

Forest Hills Gardens Bulletin

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FOREST HILLS GARDENS, LONG ISLAND

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No. 7



CHARLES H. SCAMMELL
First President Men's Club

THE MEN'S CLUB.

By Edward H. Mays.

It is not a particularly serious and certainly not a solemn organization. It is not burdened with PURPOSE—and it may therefore do pretty much as it pleases. One reason for its existence is to extend the club of f. to newcomers in the Gardens, but without violating the constitution it may occasionally cheer-up the older inhabitants. And then when n. and o. i. have exchanged greetings, the Club treats both to a little high-brow stuff and gets away with it fairly well. It is without shame for its frivolity, but admits its non-frivolous program looks better in print. It desires to co-operate as it may with the Homes Company or anyone else to the end that all Gardenites may have good neighbors, be good neighbors, and live happily ever after. It serves by taking sympathetic, if not active, interest in all ideas on movements that are for the welfare of the whole community. When it grows older and possibly more serious-minded it may occupy a niche of no small importance in Gardens affairs, but here's hoping it may never take itself too seriously. The annual dues are \$2.00, payable now or in January.

A CHRISTMAS TREE FOR THE BIRDS.

When your Christmas tree has given all the pleasure it can to the children, don't leave it for the ash man to cart away. Put it out on the lawn or in the yard, or, if it is a small one, on a shelf at the window, and dress it for the birds with pieces of beef or mutton meat, pork rind, bones with shreds of meat still on them, or pieces of apple tied on the branches. Any sort of grain, crumbs, nuts or seeds spread on a shelf or board at the foot of the tree will be welcomed by the birds. It is such a kindly idea to share our Christmas with the birds in our village; can't we all do it?



EDWARD H. MAYS
President Men's Club

YULE-TIDE SINGING.

"At ewle we wonten gambole, daunce,
To carrole and to sing,
To hand gude spiced sewe and roste,
And plum-pie for a King."

(Old English Ballad.)

Those who heard the waits on the streets of Forest Hills Gardens last year will be pleased to know that a similar treat is in store for Christmas Eve of this year. The first rehearsal was held last Tuesday evening. Santa Claus has been asked to spend the early part of the evening with us, and the children may see him if they will but look out of the window when they hear the singing.

"What a beautiful thing it would be if on Christmas Eve every householder in the Gardens would hang a holly wreath on his front window or on his door, so that not only individually but as a community we would be showing our Christmas spirit of good will to our neighbors, as well as to our own families. Why not also welcome the carol singers with a lighted candle in each window as was the old custom which originated in the legend that on Christmas Eve the Christ-Child wandered all over the world in a variety of disguises, looking for a place to lodge; and so loyal folk welcomed, with a lighted candle, whomsoever came to them that night that there might be no danger such a precious guest should lose his way and thus miss their homes."

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OFFICERS

ROBERT W. DeFOREST - - - - - President
 JOHN M. GLENN - - - - - Vice President and Secretary
 JOHN M. DEMAREST - - - - - Vice President and General Manager

HISTORY OF THE MEN'S CLUB.

By Ernest M. Bristol.

The Men's Club held its first meeting on December 21st, 1915, in the Church-in-the-Garden's Chapel, where its charter members adopted a Constitution drawn up by Dr. Kent, which has proven equal to all the needs and requirements of its first two years of life. This Constitution states its object: "To welcome men coming into the community, to promote good fellowship, and all that stands for the best interests of the community."

Under its first President, Charles H. Scammell, and his successor, Edward H. Mays, to this object the Men's Club has steadily adhered. Its programs, in their scope, have provided entertainment and instruction such as a university might give to its students, but which few communities afford.

Starting with a lecture by President Charles H. Scammell on "Building Construction," and punctuated here and there with such lighter diversions as a track meet, a musical evening, a comedy specially designed to please the wives at a "Ladies' Night," there have followed at successive meetings: Harry M. Edwards' description of his trip to Europe; Dr. B. B. Kendrick's description of the historical background of the war in Europe; John M. Demarest's story of the growth of Forest Hills Gardens, supplemented by pictures of many of its houses; Lyman B. Stowe's history of Booker T. Washington and Southern education; Dr. Burton's pictures of Alaska and its resources; Boardman Robinson's account of his experiences on the Russian front; and Hon. James T. McCleery's eulogy in praise of "The Real Thing."

The Fourth of July Celebration was fathered by the Men's Club; the caroling of Christmas Eve it has sponsored with the Women's Club and Santa Claus; it hopes to live for many years under its short and simple Constitution of "welcome to newcomers and the welfare of the community."

BOOK SALE.

A Book Sale at the Church-in-the-Gardens will be held in January. All books at second hand prices. A fine opportunity to add to your library.

The Committee wants donations of books you no longer wish to keep—good fiction, children's books and standard works of all kinds. Please look over your book shelves and if you have any you wish to discard, communicate with Mrs. Niels F. Holch, Ascan Avenue.

A COMMUNITY HOUSE.

A bit of glowing wood snapped and shot against the fender. My cigar, lightless for the third time, joined the stubs on the tray. The magazine slipped down upon my stomach and I—I was perched on the back of a gigantic bird that went swooping down upon the Gardens. The orderly succession of days disappeared. Walls vanished and left people unsheltered from my piercing gaze. In the awful stillness all their clamorings, even their unspoken desires, came to my ears. These are some of the things I heard:

MEN'S CLUB PRESIDENT: The next meeting of the Club will be—(hem). Mr. Secretary, have we received any invitation? (Painful pause.) Gentlemen, there is a golden opportunity for some resident with lots of public spirit—and a large house.

WOMEN'S CLUB MEMBER: Somehow, do you know, the Inn people are awfully nice but—but the Club needs a home of its own.

CHAIRMAN OF WAR RELIEF COMMITTEE (Sighing): I suppose we've got to meet in that old Sales Office again and lug our things around.

PLAYGROUND SUPERVISOR TO A GROUP OF BOYS AND GIRLS AS RAIN DROPS STRUCK HER FACE: Well, children, you'll have to go home now. If we only had a room we could have some folk-dancing or a singing game.

MAID (to her mistress): I do be givin' notice, mam. It's too lonesome here. Where I used to work we had a club that met Thursday evenings.

ANTI-MOSQUITO COMMITTEEMAN: We're soon going to need more school accommodations. If there were some convenient place we could move the kindergarten to—that would make room for thirty-five more pupils.

BOY SCOUT: You can't have any fun in a church.

SUFFRAGETTE: Well, a mass meeting is the next step—but where shall we hold it?

GAMES COMMITTEEMAN, FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION: The next thing is to get the children all together and make up the list of entries—but where are you going to do it?

A MOTHER (to a little girl): After school, dearie, take this book down to the Inn and exchange it. We ought to have a library station nearer, but . . .

CHORUS OF COMMITTEEMEN: We want a central meeting place.

Gradually, as we soared over the houses, the world began to spin and all the familiar landmarks passed from view. Then suddenly it stopped and on looking down I saw again the elliptical greens and the curving streets.

But what a change! The little chapel that once stood back of the stone church now nestled beside the school house and its back door looked out upon the playground with its ivy fence and romping children. Over the front door was a legend, "Community House," and beside the door was a bulletin-board exhibiting a long list of meetings. That evening I saw lights in the windows and a stream of villagers going in. Then the bird ducked and—and something landed on me. When I looked again, I saw—a little dog clambering over the magazine. A DREAMER.

The Dog Watch

by
The Watch Dog



HEAVEN WANTS BUT LITTLE, HERE BELOW.

Bar Santa Claws:

Please bring us a lot of contributions for the next issue, so that we can take a Christmas vacation. And cram a lot of Optimism into your sack. And ask Auntie Claws to "Bake a Batch of Dog Biscuits" for us. And abolish all the useless gifts that we usually get. And bring everyone else something he wants. And bring to every Papa money enough to pay the January first bills.

That's ALL.

TRY IT AND SEE.

Baron's Malt Extract advertises, in the Long Island Railroad car, "The portrait of Baron Justus von Leibig is on every label." What effect has this on a man who drinks Baron's Malt Extract?

First Mate.

Do not ask us, First Mate; ask the Oracle. But why do you buy a newspaper every night? Then you wouldn't be bothered by these railroad car misadvertisements.

BOTH TRUTH AND POETRY.

Bar Harry Hillman is finishing his second house, up near the Turnpike, in the hilliest section of Forest Hills. Wood Rindyard was right when he wrote:—

So and no otherwise,
So and no otherwise,
The Hillmans desire their hills.

(Kipling—"The Sea and the Hills.")

Childe Roland.

WE HAVE WITH US TONIGHT—

That irrepressible wit, Chub Fuller, on being presented to Miss Agnetta Floris, habitat 221 Greenway South, innocently inquired, "Tell me, what IS an Yetta?"

WHAT IS A BORAK?

Bar T. Pen says he is not interested in the comparative names of "Forest Hills," but he would like to know the meaning of "Borax." Can YOU tell him?

STRAINED RELATIONS.

Bar O. Jones is not related to John Paul Jones, the hero of the American Navy, despite all claims to the contrary—for is Ellis not on Henry Ford's peace jitney?

Bar Tom Collins is not related to Tom Collins. No. They are merely friends.

A DREAM-FRAUGHT SLEEP! O, NOISY SILENCE!

"Sixty-two French Aviators Circled 3,000 Feet Above Manhattan in Silence Broken Only by Hum of Motors" is the headline of Gordon Bruce in the Tribune. We have never heard the hum of sixty-two aeroplane motors at once—nevertheless, we dare bet that that was a badly broken silence. What?

THREE TRANSLATIONS OF EXPENSIVE FRENCH.

"Un desprit" is freely translated—a desperate Jew.
"Un cheval" is freely translated—a spade or a shovel; used in the old saying, "A cheval is a cheval for a' that."

"Garde d'honneur" is freely translated—damn the honor. Used to indicate a contempt for exalted rank.

"Garde de famille" is freely translated—a family scrap—most common on pay day.

"Fait dour" (imperative mood) is freely translated—Willow, do as you are told. Pronounced—Billy do!

THE WATCH DOG.

GENERAL NEWS.

The Tuesday Bridge Club met with Mrs. Louis Litt, of Groton Street, on December 7th; and with Mrs. Charles F. Lusch, also of Groton Street, on December 14th. An enjoyable time was had on both occasions.

The Gardens is represented on Mr. Ford's Peace Ship by Ellis O. Jones, late of "Life"; Miss F. L. Lattimore, who goes as press agent for the Survey, and by Elon Jessup, for Harper's Weekly.

The Wolverines, of Forest Hills, held their semi-annual dance on Friday night, December 10th, at the Gardens Club. Everybody had a most enjoyable time. The officers of this Club for the year 1915-16 are: President, Kelsey Thoms; Vice-President, Stanley Hillman; Secretary and Treasurer, Herbert Vandever.

Mrs. Bromme and her two little daughters, Nancy Lee and Dorothy, who have been visiting Mrs. George H. Robinson, have returned to their home in Louisville, Ky.

Mrs. Scammell needs the assistance of sopranos and contraltos for the special musical service on December 26th in the Church-in-the-Gardens. Rehearsal Tuesday.

If there is a tenor, baritone or bass who has not joined the Christmas Carol Club, and is desirous of assisting the seranaders Christmas Eve, kindly notify Mrs. Scammell. Rehearsal Tuesday.

Mrs. Thompson Sweeney is Vice-President of the Big Sisters of Queens Borough. Others in our community who are interested are Mrs. Katherine Collins, Mrs. Murray Brown, and Mrs. Lyman Beecher Stowe. Mrs. Ralph Hilmer, of Jamaica, is President. This organization seeks to befriend girls who have come before the Children's Court in much the same way that the Big Brothers' organization does for delinquent boys.

Mrs. Julia Richards, of New York, will take charge of children from four to six years of age. For particulars see Mrs. A. M. Gray or Mrs. Julia Kuttner.

GRIEG CONCERT.

The Forest Hills and the Garden City Choral rehearse Thursday, December 30th, at Garden City, for their joint concert to be given there on the evening of January 11th. Miss Ware will give a tea to the members after the rehearsal at her home.

This concert is to be a Grieg Concert and Mr. Fink will give a Grieg lecture as part of the program. Those knowing what an able critic Mr. Fink is will appreciate the value of his talk and also the efforts our women have been making these past weeks to have their part a credit to Forest Hills.

The Garden City Choral will assist our Choral in a concert here in February, and it is hoped that every resident who stands for "progress" will feel it his or her duty to attend.

The Choral Society plans to give you much in the way of good music. Their future success depends upon your help. If you give it, there is no doubt we can establish a "concert season" for every winter here in Forest Hills, and in time bring to us the greatest singers instead of our having to go into New York to hear them.

COMING EVENTS.

(To make this column as complete as possible, we desire the co-operation of all organizations of the community. Kindly send all communications to the office of the Homes Company, addressed to the "Bulletin.")

NEARBY EVENTS.

Tuesdays—2 P. M., at the Sales Office, meeting of Volunteer War Relief Division of Women's Club.

Thursdays—10 A. M., at the Inn, meeting of the Musical Art Society.

Saturday, December 18th—8 P. M., Black and White Ball. Gardens Club.

Sunday, December 19th—8 P. M., Church-in-the-Gardens, White Gift Christmas service. Public cordially invited.

Monday, December 20th—8.15 P. M., at the Church-in-the-Gardens, Lecture by Dr. B. B. Kendrick, "The Industrial Revolution in England." Admittance, 25 cents.

Monday, December 27th—8 P. M., in the social room of the Church-in-the-Gardens, lecture by Professor B. B. Kendrick, "Political and Industrial Revolution of Germany." Admission, 25 cents.

Friday, December 31st—8 P. M., New Years Eve Ball. Gardens Club.

Friday, December 31st—8 P. M., New Years Eve Ball. Gardens Club.

Monday, January 3rd—8.15 P. M., in the social room of the Church-in-the-Gardens, lecture by Professor B. B. Kendrick, "Political and Industrial Revolution of Germany." Admission, 25 cents.

Wednesday, January 5th—2.30 P. M., at the Inn, meeting of Women's Club. Speaker, introduced by the Household Economics Chapter, Mrs. Edward H. Hooke, President of the International Pure Food and Milk League.

CHANGE IN DATES OF DR. KENDRICK'S LECTURES.

Dr. Kendrick's lecture scheduled for December 13th was postponed on account of the heavy snow storm. It will be delivered on Monday night, December 20th. Because of this change, the date of each of the remaining lectures will be moved forward one week. The revised schedule follows:

December 20th—"The Industrial Revolution of England."

January 3rd—"The Political and Industrial Evolution of Germany."

January 17th—"Italy and the Countries of Eastern Europe."

January 31st—"The Spread of European Civilization and the War of the Nations."

The hour for beginning the lectures is 8.15.

FEED THE BIRDS

suet and grain. Stormy weather means death to thousands.

The Boy Scouts are co-operating with the Audubon Society in placing suet in the feeding boxes and in the trees throughout the property during the cold weather.

CHURCH SERVICES.

Roman Catholic—Sunday mornings at 8 and 9.30 o'clock, Fife Street, near Seminole Avenue, North Side.

St. Luke's Episcopal—Sunday morning at 11 o'clock, 39 Ingram Street.

Church-in-the-Gardens—Sunday mornings. Sunday School at 10 o'clock. Preaching service at 11 o'clock. Greenway North and Ascan Avenue.

THE CHURCH-IN-THE-GARDENS.

It is proposed to have a Church supper in connection with the annual meeting on the first Wednesday night in January. This is the custom of many churches and, besides securing a larger attendance of members and contributors to hear the reports of the year's work and elect officers for the new year, promotes sociability and develops a happy church spirit. Remember the date—January 5th.

There will be special Christmas music, under the direction of Mrs. Scammell, at the morning service the Sunday after Christmas. This coming Sunday both morning and evening services will be inspired with the thought of consecrating self, service, substance to the King. The Sunday School will hold its Christmas celebration in the evening.

One of the Sunday evening meetings in January will be under the auspices of the Women's Guild. Dr. Emerson, Health Commissioner, will make the address.

"The Meaning of Prayer" is the title of a compact, informing and inspiring book, by Rev. Harry Emerson Fosdick. In some churches it has been used for home reading and prayer meetings with great profit. We are going to use it. Copies at thirty cents each may be obtained of Dr. Kent.

The White Gift Christmas service on next Sunday evening promises a specially interesting program. Miss Louise Brown will read Van Dyke's "Other wise men"; a quartette will sing "Holy Night," and other selections. All departments of the Church will take part in the presentation of the gifts.

A group of children and teachers from the local Sunday School will attend the Ellis Island Christmas exercises on Thursday, December 23rd.

By some inadvertence the splendid article on the History of the Women's Club, in our last issue, failed to carry the name of its author, Mrs. Frances L. Holmes.

Norman Baker has begun work as supervising architect for Otto Kahn's million dollar residence at Cold Spring Harbor.

The Anti-Mosquito Committee is following closely the suggestion of Borough President Connolly that since the Hoff bill is inadequate the drainage of swamp land should be made a general city charge. It is expected that such a resolution will be presented to the Board of Estimate very soon and it is believed that there are enough favorable votes in the Board to pass it. Health Commissioner Emerson has promised that through his department the Flushing and Gutman swamps will be drained next spring. This is of particular interest to Forest Hills, as a large part of our discomfort originates in these nearby swamps.