. The only one of the three that needs further comment is "Il Pentamerone." This work, while scarcely known at all to the general reading public, is by no means obscure. It has long been held in high esteem by the bibliophile and the connoisseur of erotica. Basile lived in the early part of the 17th century and this collection of stories was first published in Naples in 1637.

As curious as anything we have lately come across from the hand (or rather soul), of a writer of established reputation is Sherwood Anderson's "New Testament." It consists of a very jerky and inarticulated collection of autobiographical notes, sketches and mere jottings. Taken altogether they throw considerable light upon Mr. Anderson's temperament and intellect from the behaviouristic viewpoint; as conduct-commentaries that leave one guessing. There is much herein that is frank, much that is sensitive and much that is reserved; things that have the power of fine poetry—and a great deal that is stylistically infuriating.

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And . . . we know that we will please the person who receives us at Christmas time (even the humblest of us is sure of it) . . . just as much as it will please you to come in and see us.



We are truly so charming that you will want to buy gifts like us for everyone on your list . . . and there are so many of us . . . for so many uses . . . that your Christmas shopping can be easily and satisfactorily completed in the attractive studios of the

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School Bus Service for Homeland Residents

School Bus Service for Homeland children was inaugurated the beginning of November. This service is provided by The Roland Park Homeland Company, in the interest of Homeland and its residents and furnishes direct means of getting the boys and girls to and from the Roland Park Public School. This terminus is easily accessible to other schools in the neighborhood.

The bus, which is operated by a driver employed by The Company, makes two trips each school day.

The Company expects to continue this service until June 30, 1930, reserving the right to discontinue it before that date, if conditions no longer make it necessary, or for any reason it considers adequate.



Photo by Willard R. Culver

The Roland Park Company

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