

THIS 'N THAT

GEORGE W. WIREMAN

TOURNAMENT OF ROSES

Wednesday, Dec. 2, 1959, lovely and charming Margadethe Bertelson was chosen to reign as Queen of the 1960 Tournament of Roses, the New Year's Day spectacle held each year in Pasadena, Calif. and followed by the afternoon sports attraction intersectional collegiate football, known as the Rose Bowl game.

The choice of Queen of the Tournament of Roses is made each year following the balloting by members of the queen and court committee. This is but a small part of the tremendous work that goes into the preparation of the Tournament of Roses each year.

The world-famous Tournament of Roses Parade has been held on the streets of Pasadena, Calif., every New Year's Day since 1890. There is no question that it has no match in spectacular beauty and originality and now attracts a world audience in person and through the mediums of television, radio, motion pictures, newspapers and magazines, estimated conservatively at 76,600,000.

Originally the Tournament of Roses was a small village celebration in which members of the Valley Hunt Club of Pasadena would decorate their buggies and surries with flowers grown in their own gardens. The idea was conceived by Dr. Charles Frederick Holder, a famous early-day writer who lived in Pasadena.

These early-day families would vie with each other to produce original floral designs and would parade New Year's morning down the main street to the ball park where the rest of the day was spent in games and feats of horsemanship.

One New Year's Day a visiting newspaperman from the East, saw this flower parade in the midst of winter and was so impressed he wrote a story that was copied

by big city papers of Los Angeles, Chicago and New York.

This first publicity started a flow of visitors to Pasadena from far away points to see for themselves this New Year's Day spectacle. In 5 years the parade had become so famous and the problems so numerous that the Valley Hunt Club relinquished its sponsorship to a committee of community leaders who formed the Tournament of Roses Assn. This is a non-profit Association composed of persons who give generously of their time and money without hope of reward. It is now a year-around organization devoted to this non-commercial civic promotion. It was not long until the Tournament of Roses no longer could be called a Pasadena affair as neighboring communities, fraternal organizations and later states and foreign nations joined in entering floats in the parade. Today it is known as California's New Year's greeting to the world.

The parade is now limited to 60 major floats, 20 bands and 200 thoroughbred horses. Approximately 1200 persons ride or march in the musical units. Throughout the years the Tournament has maintained high standards and allows nothing in the way of decorations except fresh flowers. Nothing artificial is permitted and in the judging for prize awards, the use of roses counts heavily in favor of the entry. Each year a theme, chosen by the public, is carried out in the decorating of floats. Typical themes are "Melodies in Flowers," "Fairytails," "Dreams of the Future," "Childhood Memories," "Victory, Unity and Peace," and this year's theme "Tall Tales and True."

There are many techniques employed in modern-day float building. The so-called "Pasadena method," developed over 68 years of experience, is somewhat more

complicated since it is required that everything in the Tournament of Roses parade be completely decorated with fresh flowers. While some floats are built by amateurs, the vast majority are designed and built by professional float builders acting for the cities, organizations and commercial firms sponsoring the various units in the parade.

If you were one of the many persons who watched the parade this year via your TV set, you can well understand that it is no easy job to build such a float. The first step is the preparation of a color sketch of the proposed float, after which the builder goes to work with a stripped-down automobile, jeep or truck chassis in which the wheels are extended to a distance of some 20 feet from front to rear. The chassis is not widened as a rule. These are used year after year as long as they remain in good running condition. They are rebuilt with extra large radiators and the floats carry a spare water tank because of the tendency to heat during the slow drive of some 2 1/2 miles an hour over the five-mile parade route.

Room is provided for two drivers. Steering is done through a peep-hole in the flowers and, in some cases, with the help of a third person—a steerman—concealed under the front of the float who gives directions to the driver by means of a telephone. Over the chassis a metal or wooden framework is built, shaped roughly to the dimensions of the finished product. Most floats are 40 feet long, 20 feet wide and 17 feet high. They tend to be low in front and higher towards the rear. The final shaping is done with one-inch mesh chicken wire stretched and fastened over the entire float. This is then sprayed with a polyvinyl material, a process often called caconing, which provides a surface for decorating. The float is then painted in colors to be matched by the covering flowers. Figures or mannequins to be used are made of papier-mache. There also are later decorated in flowers. Decorating the floats with fresh flowers begins some 48 hours before parade time with the harder blossoms being applied first. These usually are chrysanthemums. Some of the more delicate blooms are placed on the floats only a few hours before the parade starts. Roses, gardenias and orchids almost are invariably placed in water vials or test tubes which are concealed from view.

Many different kinds of flowers are used to obtain color designs though emphasis is upon the use of roses. Other popular flowers are stock blossoms, chrysanthemums, delphinium, blue cornflowers, orchids (imported from Hawaii, including cattleya, cymbidium and vanda), marigolds, snapdragons, sweet peas and others. Greenery consisting of leaves, healthier and Ti leaves are also used to some extent.

Flowers are attached to the cocooned face of the float with the aid of special type of glue which has a plastic rubber base. Also a cold paste, impervious to water, is sometimes used.

To gain a frothy or lacy effect, flowers may be strung on wires instead of being pasted. Where cleaner lines are sought, flowers are cut off at the calyx and glued to the float's surface. Where test tubes are used, they are filled with water and a chemical preservative added to keep the flowers fresh longer. Some floats may require as many as 350,000 to 400,000 or even more fresh flowers.

Before the floats are permitted

to enter the parade they are thoroughly checked to insure their safe operation by the Tournament of Roses Float Construction Committee. Tires, ignition system battery and other mechanical parts are carefully scrutinized to make sure that no avoidable breakdown will occur. Each float must also be equipped with a built-in tow bar so that it can be moved along the line of march in the event of failure.

As the time nears for the parade to get underway, the parade committee is busy with the lineup. When this task has been completed, the signal is given and the first units begin to move off.

No parade is complete without a Grand Marshal, and each year some well-known public figure is chosen for this honor. This year Raymond A. Dorn, Tournament Association President conferred the title of Grand Marshal upon Vice President Richard M. Nixon.

Following the parade each year, is the Rose Bowl football game. As the Tournament Parade grew so did the afternoon sports attraction develop from country-lot horsemanship to chariot racing and finally, intersectional collegiate football was introduced to the United States. The first game in 1902 pitted Michigan against Stanford. The bleacher seats erected for the first game ultimately developed into the present day Rose Bowl, seating 100,155 persons. The Rose Bowl success has prompted imitators to spring up in all parts of the country and this a subject material for a forthcoming article.

to surpass and subordinate our cultural and economic institutions. It is plain that the national economy is confronted with a period of change that may be critical for our way of life.

"It is this new challenge and this larger responsibility for representing the District that have been factors in my decision to run for Congress. During the campaign I intend to engage in forthright discussion of specific issues.

"If elected to the House of Representatives, the needs of the entire District and the well-being of all its people will be my first obligation."

Foundation, and \$500,000 from the Carnegie Corporation, it now has more than one hundred sponsors including business and industrial organizations, foundations, and other groups. More than one-half million students have been tested in the annual academic competitions. Currently 3,000 of the country's most able students hold Merit Scholarships at 400 colleges and universities. Fifteen million dollars have already been committed for these awards.

primary and will "announce my plans with respect to the other primaries as their filing dates approach."

Youth Rally Saturday

Jack Sheets, formerly with the orchestra of Vincent Lopez, will be the guest speaker and musician at the Frederick County Youth For Christ rally, this coming Saturday night, January 9.

Jack Sheetz is a businessman from Baltimore and is president of the Christian Business Men's Committee in that city. Besides being a fine speaker, Mr. Sheetz is an accomplished saxophonist and has traveled extensively as a speaker and musician.

The rally will start at 7:45 p. m. and will be held in the Staley Park Field House, the corner of Tenth and Mott in Frederick. The doors open at 7 p. m. and admission is free.

Kennedy Announces Candidacy

Senator John F. Kennedy (Dem.-Mass.) has announced he will be a candidate for the Democratic nomination for the Presidency of the United States. Senator also announced that he will file for the March 8th New Hampshire

Mathias, 37, is a native of Frederick where he has practiced law for the past ten years. He is a veteran of World War II, having served in the Navy in the Pacific Theater. After graduating from the University of Maryland Law School Mr. Mathias was successively Assistant Attorney General of Maryland and City Attorney of Frederick.

In 1958 Mr. Mathias was the only Republican from Frederick County, and one of seven in the entire state, to be elected to the House of Delegates.

Mr. Mathias was married in 1958 to Miss Ann H. Bradford. They have one son, Charles Bradford, aged four months, and make their home in Frederick.

Local Student Cited For Outstanding Performance

John D. White Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. John D. White Sr., a senior at Emmitsburg High School has been recently cited for outstanding performance on the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test taken last spring. He has received a formal "Letter of Commendation" from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation.

The "Commended" group were among the 550,000 high school juniors from 14,500 U. S. schools who took the NMSQT last spring. The test, a three-hour examination covering five separate areas of educational development, was the first step in the 1959-60 Merit Program to be climaxed about May 1, 1960 with the announcement of the Merit Scholars.

The annual Merit Scholarship Competition offers the largest system of privately financed scholarships in the United States, and is open to all high schools in the United States and possessions.

The Merit Scholarship Program is now in its fifth year. Founded in 1955 with grants of twenty million dollars from the Ford

MATHIAS FILES FOR CONGRESS

Charles McC. Mathias Jr. filed Monday as a candidate for Congress in the Sixth District which includes Montgomery, Frederick, Washington, Allegany and Garrett Counties. Upon filing at the State House in Annapolis, Mr. Mathias said:



"I have filed today as a candidate for the Republican nomination for the House of Representatives from the Sixth District with a deep recognition of the serious job to be done.

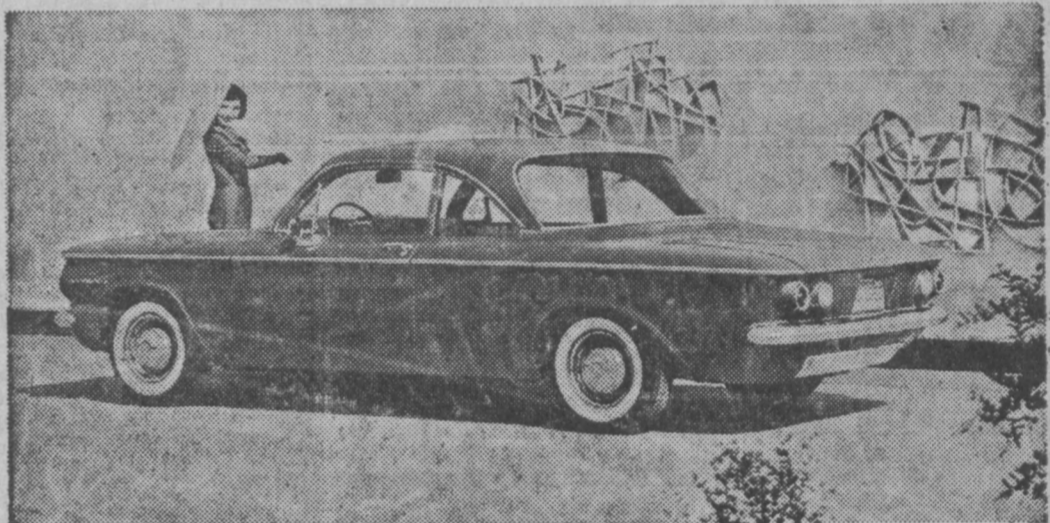
"The needs and interests of the District will, as always, demand a capable and understanding advocate. The new decade, begun last Friday, requires, however, a new standard of representation. An enlightened and balanced view will be necessary on economic, social and moral issues.

"The people of the United States face an era of challenge. We all appreciate the serious nature of the threat to peace that is inherent in the candid attempt

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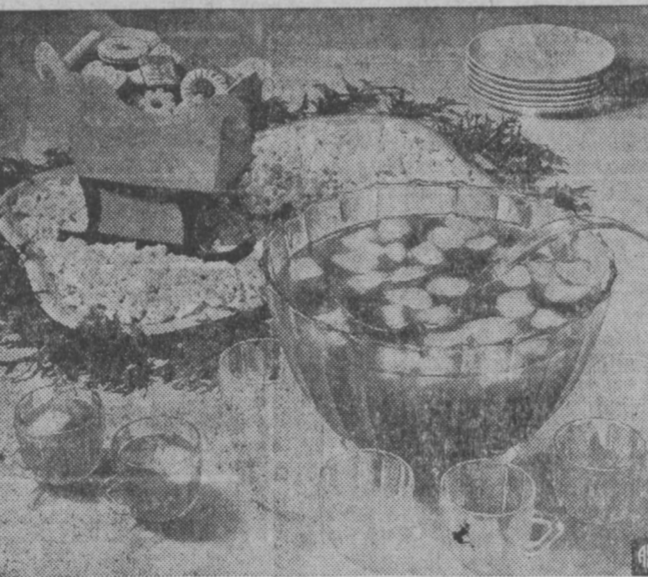
Clearance Sale
Now In Full Swing

Corvaire coupes now in production



Chevrolet has added a new 2-door coupe to its Corvaire line and shipments to dealers are now under way. The new model of the re-engine compact car has the same basic dimensions as the 4-door Corvaire sedan, but has its own distinct sporty styling motif. This is accentuated by a split front seat and a new roof design which features a large sloping rear window.

Winter-Set Your Table... For Fun!



The winter's calendar is dotted with festive occasions calling for entertainment. Why not set a casual buffet table to match the season's mood, using simple decorations appropriate to the time of year.

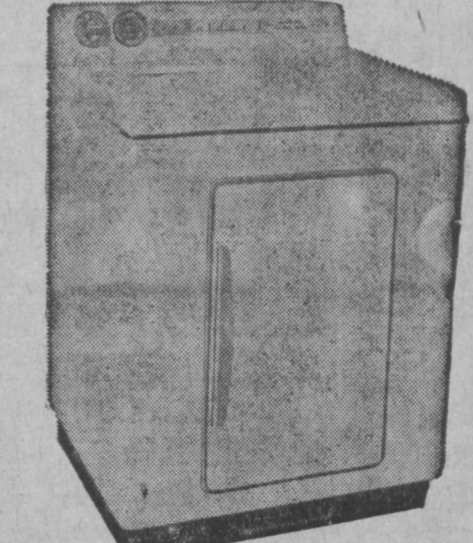
A large punch bowl might well serve as the highlight of the table, with an original centerpiece to capture the bright, crisp spirit of winter-time. Cover a tray or cookie sheet with unbuttered popcorn, for "snow," and place a ceramic or cardboard sleigh, holding cookies or candies, in its center. (If you're handy, you can make your own sleigh from an empty candy box, using construction paper for runners). Surround the miniature snow scene with small branches of pine, and there you have it—an easy and warm way to greet guests who drop in to say a winter hello!

To fill the punch bowl, here's a sparkling new drink, simple to prepare, pretty to look at, deliciously snappy in flavor.

Holiday Fruit Punch
 1 cup orange juice
 1/4 cup lemon juice
 2 cups cranberry juice cocktail
 2 large bottles (or 5 12-oz. bottles) of Canada Dry Quinine Water
 1 cup pineapple juice
 2 tablespoons honey
 Pinch of salt

Combine first six ingredients; mix well. Pour over ice in large punch bowl. Fill bowl with Quinine Water. Makes 24 punch cup servings.

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