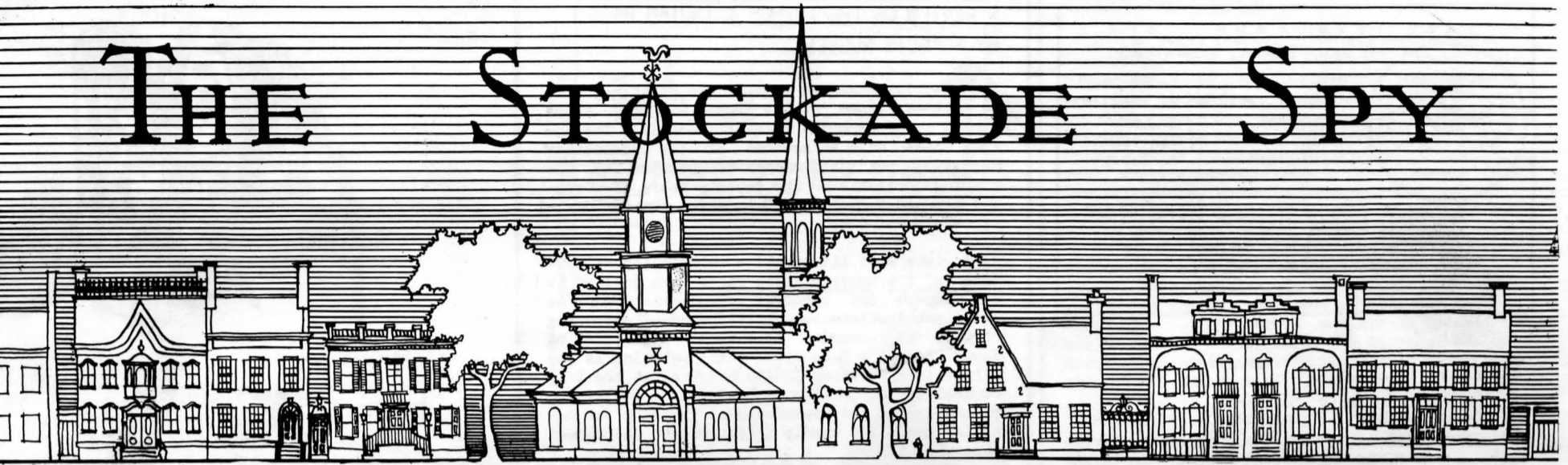


THE STOCKADE SPY



VOLUME IV NUMBER 1

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MILDRED COHEN PURCHASE PRIZE AWARDED

The Mildred Radliff Cohen purchase prize of \$100 was awarded for the first time at the Outdoor Art Show this fall. It was shared by Stockader George Weinheimer for his India ink sketch of "Two Giraffes" and by Katherine Fox, for her oil painting "Monterey Cypress". The prize was awarded by Ernest A. R. Cohen in memory of Mrs. Cohen who was long active in Stockade affairs.

The paintings will be hung in corridors of Riverside School, in accordance with Cohen's wish. Riverside principal, Robert Van Buren accepted the paintings at the show. Judges were Miss Ethelwyn Cooke, supervisor of art for Schenectady public schools who resides at 11 North Church Street; Walter Reagles, retired director of the General Electric Co. art department; and Dr. John Bradbury, Union College professor of humanities, who lives at 213 Green Street.

AT THE PLAYHOUSE

The Civic Playhouse has announced its 1963-64 scheduling of productions. The first production is Tennessee Williams' classic A Streetcar Named Desire which will be given each evening October 21 through 26. The season will follow with The Boy Friend, The Miracle Worker, Shot in the Dark and No Time for Sergeants, in that order.

Mrs. George Braden is editor of the Playbill this year and Mrs. Constance Sitz and Joseph Fava will assist in that department as well. Joseph Fava is also general chairman of Props for the season. Miss Irene Marmer of Green Street will direct The Miracle Worker in January.

Major renovation of the first floor Playhouse facilities - Green room, kitchen, rest-rooms and meeting room - are complete. Mr. Robert Jetter, chairman of the Executive Committee would like to encourage all individuals interested in the varied activities of theatre production to offer their services. Set construction, set painting and make-up are areas seriously in need of support - no experience necessary, 393-2408.

FIRST WARD POLITICAL NOTEBOOK

On November 5 this year the voters of the First Ward will elect their only direct representative to government. The importance of the office of Supervisor on the County Board of Supervisors to our interests can not be overestimated. The candidates are:

Republican Incumbent - - - Stephen Dougall
Democratic Candidate - - - Roger Kambour

All newcomers to the area, and residents who have changed addresses within the area are urged to register at their respective polling places on either October 3th or October 5th, special local registration days. Registration is also open at the Commissioner of Elections Office in the Picotte Building on Liberty Street on any business day up until October 5th. No registrations can be made after that date. A residence requirement of One year in New York State and in turn a three month residence in the County must be fulfilled before one is allowed to vote for this County Office.

ETV PLANS DOCUMENTARY

Channel 17, the Educational Television Station located in Riverside School, has begun work on a Documentary of the Stockade. The "Walkabout" this fall was used as a visual focus for the presentation although the complete script for the program is not complete to date. The Stockade Association and the Historical Society have underwritten the cost of the magnetic tape used in the recording process. A joint committee representing the two associations, consisting of Mr. John Miller, Mr. John Elsbree, and Mr. James Schmitt is serving to assist the station in the writing of the script as well as to approve the final program which is not expected to be completed before January first of next year. The Association will consequently own a film of this presentation which will be made available to interested organizations.

FOURTH WALKABOUT HELD

On Saturday, the 28th of September, the fourth Walkabout of Old Schenectady was held. It was jointly sponsored by the County Historical Society and the Stockade Association with Mrs. Lavinia Shanklin as general chairman. The homes which were open on this tour included those of Mrs. A. Wayne Merriam, 19 Washington Avenue; Mr. and Mrs. James Baar, 22 North Church Street; Mr. Ernest A.R. Cohen, 27 Front Street; Professor and Mrs. John Bradbury, 211-213 Green Street; Mr. and Mrs. Giles van der Bogert, 27 North Ferry Street; Mr. James Schmitt, 17 North Ferry Street; Miss Mildred Ey, 14 North Ferry Street; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Holden, 220 Union Street; Mr. and Mrs. Ferris P. Copper and Mr. and Mrs. James Saunders, 224 Union Street; Mr. Marvin Freedman, 241 Union Street; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Jackson, 3 Washington Avenue; and Professor and Mrs. H. Gilbert Harlow, 17 Front Street. Three churches, the First Reformed, First Presbyterian and St. George's Episcopal also were included on the "Walkabout Tour" in addition to the Historical Society building at 32 Washington Avenue, where tea was served from 2:30 to 5 p.m.

General William H. Milton, Jr., President of the Stockade Association, appeared on the Martha Brooks program over WGY Tuesday of the week preceding the tour as part of an interview relating to the event. Extensive coverage by the local newspapers publicized the tour and Historical Societies throughout the Up-state New York area were notified. About 100 people traveled from Rochester, New York for the occasion and residents of Albany and Troy were present.

Walton House, of the First Reformed Church, served as headquarters for a baby-sitting service offered to interested parents. (A complete list of committee workers and hostesses for this important event will be recorded in the October issue of the Spy).

FIRST WARD WORKS FOR NEW CENTRAL LIBRARY

As part of the county-wide effort to gain public support for a new central Library in the urban renewal area of Schenectady, petitions to this effect were circulated in the First Ward. Dr. Marshall Lapp directed the work in this area. Approximately 25% of the registered voters in the First Ward signed these petitions which, according to Dr. Lapp, indicates substantial support for the measure. Assisting Dr. Lapp directly were: Dr. Catherine Brackett, Mrs. Virginia Kambour, Miss Mary Jane Van Voast, Mr. and Mrs. John Zegger, Mr. and Mrs. F. William Walker, and Mrs. George Braden.

Miss Bernice Hodges of North Ferry Street and a former librarian, has personally circulated over 10 petitions (each contains 19 signatures). At an afternoon meeting held on August 7th at Miss Hodges' home, neighborhood friends were invited to hear Mr. Charles White of the Library Board of Trustees speak about the need for a new central library. Mrs. Chris De Rise, and Mrs. Mildred Serrell who attended this meeting have also circulation petitions. Others attending the meeting who have given support to the effort were: Mrs. Harold Wheatley, Mrs. Lewis Navias, Mrs. Henry Hutton, Miss Brackett and Mrs. Kambour.



Village Art Show ~ Saturday, September 7

'Walkabout' Sets Record

750
paid admissions

THE STOCKADE SPY

29 1/2 Front Street, Schenectady.



EDITOR V. Kambour
 BUSINESS MANAGER D. Wheatley
 ART EDITOR H. Kested
 ADVERTISING J. Van Voorhis
 CIRCULATION A. George

Published by the Stockade Association

PRESIDENT W.H. Milton, Jr.
 SECRETARY E. Staffa
 TREASURER J. Caruso

BULLETIN PROJECTS
 REFRESHING VIEW OF STOCKADE

The September 1963 quarterly bulletin of the Schenectady County Historical Society is a 24-page pamphlet replete with 27 photographs devoted entirely to "Schenectady's Historic District". Mr. John Miller, editor of the publication, should be congratulated for a refreshing approach to the Stockade as it is, complete with "handsome Victorian residences". Emphasis is laid on the atmosphere of the district as a whole not on the singular importance of any one very early dwelling. Significant buildings throughout the area are included in the presentation and distinct evidence of treasures east of the Indian happily destroys what artificial distinction there was to living west of him. Examples of the particular architectural styles chosen for pictorial and verbal description are appropriately different and no less important than examples chosen for earlier publications in this vein. All Stockade residents certainly will find it most informative and visitors to the area most helpful as a guidebook.

- V. Kambour

(Individual copies of the bulletin may be purchased at the Historical Society on Washington Avenue). The drawing below is reproduced from the cover of the publication and the editor of the Spy would like to title it - A Very Recent View of North Ferry Street.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

I was delighted to note two references to "Cucumber Alley" in the June issue of The Spy. It is encouraging to find that I am not alone in preferring this to the "West Front Street" appellation dreamed up by some churl about 10 years ago.

It was shocking to find the "Cucumber Alley" sign replaced by "West Front Street" a few years ago, but people just didn't seem to understand me when I complained about it. I keep forgetting to look at the sign when I am downtown these days, but I do hope that you enterprising stock-aders have torn down the "new" sign and restored Cucumber Alley to its rightful place.

Sincerely,
 Jonathan Pearson III

June 18, 1963

A REVIEW OF THE FRENCH & INDIAN WARS
 BY FRANCIS RUSSELL

Recently presented by American Heritage, this is another volume of its Junior Library, which should be of especial interest locally. The author opens with an account of the Schenectady Massacre, put into proper perspective as the opening incident of the seventy years of struggle between Britain and France for the dominance of this continent.

Replete with illustrative material (about seventy of its hundred fifty pages are devoted to the superb and colorful reproductions such as these publications are noted for), its opening chapter is preceded by a double-page print of Samuel Sexton's Massacre. This painting is familiar to many of us in its original at the Historical Society, but it has been so skillfully photographed and reproduced as to bring out details which are hardly noticeable to the casual observer.

This book has been written with youthful readers in mind, but it has much to offer the more mature. The author's style stresses dramatic anecdote and colorful description but the wonder of it is not so much the retelling of our history as the skillful using of available pictorial material, drawn from many a museum, library and collection located in at least a dozen states and three foreign countries.

Incidents of violence and vengeance are not overlooked, but these are not dwelt on, just mentioned incidentally. Famous personalities such as Frontenac and Montcalm, Wolfe and Washington, Braddock and Sir William Johnson are treated fully. Engagements at Louisbourg and Ticonderoga, Quebec and Deerfield, together with breathless escapes of heroines and legendary exploits of heroes, all help set the fast pace which Mr. Russell creates in this thoroughly readable history.

- J.W. Joyce

REGISTRATION AT ART SHOW TOPS 100

This year, 154 individuals with paintings or sculpture in tow registered to exhibit their efforts at the 12th Annual Outdoor Art Show. The exhibit included over 1,000 pieces as compared with last year's 800 pieces and 101 exhibitors. The exhibit area was from necessity expanded and spread farther down Front Street each way and Ferry Street each direction from the Indian and included portions of Green Street.

General chairman of this year's show was James V. Gilliland, Art faculty member at Linton High School. The Executive Committee included Ernest A. R. Cohen, Paul Mahoney, Arthur Covert, Mrs. Elisabeth Quinn, and John Watrous.

Invitations: Mrs. Elizabeth Perkins, chairman, Mrs. Ann George, Mrs. Barbara Weinheimer, Miss Marion Duffy; telephone; Miss Lulu Whitmyer, chairman, Miss Virginia Mure, Miss Mary Van Voast, Miss Esther Kalis, Miss Frances Baginski, Miss Duffy.

Registration and reception; Mrs. Edna Shuler, chairman, Mrs. Sophia Kalis, Miss Ann Spinnler, Mrs. Rosemary Mauriel, Miss Gertrude Naylor, Mrs. Virginia Kambour, Miss Jane Cohen, Mrs. Tressa Gilliland, Mrs. Alice Colangelo, Mrs. Josephine Braden, Miss Eleanor Jaeger, Miss Patricia Herbert, Miss Vivian Verchereau, Miss Blanche Sanzo, Miss Lynn Cowden, Mrs. Maria Westerlund, Mrs. Mildred Kunkelmarm, Miss Kalis, Miss Baginski, Miss Whitmyer, Mrs. Weinheimer.

Properties: E. George Weinheimer, chairman, Robert George, Frederick Monks, George Staffa, William Kane, Santino Lando, Frank Harvey, James Lane, Nicholas Colangelo, Joseph Fava.

The reception in the courtyard of St. George's Episcopal Church for visitors to the Art Show was handled by Mrs. S.A. Martin as chairman, assisted by Mrs. A. Winslow Paige, Mrs. Giles van der Bogert, Mrs. Macon A. Abbitt, Mrs. Don Mohr, Mrs. Lawrence Hawkins, Mrs. Clarence Bailey and Mrs. Theodore McIlwaine.

This year a map of the exhibit area was posted near the registration table and the location of individual Artists' exhibit area was noted. Watrous prepared the map skeleton and Mrs. Braden lettered the locations.



recent paintings by

James V. Gilliland

of the oak room artists
 hotel van curler
 schenectady, new york

september 15 to october 12, 1963

NEW PRINCIPAL FOR RIVERSIDE

Perhaps one of the most important qualifications for a successful elementary school teacher and a qualification that is often overlooked, is that he like children, for children are quick to recognize a kindred spirit and respond accordingly. Robert Van Buren, the new principal at Riverside School, conveys this enthusiasm for the younger generation in a number of ways. As a father of five, he considers his most important job at Riverside is to get to know the children. This knowledge, he feels, serves as a very important foundation for effective teaching programs.

The mother of his five young children, 3 girls and 2 boys, is Mrs. June Van Buren, formerly a teacher herself; the family lives at 1204 Highbridge Road. Before coming to Riverside Mr. Van Buren taught for 6 years at the Lincoln School, and for one year at the Grout Park School. He has taught all the elementary school grades, three consecutive years were spent, moreover, as a first grade teacher. His formal education was obtained from Hartwick College in Oneonta, and the State University at Oneonta where he was awarded his Master of Science in elementary school education. Mr. Van Buren enjoys sports as a spectator in most and a participant in golf and bowling. He is also active in the Highbridge Civic Association.

WELCOME TO THE STOCKADE COMMUNITY

STOCKADE TOURS

Sixteen tours have been given since June first, bringing the total to thirty-one. Many of these have been club groups of newcomers as well as loyal residents interested in knowing about and seeing what's behind these weathered walls. There were families entertaining out-of-town guests too.

The guides are gratified by the response and feel the Tours are increasingly popular. The Tour brochure was sent to the county schools to interest new teachers, as well as to encourage class field trips.

STOCKADE TOURS

By Appointment

Apply Hotel Van Curler FR 4-4431

Well informed guides will conduct walking tours of 8 - 12 people through our Historic Area. This community service is available seven days a week during day-light hours.

Donation of 50c (25c twelve years or under)

Tours will start at Hotel Van Curler and take about an hour

FRIENDS OF THE STOCKADE

Mrs. J. W. Joyce, Chairman

EX 3-8622

TIDINGS



Professor and Mrs. James Underwood are living at 111 North Ferry Street. Professor Underwood is on the Political Science faculty at Union College. Miss Ruth Roberts, an employee of Wallace's is living at 145 Front Street. Mr. and Mrs. James Nolan of 43 Washington Avenue are new residents. Jim is on the faculty at Linton High School. Another new teacher in our area is Miss Eva McClure at 9 Union Street. Mr. and Mrs. David C. Prince have taken an apartment at 58 Washington Avenue and Mrs. Henry V. Erben will shortly move into the former Prince residence at 50 Washington Avenue. Mr. and Mrs. James Manley and family have moved to an apartment at 31 North College Street from their Washington Avenue location.

Mrs. James C. Cooper and son James C. Cooper, Jr. are new residents at number 1 Washington Avenue. At Number 11 Washington is Mr. Lee Westall, a General Electric employee from North Carolina; and Miss Gertrude Duncan who is a librarian. At Number 13 Washington is Dennis and Stephen Bender, (brothers); the former is Manager of Smart Set Coiffures and the latter an employee of Bankers Life Insurance Company. Mr. and Mrs. Van der Bogert Shanklin have purchased a home on North Street and will move there soon with their two children. Mr. Shanklin, son of Mrs. Lavinia Shanklin of 109 Union Street, is a banking executive.

At 238 Union Street we welcome Mr. Robert Schafer, and Marshall and Judith Munson. Marshall is a senior at Union College and Judy works for the "Y" in Albany. Also on Union Street at 231 are Janet and Edward Abramson who came from California, with a young daughter. Mr. George Sweeney, an Alco employee is a new resident at 219 Union Street.

Mr. Jack Towe, a G.E. employee, lives over Arthur's, and Ronald and Sandi Grueberg with a new baby, Lisa Richele, live at 201 Green Street over Van Voast's. Ronald is on sabbatical from the faculty at Potsdam State Teachers to obtain a doctorate in psychology at Albany State Teachers College and is a professional musician as well. Miss Patricia Herbert, a school principal, lives at 107 Front Street.

Susan and Sally Harlow have returned to Plattsburg State Teachers College for the academic year. Mr. and Mrs. Philip St. John celebrated their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary early in September. They have recently returned from a trip to Chattanooga, Tennessee where their oldest son will attend the University there. While in Tennessee they visited with friends. Miss Irene and Phyllis Marmein will shortly move to 238 Green Street from Washington Avenue. Their new apartment is being renovated by Paul Schaefer. Mr. and Mrs. Harold Wheatley won a red ribbon for their display at the Eastern Federation of Gem and Mineral Societies annual show at Lake Placid, and an Honorable Mention for jewelry at the Cooperstown Art Institute. Ensign William D. Cohen is on board the USS Prevail which is on maneuvers in the Caribbean. His wife Barrie is with her family, Major General and Mrs. Francis Billado of Burlington, Vermont. Mr. and Mrs. Victor Girard of North Ferry Street entertained Mr. Girard's brother, Rene Girard and his wife, from Montreal, Canada on the weekend of the Outdoor Art Show.

ART BULLETIN

Information on the variety of art activities throughout the Adirondack area is being gathered by the Old Mill Art Center at Elizabethtown for inclusion in an art bulletin to be published every two weeks from June 15, 1964 through the summer months. Individuals interested in submitting their names to a mailing list, should write to the Old Mill Art Center of the Adirondacks, Elizabethtown.

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BROOMS AND SHAWLS

In the years preceding the eighteen-eighties, Schenectady was a small town, contented, and homogenous. In 1870 Nott Terrace was the eastern limit of the thickly settled portion. Engine Hill (later Mont Pleasant) was a village of 150 inhabitants in the town of Rotterdam. Just beyond was a settlement of perhaps 100 inhabitants, where Altamont Avenue crosses the New York Central tracks, known as Mohawkville.

The government census of 1880 gave Schenectady a population of 13,655. State Street, then shaded with great elms, was a business street below the railroad, although there were a number of residences there. Above the railroad tracks the north side of the street was mainly devoted to businesses as far as Lafayette Street, but the south side contained the residences of many of the leading citizens.

While the Schenectady Locomotive Works, always known locally as the "Big Shop" was the town's chief industry, there was a greater diversity of manufacturing at that period than in later history. In the seventies Joel W. Jones had a large tannery on the banks of the Cowhorn Creek, east of Lafayette Street, and Taylor Johnson conducted a flourishing brickyard on the location of the late Nott Terrace school. In 1840 George Westinghouse invented a threshing machine. He moved to Schenectady and later the Westinghouse Agricultural Works, on the site of the International General Electric Company's building, became one of the town's most important industries. The Jones Car Works, building street-cars, occupied ground west of the foot of Broadway hill.

There were three knitting mills. One on Brandywine, one on the corner of Ferry and Erie Streets, and one on Dock Street. The latter eventually moved to Front and Erie Canal where it was operated by the Alpha Knitting Company. John Wiederhold and Company, makers of muslin underwear, were located on Broadway, at the foot of Hamilton Street. Coraline, one of the earlier experiments in the making of celluloid was manufactured in the same neighborhood until the factory blew up. The Kilmer Wireworks on Dock Street, manufacturing bale wire, was an important industry.

The Mohawk flats were at this time an undulating sea of waving broomcorn and Schenectady was the chief centre of the manufacture of brooms and brushes in the United States. When the growing of broomcorn in Kansas reached proportions that enabled the western growers to undersell those in the Mohawk valley, it ceased to be an important crop here.

On South Church Street was Roy's Shawl Factory. When Shawls went out of fashion as an article of feminine attire, this factory continued to make woolen cloth. Clute Brothers' foundry started in 1840 on land bordering the Erie Canal between Liberty and Union Streets. Here were made the engines that propelled the Monitor in its battle with the Merrimac off Hampton Roads on March 9, 1862. (It is claimed.)

Altogether, Schenectady was a good place to live. Everybody knew everybody else, the town was quiet, there were not many amusements and people spent their evenings around the family fireside. Such "shows" as there were, came to Anthony Hall, at Ferry and Liberty Streets, and afterward to Union Hall at State and Jay Streets. Circuses exhibited at the County Fair Grounds east of Hulett Street. The Mohawk River was the City's playground, bathhouses were large and fairly well equipped and the River near the City supplied good fishing, with small-mouth bass and pike abundant.

Schenectady's mayors and city fathers served without pay and elevation to these positions was an honor. The city had no slums, very few poor, and an air of contentment pervaded it. Union College Commencement was the social event of the Year. Much as we pride ourselves on the busy, progressive Schenectady of today, many recall with nothing but pleasant memories the Schenectady that passed with the early eighties.

- adapted from an article in Pathways of Time by Hon. T. Low Barhydt, Mayor of Schenectady, 1877-8.



YWCA PROGRAMS

The Schenectady YWCA, in addition to its regular program of classes, provides many other activities open to the public. Special activities starting in October include:

Language Luncheons, Tuesdays - 12 - 1 p.m. October 1 - November 29, provide an opportunity to listen and converse in French, Spanish, or German. Each table's conversation will be led by a person fluent in the language and culture. Participants may pick up a tray in the YW Cafeteria and join the group of their choice. Men and women are welcome.

Informal Social Luncheons with a half-hour program (piano, drama, interpretive dance, etc.) will be held on Wednesdays, 12 - 1 p.m., October 2, 16, 30 and November 6. The first program will present the talented Louise Heinmiller in several short dramatic sketches. There will be tables in the YW living room for two, four, or more. Trays may be picked up in the cafeteria. The public is cordially invited. There is no charge for the program.

The Armchair Travel Series, a popular family program at the YW, will begin on Friday evening, October 4, at 7:30. The program on October 4th will feature Africa. Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Helwig will show slides of south and east Africa. Elisha Orwa, a student at Linton High School, will describe his native country, Kenya, and play African drums. Free to YM or YW members and their families, the Armchair Travel Series is open to non-members for a nominal charge.

Another popular family activity at the YWCA is Family Nite in the Pool, Fridays at 7:30-8:30 p.m. This activity is open to the families of both members or non-members.

Three short term classes starting in October are now open for registration at the YWCA.

Antiques Abroad, a five week course taught by Mrs. Elva Mylroie, will start on Tuesday, October 1, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Interior Decorating, with Mrs. Patty Ver Sluis as instructor, will meet for five Wednesdays, 9:30-11:30 a.m., starting October 2.

Advanced Bridge, a six weeks course for amateurs who wish to play like pros, taught by Mrs. Inga Horn, will meet on Tuesdays, 9:30-11:30 a.m. starting October 8.

Call the YWCA for a brochure containing information on all 1963-64 activities and classes. The YWCA provides a nursery for children (1 - 5 years) on Wednesday and Thursday mornings for members attending classes. - Mrs. L. Petersen

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PROPERTY IMPROVEMENTS CONTAGIOUS

There is small need for an 'eye in the key-hole' to record the list of houses which have undergone a face lifting. There have been so many homes which have received a new coat of paint or more in the last 6 months that it has been difficult to keep the list up to date. On a stroll up Ingersoll Avenue alone to report on all the bright new faces would be difficult for writer as well as reader. Let it be said, however, that all who have contracted this apparently contagious but happy disease, congratulations and thank you from most appreciative neighbors. Now that winter is fast approaching there will be fond memories of the lovely flower boxes in windows and on front stoops, that added flecks of bright color to the neighborhood this summer.

The appearance of the Indian Park, decked in red geraniums, has been something of which we could be proud. The upper bank of the Mohawk along Riverside Park has been free from undergrowth because of the active care by the Park attendants. Although the need for new park facilities is evident (the picnic benches and swings have reached mandatory retirement age) a new coat of paint for the green, the orange, the yellow and the gray horse, added a touch of color in the play area. (The land fill along the bank by the play area could do with a bit of green grass as I remember).

Fall is a time to discuss new plans and new ideas for making the First Ward a more pleasant place to live - and work, and a new spring will bring these ideas to blossom and fruition. A Stockade Association Meeting is one place and a good place, to plant your idea and help to make it grow.

RIVERSIDE REPORTS

There are three new teachers at Riverside School in addition to a new principal. Mrs. Martha Tuft of Pattersonville is the new librarian; Miss Eva McClure of 9 Union Street is a new third grade teacher; and Miss Anita Riccio of Highland Park Road teaches a special class. Mr. Robert Van Buren, Profile Personality for September, is the new principal.

Re-elect
Judge **W**illiam J. Quinn

Dear Fellow Democrats,
I wish to thank those of you who voted for me in the primary and ask for the support of all of you in the November election.
Roger P. Lambour
DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE
FIRST WARD SUPERVISOR

Dear Voters,
Many thanks for your support on Primary Day.
Your Supervisor
Stephen J. Dougal