

Don't Look Now...

but... really now. We saw a convertible the other day with a cellophane cover to keep the cover dry. It reminded us of the woman we knew of, who wore a coat in the summertime to keep the heat away, and put another coat over it to keep the first coat clean.

Handy gadget... our car started all right Saturday morning, but the defroster was frozen up. Maybe we should have a defroster to defrost the defroster.

Grease spot... If you see one in the ten-cent store this week, it's probably us. We haven't yet started our Christmas shopping.

Knock wood... Our poor little knuckles

are worn and broken from knocking wood over not yet having heard any signs of carols from the house-tops.

Satisfied... We'll bet there's one boy in the world who is fed up on electric trains before Christmas, and that's the fellow who plays with one in Elstrom's big window all day.

Happy Homes... Somehow the lighted trees in houses add a happy-homishness no other thing does. It's part of the fun of this holiday, driving by the places gay with colored lights.

Maxine Buren.

A little bit about music

Christmas music, of course, dominates all networks this week. The American Album of familiar music featuring a long list including Deck the Halls, Panis Angelicus, Cantique Noel, Alleluia, Ave Maria, and Adesste Fidelis, believe it or not three times, once with duet and choir, once a solo with orchestra and the last by the choir alone.

The Cavalcade of America features the DuPont chorus of 117 voices in an entirely Christmas music program, on Monday night and Eleanor Steber will sing a program of Christmas music the same night.

When Mrs. Max Rogers was visiting in California a few weeks ago she saw two musicians well known in Salem, Mary Headrick, she says, has been playing with the Hancock ensemble, which is giving its last concert this month before disbanding. Mary has had an offer from Eirem Kurtz to play with his orchestra in Texas, and at first she thought she'd turn it down. However circumstances may change her mind.

Her son Dan has passed the air forces exams and he may be stationed in Texas. In that case Mary thinks the orchestra offer would be just the thing for her.

Mildred Rogers also saw Edward Hurlmann, who looks prosperous and probably is, as he is playing for radio in Los Angeles and also directing the Bakersfield symphony orchestra. He directs a radio ensemble which plays for, among other things, the Sam Spade program. Hurlmann also plays in studio orchestra for various local programs.

Incidentally, his daughter Rosemary, who has been with her mother in Switzerland, is coming to the U. S. to be with her father and to attend school in this country.

Leonard Warren enthusiasts report having enjoyed his singing of the part of Iago in Othello on CBS Saturday afternoon from the Metropolitan. . . . M. B.

Pageantry Story Told In Music And Color

By Maxine Buren

Friday night we got pretty well into the spirit of Christmas out at Rickreall when we saw the community's eighth annual Christmas Pageant. We were only one of a standing room only crowd which came from considerable distance to view it.

A finished production including eight scenes of the prophesy of the coming of Christ and the story of His birth, along with soloists and a chorus of 25 voices was quite an undertaking for a rural community, but the resulting production was excellent.

Costuming and scenery has been worked up over a period of years, and probably the production has gained finesse and style upon repetition.

The thing which surprised us most was the number of solo voices found in that and adjoining communities.

No color was spared in the

costuming. The Three Wise Men, for instance, were in striking robes of shimmering silk in crimson, pale green and gold. Turbans were contrasting shades, purple, gold and dark green. Striped costumes of the shepherds, colorful clothes of the children and white of the Angel Gabriel's dress added to the display.

A burrow on which Mary rode and a shepherd's dog, added to the interest of the production.

Details of the scenery were those of professional staging. Large pillars extended from floor to ceiling, to give a simple but convincing idea of the interior of the temple. The scene of the street in Bethlehem was effective with simulated stone inn and well where children drank. The angel chorus appeared before a star studded backdrop and behind a thin blue gauze curtain. This gave an ethereal effect, suited to the white angel costumes and the sweet voices of the children as they sang.

A reader kept continuity between the scenes on the stage and the choral and solo work below. The chorus was in white vestments and carried lighted candles during their approach and exit toward the back of the auditorium.

This is a community affair, with representatives from the Masons, Grange, Community club and Aid society as official members of the committee. It is hoped that next year the group may present it twice, so that an even larger audience may see it and be inspired by the excellence of the reproduction of the Christmas Story.

Dr. and Mrs. Robert MacLafferty of Salinas, Calif., and their children, Robert and Michael are holiday guests of his parents, Dr. and Mrs. N. C. MacLafferty of the Keizer district.

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