

Nine Singing Groups To End Christmas Party At Wallace Tomorrow Evening



MRS. W. H. FARRIOR

MISS EUGENIA QUINN

MRS. E. J. BRADY

MRS. CLARENCE J. BROWN

By JOHN SIKES
WALLACE, Dec. 20.—There'll be many a song in the air at Wallace's living Christmas tree Monday night.

And there are likely to be many stars in the sky for the men and women and children who'll be here to send those songs into the air.

The songs will climax Wallace's series of Christmas Carol sings which started the yuletide season here Dec. 4.

There will be nine singing groups from as many communities in this section, and there'll be approximately 350 voices in the combined choirs.

The communities that will be represented are Calypso, Warsaw, Charity, Magnolia, Burgaw, Long Creek, Chinquapin, Wallace, and Franklin School. The last one includes the towns of Delway, Kerr Station, Harrell's Store, Ivanhoe, and Tomahawk.

The number of voices in each choir will range from 18 to 65. On tomorrow night's program each group will sing one carol. At the end of the individual sings, the choirs will be judged

for excellence and the best will receive \$100, second \$50, and third, \$25.

Edwin Clark, director of music for the First Presbyterian church, Wilmington, and director of the men's and women's choruses of the Atlantic Coast Line, will be chief judge. He will be assisted by Mrs. Laura Hall Norton, director of the New Hanover High School Glee Club, Wilmington; music critic, and music columnist of the Charlotte Observer, Mr. Hall and Mrs. Norton will probably be assisted by others from Wilmington.

Following the individual singing, all carol groups will combine and, under the directorship of Mr. Clark, lead all those present at the sing in one huge medley of Christmas numbers.

Each of the choirs named already has appeared on the pine straw-strewn stage under Wallace's Christmas Tree. These have been preliminary sings to accustom the groups to singing outdoors.

At least, that's the technical reason for those preliminary sings. Actually, the choirs got together here in a grand effort

to revive carol singing at Christmas-time, to imbue this and all communities with the true spirit of Christmas.

Most of these groups were organized especially to sing here this year. In each community the choir directors not only have trained their singers, but they've also had to go about the country-side and recruit singers from all walks of life. There are few trained voices in the groups, but those who've heard the preliminary sings have acclaimed them all.

The Warsaw Baptist Church choir, under the leadership of Mrs. Clarence J. Brown, may be said to be the only trained group which is participating in the carol series.

At Long Creek, Mrs. B. J. Brady as director, is using some members of the school glee club to sing with adult members of the community. This is also true at Franklin school, where Mrs. Rob Murphy is director, at Chinquapin, with Miss Eugenia Quinn directing, and at Burgaw, where Mrs. J. H. Burnette and Mrs. C. F. Mallard, Jr., are co-directors.

In Wallace, where Mrs. W. H. Farrior, Mrs. Clifton Knowles and Miss Iris Herring are choir leaders, the group was recruited from several singing sources. Charity, directed by Mrs. Dixon Wood, is a community choir composed mostly of adults from the several church denominations.

Calypso, with Mrs. George Albritton in the lead, is made up of townspeople. And Magnolia, led by Mrs. I. F. Pope, is a sort of town project.

Tomorrow night is the finale so far as this Christmas season is concerned, but the sings have attracted so much favorable notice here, and the group leaders have said they derived so much pleasure from their efforts, the carol singing very likely will become an annual part of Wallace's yearly Christmas Festival.

Next year, it is hoped, other communities will join in the sings so that every section in Southeastern North Carolina will be represented under Wallace's Living Christmas Tree, their communal voices raising in the familiar, and glorious, songs of old.

BEACH CHURCH PRESENTS PLAY

Carolina Community Congregation To See Four Acts

The Carolina Beach Community church will present its most elaborate Christmas pageant since its founding tonight at 8 o'clock in the church.

The pageant, "Let Us Adore Him," will be in four scenes, which will be replete with special lighting effects of an elaborate nature arranged by F. L. Ludwig and Sons. It will be directed by the pastor, the Rev. James B. McQuere. A choir will be in the supporting cast.

Principal characters are: priest, William Russell; helpers, David Thomas and Russell Nichols; Spirit of Christmas, Faye Graham; reader, M. T. Ridaught; Mary, Helen Johnson; Joseph, Robert Ludwig; shepherds, Wallace Hanchey, Joseph Marley, and Jack Hawes; wise men, James Thomas, S. D. Kelly, Jr., and David Graham; children, Ramona Ludwig, James Russell, Joy Jones, Dan Jones and Jane Ann McQuere.

"Hark the Herald Angels Sing" will be sung by the entire congregation immediately prior to the presentation of the pageant.

King's Point Grad



DONALD W. RUSSELL, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. O. Russell, Wilmington, is today an engineering officer in the United States Merchant Marine, having graduated this month from the King's Point sign's commission in the United States Naval Reserve.

BURGAW STAGES SERVICES TODAY

Carol Singing To Be Presented On Court House Square

BURGAW, Dec. 21 — Local Christmas festivities will be highlighted by a community carol sing and pageant of the Nativity to be presented on the court house square by the Woman's club on Sunday afternoon. All choirs of the town, the high school Glee club and the ministers of all the churches will participate.

The singers will march in a procession around to the east side of the building, where the nativity scene will be located; singing as they come, "Hark the Herald Angels Sing."

As the shepherds and wise men appear before the manger, "Silent Night" will be sung. The Christmas story from the Gospel of St. Luke will be read by Rev. W. A. Poole and a prayer will be offered by Rev. W. E. Walston. Mrs. Milton Humphrey will render a solo, "O Holy Night". The benediction will be given by Rev. P. L. Clark. The program will be concluded with the congregation

CHRISTMAS PLAY SCHEDULED TODAY

First Presbyterian Church To Present Life Of Jesus

"A Mystery for Christmas in the Medieval Manner", composed by Howard D. McKinney, will be presented this afternoon at 5:30 in the First Presbyterian church.

The medieval mystery is similar to a modern pageant and is being directed by J. Padison Pretlow, assisted by Everett Huggins with the lights, both members of the congregation and widely known for their talent in dramatic arts. The chancel choir, singing from the balcony, will be directed by Edwin D. Clark, minister of music for the church, and accompanied by Miss Elizabeth McWhorter on the Skinner organ.

The part portraying Mary, the mother of Jesus, will be taken by Mrs. John Tinga and the traditional three Wise Men will be impersonated by Claude Howell, James E. Russell and Sam Troy. A number of young people will take the roles of shepherds and angels. Lynn Williams DuRant and Truman Magill will be contralto and tenor soloists.

"The Mystery for Christmas" was presented last year also in the church and is being repeated this year because of the unusual type of production it is. One of the interesting features of this year's production will be that the carol, "That Sweetest Ancient Cradle Song" will be sung to music composed by Henri Emurian, local musician and director of music in the First Baptist church.

"We Prefer a Star" will be the subject of the sermon by William Crowe, Jr., minister, for the morning service at 11:15, and three of the Church's choirs are ready to sing during this service. Their selections will be from the traditional Christmas music, including four brief numbers, the announcement states.

singing "Joy To The World", as they leave the square.

Participating in pageant will be Mrs. David Williams as Mary the mother of Christ, J. F. Bradshaw as Joseph, E. M. Thompson, Bill Wells and Devane Murphy as wise men, Heide Dav. W. H. Robbins and Raymond Bell, Jr., as shepherds.

Members of the Woman's club who are serving with Mrs. Clifton Moore, president on arrangements committees are Mrs. Helen Bland who is in charge of the art and scenery, Mrs. J. H. Burnett is directing the music and Mrs. N. C. Wolfe of the club's home department.

An invitation was issued this week by the club to the people of the community and entire county.

HOWARD SENTENCED

William H. Howard, 23-year-old Wrightsville Beach bookkeeper, was given a six-months suspended jail sentence yesterday in Recorder's court by Judge H. Winfield Smith after Howard was found guilty of assaulting with a deadly weapon, resulting in the serious injury of Herman L. Flythe last Nov. 25.

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'Sugar Plum Tree' Presented To Children By Local Red Cross

Childrens ward at James Walker Memorial hospital has been presented "Sugar Plum Tree," a point of interest at Holiday House, by the Wilmington chapter of the American Red Cross, it has been announced.

The Red Cross has announced its plans for playing Santa Claus for the children's ward Wednesday night.



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