

### To Enjoy Your He's Growing Up

turn out very well even though their parents did not seem to know the rules of the sports or the advantage of raising all the resources for parental guidance readily available. Yet these parents usually had other qualities not easily discerned, perhaps, by the expert, which help explain the good way their children have developed and turned out.

Among these qualities are moral and spiritual integrity, self-discipline, unselfishness, and a type of living on a high plane among their neighbors and their children, which have won the deep and abiding love and admiration of these children and inspired them to strive upwards. Some day the expert may discern more clearly some of these secrets and be able to point them out to other parents and to show these other parents how to profit from them.

But with the rank and file of parents who enjoy their children abundantly, a knowledge of the facts accumulated by the experts on child development, child guidance and happy family life, and the constant effort at growing skills to these ends, certainly have been useful.

I hope that because of this column many parents will enjoy their children while their children are growing up and later, more than they would have enjoyed them otherwise. The best wish I could extend to my readers who are parents is that they might enjoy their children as much as Mrs. Myers and I have enjoyed our children and grandchildren.

A copy of a prayer I once wrote for myself as parent may be had in a stamped envelope sent me in care of this paper.

### THE HOLY YEAR'S 'FIRST PILGRIMS'



"FIRST PILGRIMS" of the Holy Year is what Pope Pius XII termed Giuseppe Severini (left) and Ermengildo Marcesetti with whom the Pontiff is shown talking. Ex-Italian soldiers, they were captured by the Russians and vowed they "would walk to Rome" if they came out alive. They did, and hiked 32 days from Turin to Rome. (International)

### Capital Music Critics Polite In Reviews Of Miss Truman's Concerts

By JANE EADS  
WASHINGTON — The capital's music critics were polite in their reviews of Margaret Truman's offerings at her latest concert here, but they were not enthusiastic.

The consensus was that Margaret had a pleasing voice but that she was not yet ready for the concert stage. Nevertheless the audiences that have heard her throughout the country seem to enjoy her singing. The ovation she received at Constitution Hall was spontaneous and sincere. All the town's top-notchers were there, including members of the Supreme Court, the diplomatic corps, the cabinet and local socialites.

Margaret isn't bothered by the critics. She says she will go right on with her singing and some day hopes to sing in opera. In February she will continue her concert appearances with engagements in Florida, Texas, Arizona and Missouri.

She says she practices three to four hours a day, either in her own New York apartment or in that of her famous teacher, Helen Traubel, the "Met's" great Wagneria soprano from St. Louis. She sings in French, Italian, German, Spanish and English.

Margaret stays away from night clubs because she doesn't like the smoke, but says she lives "a normal life, has dates now and then." When she travels she goes by train or automobile because she "promised mother" she wouldn't. She takes along two or three basic suits and dresses and three concert gowns.

Margaret started her musical career when she was seven years old, learning to play the piano on the old family upright back in Independence, Mo. About nine years ago she started studying voice. Her first teacher was Mrs. Thomas Strickler of Kansas City.

In February, 1945, Margaret then a senior at George Washington University, wanted to chuck college and concentrate on singing. Her father put his foot down. She was graduated in May, 1946, receiving a degree in history. In the fall, Margaret up and quit the family circle, went to New York to study. Several months later, Miss Reathal Odum, her mother's secretary, who is now living with Margaret, announced her radio debut in Detroit. Her stage concert debut was in Pittsburgh, Oct. 17, 1947.

Margaret's voice is all that counts with her. She says it is her future. "Miss Truman does not want to have her career on the fact that she is the daughter of the President," Miss Odum said at the time of Margaret's radio debut. "She wishes

### Francis Cove To Give Christmas Play Friday

By MRS. BILL HOLLINGSWORTH (Mountaineer Correspondent)

The citizens of Francis Cove have been busy for the last two weeks practicing for their Christmas play, "They That Sit In Darkness."

They'll give the play at 8 p.m. Friday.

Everyone from all other communities are invited to attend.

They also will have a Christmas tree, and Santa will be there.

Directing the play, which has a cast of 18 characters, is Mrs. Rhody Hickman.

Other entertainment features also are planned.

The regular monthly meeting of the Community Development Program organization will be held at 8 p. m., December 29 at the church.

### National Guard To Hold Annual Christmas Event

The men of the Waynesville Heavy Tank Company, North Carolina National Guard, and their families will hold their annual Christmas Party tonight at the Armory.

Santa Claus will be guest of honor. He will give presents to the children, and the guardsmen and other members of their families.

Capt. James M. Davis, the company commander, will be master of ceremonies.

A policeman rose in a western court to testify against a prisoner. "Wot's this here fellow charged with?" the magistrate demanded. "Bigotry, your honor," the cop replied. "He's got three wives." "Three wives!" snapped the judge. "Why you ignoramus, that ain't bigotry, that's trigonometry."

### Brown Prefers Western Movies To Love-Making To Glamorous Women

By GENE HANDSAKER (AP News Features)

HOLLYWOOD — I asked Johnny Mack Brown whether he ever wished he were still making movie love to Jean Crawford as he used to, or to million-dollar dramas. The husky western star was thoughtful a moment, then said:

"I'd be foolish to say so. I've always admired her as a great girl and she's nice. Pickford, Garbo, other stars of the past — Red Fox of a field I'll never get out of and don't want to. I like westerns better. They belong to America. As long as we have American kids, there'll be a box office for westerns. I believe you always get a sense of duty and responsibility from westerns. A sense of romance, freedom, the things our country stands on, and the things our forefathers went through to establish this country."

Johnny Mack, as he has been known since the days when he caned the house of one overthrown in the Bow Brawl will never be a "movie" cowboy. He has his quarrels with the critics who are "but Johnny prefer being like the actor he admired when he was a boy, William S. Hart, Tom Mix, William Farnum, Buck Jones." "Wouldn't you like to be a cowboy?" "I'd like to be a cowboy," he says, "if I had had the chance around a guitar." Johnny could sing if he wanted to. He once launched a tune to Joan Crawford in a picture. And he studied opera arias from Faust, the production in Parkland, to deepen his speaking voice after "sounding" in.

Johnny Mack Brown, 44, is personable and ruddy cheeked. He was born in Doolin, Alabama, and before he got his start in Hollywood from William McGillicuddy, an American Indian chief, who offered the middle name Mack. McGillicuddy was the son of a Scottish immigrant and Prince, a chief of the Chickasaw tribe. Johnny Mack figures he'd about 1943 Creek in blood.

Redback Brown, the University of Alabama, learned round-tasting, around a Cleveland post from "Red" Call and ran 25 years to cross on New Year's Day, 1929. Johnny's best touchdown helped Alabama beat Washington, 20-19.

The movie industry signed the handsome young Southerner with the Baltimore profile. He lives now in a 16-room Beverly Hills house with his wife, four children, and a magnificent view of smoggy Los Angeles. Johnny Mack plans to ride the movie range indefinitely about the horse Rebel, which has been clocked at 42 miles an hour. He says: "You can star longer in westerns than in dramas. The fans are more loyal."

### Plans Complete For Gene Krupa Christmas Dance

Plans are complete for the Christmas Dance to be held at the Waynesville Armory on Friday night under the sponsorship of the Beta Sigma Phi sorority.

Gene Krupa, ace drummer, with his orchestra featuring Bill Black and Frances Lyons, soloists, will play for the dance and a large crowd is expected.

Mrs. Robert Braren, president of the sorority, is serving as general chairman for the event.

Advance ticket sales will close Friday at noon.

### Clyde Baptist Choirs To Sing Carols Saturday

The members of the Youth and Adult Choirs of the Clyde Baptist Church will observe Christmas Eve in the traditional manner.

They will walk through the streets singing Christmas carols, from 7:30 P. M. until 10:30 P. M., then will return to the church to have hot chocolate and welcome Christmas in at midnight.

### St. John's Will Give Christmas Radio Program On Thursday

The St. John's Choir will broadcast a Christmas program on WRC from 6:30 to 7 p. m. on Thursday.

The selection are the following: "Ave Maria," "The Birth of Christ," "Kerchen," "Lactaria," "Coco," "Grunder," "Lovely Bird," "Traditional," "Hark the Herald Angel Sing," "Lohmann," "Ave Maria Pure," "Griener," "O Holy Night," "Adam," "Lo How a Rose e'er Blooming," "Practaria," "Sanctus" from "Rosa Mystica Mass," "Carmali," "Gesu Bambino," "Yon," "Silent Night," "Grunder."

John Scabi of Stanford, Conn., one of the National Basketball Association officials, is president of the Class B Colonial baseball league in the summer.

### LAFF-A-DAY



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