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THE EARLY BIRD

December, 1953

# The Early Bird

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No. 4

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- 1. To encourage and foster student expression.
- 2. To stimulate an interest in creative writings. To encourage full participation in

### **Christmas** In **Other Lands**

Again the Christmas season comes around. A season of peace and good will toward all men. This glorious season is celebrated not only in America but in other lands as well.

In France on Christmas Eve the children are very happy just as they are here in America. Santa Claus is called Pere Nocl which means Father Christmas. He brings gifts to the children and puts them in their shoes instead of their stockings. He brings gifts to all the good children. There is one called Ruprecht who goes along with Father Christmas and carries witches for all the bad children.

In Germany the children have beautifully decorated Christmas trees. Their parents make them cakes and cookies in shapes of animals which are greatly enjoyed. Just before Christmas Eve some one strangely attired goes to each house and inquires if the children have been good or bad. If they have been good this strange person throws nuts about. If they have been bad he leaves a witch. The German children believe that the Christ Child brings their gifts. In Holland the little Dutch children think that St. Nicholas drives a white horse. So they clean their wooden shoes, fill them with oats and hay for the white horse. On Christmas morning they awake and find their shoes filled with candy and toys.

In Belgium Christmas is much like that in Holland except that the children put carrots in their shoes for the good saints horse. If the horse smells the carrots it will enter the house and St. Nicholas will remember all who were good to his horse.

In Denmark the good Brownie Nisson who looks like a little old man with a long grey beard and who lives underground comes to bring the children gifts. Christmas day is spent in family re-

unions. In Spain and Portugal Christmas is celebrated by elaborate religious ceremonies. Three Kings (the three Wise Men) perform the duties of Santa Claus. In Sweden and Norway preparations for Christmas starts three weeks before Christmas. Houses are cleaned. New dresses and suits are bought for the occasion. Cooking begins and all kinds of fancy cakes are made. The children go to the woods and cut their own Christmas tree. They have no Santa Claus. But presents are thrown in at the window and no one sees where they come from. Early Christmas morning lighted candles are put in the windows to light people on their way to church. The Christmas service begins at five o'clock in the morning and everyone goes. On Christmas day all animals are given extra food. A sheaf of wheat is fastened to a pole erected near the house for a feast for the birds. In England on Christmas you may see the crackling Yule log, the blazing plum pudding, and the rosy-cheeked carol singers expressing the Christmas spirit. Donnell Parker, Editor in Chief Auditorium Committee Betty Jean Campbell 3G-Chairman Advisor Mrs. C. E. Eisbey 1P Margaret Stewart 2**G** Elijah Holman

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## Art Activities In **Our School**

This Year's program has gotten off to a wonderful start. One has but to visit the various classrooms and observe the displayed work or to see the

pupils at work to find that this is true. Because I sincerely believe that art is an invaluable and intricate part of every child's classroom activities and not a special subject designed solely for those who are talented in its techmore children making their contributions to this phase of school work. It is not our aim to make professional ar-

tists of our children here at Orange Street School but we do propose to provide them with the materials, the guidance and encouragement, the unstrained atmosphere and the motivation necessary to induce them to create with enjoyment. The experiences in art should help our children to make wise use of their leisure time through hobbies of drawing or painting, etc.; to dress attractively, to increase their poise; to give them an awareness of the beauty around them; to use their resources and to totally enrichen their lives.

Art is a learning process when left to the childs own imaginative creatively and, therefore it should never be copied either from teachers example or text book pictures. Copying is craft, not art and is of little or no value to the child.

On several occasions this year the art work of our pupils here at Orange Street School has been on exhibition. One such occasion was the meeting of the State Resource-Use Conference at North Carolina College at Durham on November 20th. At this conference about fifteen pieces of resource art craft made by our children were exhibited. This work was highly appraised.

We have many plans for more art activities in our school.

Look for announcements of the or-

# Musical Highlights

It is overwhelmingly accepted that music in the public school should be the type of activity that aids the child mentally, socially, physically, and emotionally.

Therefore, the Public School Music program that is now in progress here at Orange Street School is designed for the sole purpose of giving every child an opportunity to develop a love for and an understanding of music, to enable niques I am happy to see more and him to meet the social, mental, and physical needs of the community, home and school.

> Music Workshops have been set up by the Music Supervisor and principal whereby classroom teachers and interested administrative personnel, meet to discuss musical problems in the school and to gain knowledge in solving them. Musical facilities have expanded in the acquisition of rhythm band equipment, staff liners, pitch pipes, supplementary workbooks, enlargement of record collection, reference books and music subscriptions.

To gain a better outlook on classroom participation in the Music Program the following reports have been submitted by the sixth grades:

CLASS 6W

Mrs. S. R. Wilson, teacher Ruth Brown, Reporter

Our class has been studying about the Opera named "Madame Butterfly." We made a stage setting of it. We have been studying music symbols, music syllables and Miss Murphy and our teacher Mrs. Wilson taught us many new songs.

The children in our class in the Christmas Operetta are Ruth Asgill, Charles Allen, and Angelo Holman. There are a large number of children in the Glee. Club from our class.

Our class also has been making music scrapbooks.

CLASS 6R Mrs. B. M. Redding, teacher Bobby Lee McClain, reporter We have learned many new songs from our music books and our teacher, Mrs. Redding has taught us to sing with syllables. Some of our students are in the Glee Club. After lunch period we always enjoy singing our action songs in the classroom. Many of the members of our class are participating in the Christmas Operetta. We are very proud of our new music teacher. We are also busy making music scrapbooks for our class lessons. CLASS 6B

- extra-curricular activities.
- 4. To promote better school spirit.
- 5. To help build a bigger and better Orange Street School

Thanks

We wish to thank the children, teachers, parents and friends for the fine support given the school paper. We regret we did not have copies enough to supply every one who wanted one. It is the desire of the staff that The

Early Bird reach every home. Editor-in-Chief, Donnell Parker

## Hats Off To The **Student Council**

It is a real privilege to be a member of the Student Council. This organization is doing a grand job to improve the citizenship of our school.

Worthy of speaking of is the fact that while it realizes how important it is for pupils to make high grades, the council does not prevent a pupil from participation in the work of the organization because of low grades.

The Student Council encourages cooperation rather than competition. This gives all of us a chance to enjoy working with it and makes each pupil feel a part of it.

Recently the committees of the council were organized and already they have begun to do a great work. Each committee has working with it and the chairman a faculty advisor. The faculty advisor was chosen by the committee. Perhaps you are interested to know who are on the committees and what teachers are helping this year. Listed are the committees and faculty advisors:

ganization of an Art Club. 4R Barbara Jones 5C Jerome Stanback 5J Shirley Taylor 6R Alphonsa Blue **6B** Marion Moore 6H Severa Davis 6W Angelo Holman Building Committee Robert Taylor Mrs. C. S. Stegall **1**S Owen Satterfield **1**S Ellis Moore 3HRuth Norfleet 2EJames Jeffers 2G Jessie Fields Annette Anderson 2G Carolyn Wortham 1CS 3C Carl Cook Alexander Williams 2M 2H Delores Hester 2J Herman Chavis Building Committee Douglas Elderson Mrs. S. R. Wilson Henry McCoy Willie Mae Bullock Betty J. Ridley Justine Turner Theodore Hamme Mary F. Kingsbury Maggie Thomas Robert Henderson Willie Winston Elizabeth Davis Van Campbell **Bus** Committee Jessie Banks Mrs. A. K. Allen Mrs. B. B. Redding Auditorium Committee (Grammar Rebecca Overby

(Annex) Chairman Advisor (Old Building) 6W-Chairman Advisor 3FH 3**B** 4T4R 4A **5W** 5C 5V 6W 6H 6B 6R-Chairman Advisor Advisor 5W 6R 6R Jewline Downey **6B** Minnie P. Royster (See Student Council-page 4)

#### Mrs. J. C. Baptiste, teacher Carolyn White, reporter

Our class has studied about the opera. The name of the opera was Carmen. Mrs. Baptiste told us the story of the Spanish opera. We also have learned to sing songs with syllables. We have learned new songs for the Christmas Operetta this year.

We also have made music notebooks. CLASS 6H

Mrs. L. Q. Hamme, teacher Bruce Smith, reporter

Mrs. Hamme is teaching us about the opera and we use our library books to study about it. We also have made music notebooks and decorated the bulletin board with music.

We enjoy our new Music Supervisor, Miss Murphy. She organized a Glee Club with members from the fourth through sixth grades.

For the past two weeks we have been practicing for the Christmas Operetta.

It is hoped that the splendid cooperation and the displaying of capable musical teaching on the part of the

classroom teachers, that has been shown, will continue to exist throughout the school year in order that our Music Program may become more enriched and valuable.