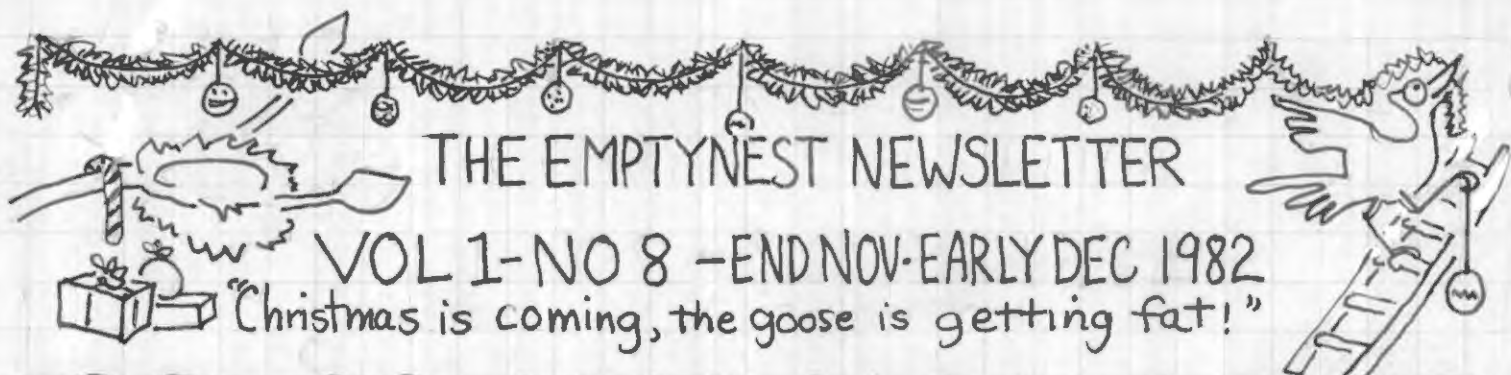




THE EMPTYNEST NEWSLETTER

VOL 1-NO 8 -END NOV-EARLY DEC 1982

"Christmas is coming, the goose is getting fat!"

GR GRAMA HONORED



29th Season 1982-83

BELOIT
JANESVILLE
SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA

Eaton Chapel
Beloit College

Tuesday, November 23, 8 P.M.

Honoring: Vera Dougan

Symphony Singles Out
Vera Dougan
on Occasion
of Concert by
Federation Winner

VERA WARDNER DOUGAN

Vera Wardner Dougan was born in Chicago, educated at MacMurray College, the American Conservatory and Kendall College of the Arts. Her enthusiasm, purpose of direction and leadership in a roster of clubs and organizations began in 1926. Her affiliations with Treble Clef, the Wisconsin Federation and the National Federation of Music Clubs eventually led to her election as president of the NFMFC. During her term she spoke in every state in the nation.

Innovations in Mrs. Dougan's illustrious career as musician and educator are: the founding of the Beloit Symphony Guild and becoming its first president; inaugurating "The Crusade for Strings"; instituting the Folk Music Archives; and the sponsorship of the Annual Parade of American Music by the NFMFC. The Vera Wardner Dougan Endowment Fund was established by the NFMFC and the purpose of the fund is to administer scholarships and awards to further the careers of striving and worthy artists. These recipients perform at the Peninsula Music Festival each year and receive the awards from Mrs. Dougan.

More than twenty citations and honors including the honorary Doctorate of Music from MacMurray College and the Theodora Youman's Citizenship Award from the Wisconsin Federation of Woman's Club have been bestowed on Vera Wardner Dougan. During Dwight Eisenhower's presidency, Mrs. Dougan served on the People to People Committee and is a Fellow in the International Institute of Arts and Letters. She served for eight years on the American Symphony Orchestra League board of directors.

On this occasion of the performance of our soloist, Robert McDonald, we honor Mrs. Dougan who has given over fifty five years to promote education, culture, and music through the performing arts.

See text of encomium on p. 5.



Beloit: On Nov. 23 Great Grama Vera W. Dougan, looking beautiful in a sea-foam colored pearly lustre suit, with corsage of deep red roses, was honored before a full audience at the Beloit-Janesville Symphony concert in the College chapel. Her musical accomplishments over the years were cited

RECEIVES ENCOMIUM (truncated) and at the end, there was thunderous applause and a standing ovation. We are proud of you, Grama, and know that without one of your major accomplishments there wouldn't be any of us! Also... who kept us practicing?

GRAMA'S CHRISTMAS LIST

Vera Wardner Dougan. Beloit can use sturdy but light weight mugs! Grama breaks 'em regularly. • Chanel # 5 Cologne. • A blue barnacle (blistering) bathrobe of that soft material.

GRAMPA'S CHRISTMAS LIST

Beloit: When asked by the editor of the ENNL what he wanted for Christmas, R.A. Dougan growled, "Nothing."

MIGHTY MOUSE'S CHRISTMAS LIST

1. EAU DE MOUSE 2. 9 LIVES LIQUOR 3. A CAT-TREE.

MS. MUFFET'S CHRISTMAS LIST

1. Doggie brush like Cover's. 2. Rawhide Bone

RECOVERS FROM SWOON

Spfd. J.D. Jackson has recovered from the swoon of shock she went into upon receiving the 2nd letter of the term from J. Ellie Jackson at Dartmouth. J.D.J. has been swooning mortally at the phone bill, however.

GORY MASSACRE!!

DUE TO END OF SEMESTER AND CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES, THIS WILL PROB. BE THE LAST ENNL TIL THE NEW YEAR. THE EDITOR WISHES ALL NESTS A JOYOUS XMAS, AND PLEASE SEND NEWS! WITHOUT IT THERE'S NO PAPER!

OWL HITS PANE

Beloit: Like a sonic boom, like a clap of thunder, an owl as large as a small turkey hit the picture window at Chez Nous right beside GrGrama's chair, causing Cover D'or to jump straight up three feet. The large bird fell to the ground with its feet curled pathetically over its stomach. GrGrama could not bring himself to go outside. When he finally did, several hours later, the owl was gone nor was there any trace of it in the vicinity.

HOWEVER, the ghost of the owl can be plainly seen on the window: the imprint of its body, two wing edges, the head and two pantaloons. Those wishing to see this phantom should make haste, for the winter rains may erase it. "I thought someone was shooting at me," said Gr. Grama, who only jumped two feet above her chair.

See Late Bulletin Page 2 for sad details

BIRTHDAYS ACOMIN'

- 12-10 Peter Schmidt
- 12-11 Lewie Dalvit
- 12-19 Pat Dalvit
- 12-25 Katie Marie Noel Schmidt YDE (+J.C.)
- 12-30 Bart Dougan
- 1-7 Matthew Schmidt
- 1-12 Ra Craig Dougan
- 1-15 Damaris Lee Jackson
- 1-25 Tom Schmidt

BIRTHDAYS OVERLOOKED

- 10-17 Betsy Schmidt
- 10-20 Stephanie D. McPhillips
- 10-26 Jeremy Schmidt
- 9-6 Ms Muffet Jackson

THREE NESTS EMPTY

The editor of the ENNL has realized that not only is 8/6 a nearly empty nest, but so is Dr. R. Craig Dougan's: Tre v to college, and The Karl Schmidts': Tom having left home for Butte.

GO EAST, OLD DOG, AND AUDITION! R.A.D. ADVISES OREGON CANINE, BISCUIT D.

Beloit: Gr Grampa Dougan, regular reader of the Wall St Journal, has sent the following clipping to Biscuit, dog of Dr & Mrs. R. Craig Dougan. Biscuit has fame all over Beaver Creek for his fine melodies with Dr Dougan's harmonica. His concert schedule is demanding; nightly performances are not unusual.

Musician Hoping Piano-Dog Sonata Is Howling Success

Juilliard-Trained Composer
Auditions 10 Canines, Picks
2 to Take Their Bow-Wows

By ADDIE M. RIMMER

Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.
NEW YORK—A longhair composer is looking for a choir of canines to be accompanied by a pianist.

Kirk Nurock, a 34-year-old Juilliard-trained musician, speculates that someday audiences will line up to hear his "Sonata for Piano and Dog," a four-movement, 35-minute piece. He believes recordings of the howling, woofing, growling, yelping and barking would even sell.

The sonata is based on a Darwinian theory that in addition to noises animals make for mating, fighting and hunger, they also like to hear their own voices.

Mr. Nurock, who has written arrangements for such human artists as Judy Collins, Barry Manilow and Bette Midler, recently auditioned 10 dogs. After interviewing their owners to find out what prompts each dog to bark, Mr. Nurock barked and howled with each potential star and listened for the clearest yelps and thickest growls.

Two Mongrels Chosen

Two mongrels pawed their way into employment, for which they might receive a bone or a pat on the head. Mr. Nurock's search for a third barkalist continues.

"This is not a showbiz novelty," he maintains. Although he hasn't any formal training in working with animals, he's had plenty of experience and considers the sonata an extension of his 14-year involvement with Natural Sound, a technique based on the notion that anyone can be musical. Natural sounds are made with the voice and body without using external instruments, he explains. * See p. 4, "Natural Sounds."

Mr. Nurock has explored the notion in previous works. Last year, he performed a work commissioned by the Bronx Zoo. The chrous included owls, wolves and birds. Last July, he participated in a concert in Chicago's Lincoln Park Zoo, where his performers were orangutans and guinea pigs.

Other Credentials

Mr. Nurock's credentials also include a May 1981 Carnegie Hall performance of a 12-minute choral work by 20 people and five dogs.

Although a performance hasn't been set, Mr. Nurock said the work might debut at the Natural Sound Center in Manhattan. The center seats 100.

But who will pay to hear dogs sing on cue?

Says one dog lover: "Why should I pay to see something like that, when I can get free entertainment when a fire engine goes by? That just sets the dogs off."

NEWS BRIEFS

Peterborough, N.H. Ellie Jackson spent Thanksgiving with the Ed Dells, who had 24 or 25 guests! She yanked out in front of the TV, glad for a rest from school and swimming. And feeling a little side-low grade fever. But glad to be w/ Dells. Chesterland, Ohio Stephanie Dalvit

McPhillips & husband Tom have recently spent a week in the Bahamas, all expenses paid, because Steffie's best friend is dating a millionaire. The Shores all have such connections!!

Minneapolis Demi Jackson was one of 3 cooks who prepared Thanksgiving turkeys for 33 Twin Cities who did not travel to families for the holiday. The rest of the feast was pot-luck.

Peterborough, N.H. Carol and Ed Dell have requested to be on the mailing list of the ENNH. They've viewed the last two issues, borrowed from Walston, & sent to all Dell children. Carol Dell especially liked Vera Dougan's saying "Don't we still together."

Flagstaff, Ariz. Jeremy Schmidt & Wendy Baylor now have a phone. With that & electricity, Jerry writes: "Toast in the morning, a refrigerator, lights, waffles, stereo, power tools, -- does that mean that we're now in touch with the 20th century?" The no. is 602-526-4889.

Beavercreek Cindy Dougan, Asst Credit Manager at Zells, classy jewelry store in Portland, has received a raise.

Haver J. Ellie Jackson's towel was stolen from the swimming pool. Spfld. On Nov. 21 J.D.J. rode "Joey" & "Star" at Tom Hogerman's farm, & was delighted to find she still could. Her back was fine. She also enjoyed a hot dog treat.



AP PHOTO: Schmidt & granddaughter Yde.

SCHMIDT SHARES HIS TOYS
Madison: Professor Karl F. Schmidt, U. of Wis. Professor, Producer of Earplay & fine radio drama, is setting a good example to his grandchildren by sharing his toys. Whenever one of the 5 grandchildren visit, they are allowed to play with Grampa's blocks, trucks, dolls, Playskool Farm, Bus, and Garage, and read Grampa's Mother Goose book and picture dictionary. They must put Grampa's toys away, and Grampa does not allow the toys to be taken home. Karl Schmidt is to be congratulated for being such a big boy.

THANK YOU
to an
ANONYMOUS
DONOR- for
\$25 to help with
expenses of the ENNH.

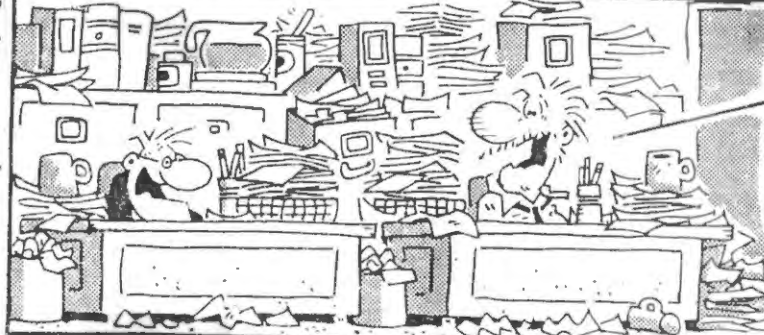
12 DEAD DUCKS: 1 SURVIVOR

REBECCA IN SHOCK; DOCTOR DELIVERS EGG

Late Bulletin, Beaver Creek, Ore: A raid on the Dougan duckyard by an unknown assailant resulted in 12 deaths and one injury. Lost in the massacre were elder ducks Abigail, Nelson Eddy and Humphrey Bogart, and 9 young ducks including Tyrone Shoekkes. Responding to Biscuit's frantic barking Craig and Barbara Dougan rushed to the duckyard but were too late to save the denizens, with the exception of Rebecca, an elder duck, injured and in shock. Dr. Dougan realized that Rebecca was in trouble, took her to the house and delivered the egg she'd been in the process of laying when the attack came. She has not left her nest for three days, & Dr. Dougan fears that she may follow her yardmates, dying of grief, injuries & shock. She hisses when Dr. Dougan tries to feed her. The 12 ducks were buried in a trench with full military honors. Biscuit Dougan provided music. Dr. Dougan wept. The Dougans plan to have ducks again, but not before the yard is strengthened and more invulnerable. The coop secured. The murderer is surmised to have been a ferret.

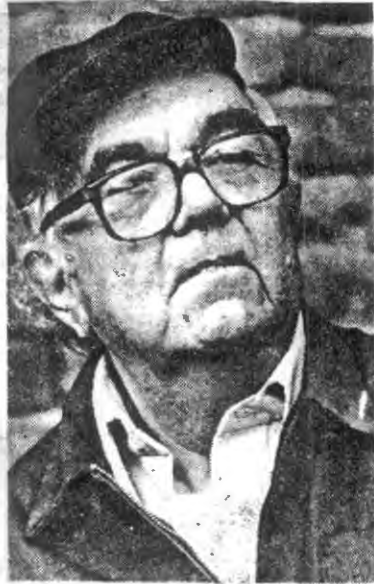
NEARLY MISSES BIG EVENT Beats Own Time

Beloit Gr. Grampa Dougan, who whispered loudly all through "Afternoon of a Faun" ("What do you think of Crawford Gates's after-part of a faun?") chose the closing minute of the intermission to go to the men's room. The tribute to Gr. Grampa was begun without him by her side. (After the first number, J.D.J. refused to sit by him.) Haver At the first meet of the season, at Spfld, Mass., J. Ellie Jackson swam the 500 in 6:44. Her previous best time was 6:57. Her coach, Sue says she is very pleased with Ellie, her enthusiasm and drive. Ellie will travel to Miami w/ the Dartmouth women's team on Dec. 8.



MY MOTTO IS,
"A PLACE FOR
EVERYTHING AND
EVERYTHING ALL
OVER THE PLACE"

Health department closes apartment building: squalor



Robert Smith, the owner, admitted there are "cosmetic" problems with the apartment building at 436-438 N. Fifth St.



State Journal-Register/Barry Locher

An apartment building in the 400 block of North Fifth Street, which city public health director Jim Diekroeger described as "not fit for human habitation," was closed by the health department Wednesday.

The two-story, red-brick building is designed for four apartments, but contains 12.

One older woman was in the habit of entering and exiting her apartment through a window because she had no access to her apartment by door.

The building is infested with roaches and "rodents," Diekroeger said, and gaping holes in the ceiling of one apartment were stoppered with old newspaper.

The fixtures in the building's four bathrooms are "all worn out," Ward said, and some tenants were "excreting on the floor, rather than in the bathrooms." One health inspector said he could not stay inside the building for long because of the smell.

Tenants ranged in age up to an 85-year-old woman who lived on the second floor, Peckham said.

SPFID: ELLIE SHOWS DARTMOUTH FRIENDS THE NEIGHBORHOOD SHE LIVES IN.

SO YOUNG, SO WISE

Butte, Montana. In a letter to his parents, Tom Schmidt writes: "Son, fifth, also works on fiction. He has discovered something he should have known a long time ago. He enjoys writing, thinks about what he writes, delves, twists and fiddles with what he's writing, only when he cares about what he writes. Oddly, and obviously, he cares only when he suspects he may scrape near the truth somehow. It doesn't seem to matter whether it really is the truth, only that he believe it. And what he sees in the writing, even if it really isn't there, is a kind of truth, his perception of what really happened, why."

Tom: This is from your Aunt Jackie. The above is what I try to convince my students in all my writing classes, and most of them are a lot older than you! When they do get the message, or discover it for themselves, they are transformed, but some never do. Bravo for you!

CRESSIDA CRAWLS!

Rene Well, not exactly - but for one day recently she had all the mechanism under control and went forward several inches. The next day she'd lost the kudos. She pushes herself backwards w/ some agility however. Her mother predicts that by Xmas 816 will have to take the socks to.

This poem was written by the Ed. of the ENNL in response to an experience she had this week.

CRYSTAL

She was a waif in a brown dress
Crouched between door & locker
Her teacher arched over her
I know why you did it
You said you'd handed it in
But you didn't, and then
You slipped it in between the others
Thinking I'd be fooled
Because that's the way you think
Well I wasn't
And you can stay right there
Until you confess it
I sidled up to her, knelt to her level
Asked her name
Crystal
Asked her age
Nine
I don't know what you did
Or why you're here
But I think you're getting a raw deal
Keep your chin up. Courage!
I left, feeling hurt and hate
The principal called
Were you just in this school
Did you talk to Crystal in the hall
She's told her teacher, & now me
That an old grey-haired lady
Is out to get her.

also reports that a huge Xmas tree has been erected & decorated in the middle of the green. It was so warm on Saturday that two male students were playing Frisbee in front of the decorated tree, dressed only in white shorts.

Rene Skip Braten reports that daughter Cressida, 4 + months, "never puts her eyes into idle." The Midwest is hungry to see those bright eyes!!

New Orleans Cousin Delia Campagna is a freshman at Tulane, and enjoying it. Back in Washington, her brother Chris is in public school for the 1st time & enjoying it. These two are children of Michy Campagna, son of our dear cousin E.A.

Spfld. Mighty Mouse Jackson paid a 29.50 visit to the Vet, Dec 6, & was treated for an infected ear, a respiratory ill, and fleas. She is recovering nicely, but has been extremely annoyed w/ J.D.J., who must give her her medicine. Spfld. The Ed. of the ENNL requests news, features, ads, etc. from YOU to keep this publication lively.

NETWORK PROGRAMMING



IS THIS PLOT
REALLY ESSENTIAL
TO THE SEX AND
VIOLENCE?

ELLIE LISTS YULE WANTS

- Hot pot : 1 quart or more capacity -with heating element NOT sticking up inside ~~XX~~
- Leg warmers and Knee sox -- any colors welcome !!
- Stationery - may encourage me to write more letters!! All I have is notebook paper!
- Towels-- are Key!! One has been stolen at the pool, and the two I have left mildew because they never have time to dry! Irregulars are fine!*
- Any nice artwork, prints, etc. to to adorn my walls!
- Photos of family and friends for bulletin board! Snaps are wonderful!!! [Cressida?]
- Ski gloves-- an unwise choice if you want me to have them in 2 years! But I'll try!!
- A single hole punch EG
- Toaster oven

*Ed note: A box of old towels have gone off to Ellie, donated by Chrissa Jorgenson (age 80) and the late Elizabeth Graham. However at the rate Ellie loses towels, if any of you want to get rid of your oldish ratty ones, PLEASE SEND! Elegance ain't where it's at.

KOPLOW COMMENTS ON "NATURAL SOUND"

Covington, Ky. The Ed. of the E.N.N.L. showed the Nurack article to Philip Koplow, composer in residence at Northern Kentucky University and composer of the Editors' swash hit musical, The Endless Pavement. "Of course the basic idea is not new to me," responded Koplow. "I have already used participatory audiences with finger-snapping, tongue sticking, and, naturally, clapping. But to discover that someone else is working along those lines is both gratifying and dismaying. My challenge is to now complete the many works I have in process, before Mr. Nurack beats me to the punch. I refer, of course, to my "Passage for Pugilists," a duet with stunning percussive treatment of uppercuts, left hooks, etc., culminating in the final Knockout. I have already finished "Knucklecrackers Suite," Toccata for Teethgrinders, and Sonata for Harp and Stomach Growls." At Dr. Dougan's suggestion I read the story of the famous Le Petomane, and have been inspired to compose a "Wind Quintet for Five Farters." The fugue is especially effective. I have blocked out "L'Allegro, a Tone Poem for haughtiness and Orchestration-- a choral work, it starts with flutters and chucklers, progresses through some subtle modulations of sardonic, derisive, and triumphant laughs, and a brief passage of hysteria, to the final belly laugh complete with attendant snorts, gasps, wheezes, and a brief coda where one is laughing so hard that he cannot make any noise at all. The conclusion to this work, "El Penseroso," will explore the repertoire of grief. Weeping, wailing, blubbering, snuffling, burbling, sobbing, whooping, and so forth. My "Senile Symphony" has progressed no further than the first movement, "Arthritis," where I do alot with creaking; I think the second movement will be "Myeloma." Some natural sounds may be too delicate to orchestrate, such as one person digging out an ear, but a whole chorus of ear-diggers might work. Jackie herself is no newcomer to this field, witness her "Belching Song" in Ghost Boat. I'd like to expand that to a whole contrapuntal chorus of belchers. Or, also considering an "Elegy for Emphasizers," which literally takes your breath away. More difficult, since the soloists would have to be asleep, is my "Serenade for Snorers." I have a wife who snores in A flat, and other readers of the ENNL will never have forgotten the virtuosity of or-or-Grampa W.J. Dougan in this area. My "Snot Sonata" is divided into "nose blowing," "phlegm," and "Expectoration." The audience will, at last, have a musical channel for all the coughing, sneezing, sniffing and hocking that they always do anyway. "Illness Interlude" will feature gagging, vomiting, and the various expressions of pain. And we mustn't let our prejudices lead us to overlook what we consider the crude "natural sounds" but try to elevate them to the realm of (count on P. 5)

"A MISDEMEANOR IS A MINOR OFFENSE"



LIKE MAYBE JAYWALKING



"A FELONY IS A MORE SERIOUS CRIME"



LIKE NOT FEEDING THE DOG!



CAST OF CHARACTERS

Spfld. Readers of the ENNL who are not familiar, do you ever wonder who's who? Here it is: progenitors, Ron & Vera Dougan, Beloit. Four Kids & their families: Jo & Karl Schmidt: Peter & Betsy Schmidt, Bethesda, (Madison); Jeremy Schmidt & Wendy Baylor, Arizona; Katie Schmidt Yde & Dede Yde, Ashland, Wis., with Sonja and Joshua; Dan & Julie Schmidt, St. Paul, with Karl Andrew, & Tom Schmidt, Butte. Then there's Pat Dougan Dalvit & Laurie Dalvit, Jackson, Miss., with Jackie Jo Dalvit Gutliere & her Goliath, Philadelphia, and Stephanie Dalvit McPhillips & Tom McPhillips, just out of Cleveland. Next, Jackie Dougan Jackson, known as JDT or Ed. of the ENNL, and Damaris Jackson, Minneapolis, Megan Jackson & Bob Wesley, Champaign & Spfld, Gillian Jackson & Skip Broten & CRESSIDA, Reno, and Elspeth Jackson, Dartmouth College. Last come ITTO CWAIG, Dr. R. Craig Dougan & Barbara Dougan, with 7 kids. Ricky, Bart and Bonnie, Cindy, Trevor, David, Dana & David, and Lisa. READERS OF THE ENNL WHO ARE FAMILY: The Ed. tries to let you know who the non-family people are, in the context of the article - unless it's one of the briefies. Yoo-hoo! Nancy Ranyard!

NATURAL SOUNDS

Beaver Creek. Dr. R. Craig Dougan, in reading the article about the Curing Song to his accomplished dog, Biscuit, wonders if Nurack has heard of the French artist, Le Petomane, who drew larger crowds than Jennie Lind. His instrument was his colon, he could draw air into it and then let it out in rhythms and pitches. He played before the crowned heads of Europe. Especially moving was his rendition of "La Marseilles," which brought tears to all Frenchman's eyes. "My dog Buckley has some of the gift of Le Petomane," says Dr. Dougan, "but his intonation is not as accurate. Also, his audience is sometimes forced to get up and leave the room."

Flood

Spfld. On Dec. 2, returning from class in the downpour, JDT laughed to see the high way like a river and the corner having rapids & white water. The laugh was other however, when she got home & found her basement filling with water due to super saturation of the ground. She bailed all day Friday with the help of Mimi Baldwin & rotating crews of men from Gateway House across the street, dashing out to record her radio show and drive participants home. She got up and bailed 4-5 AM, and again at 8, before a Sat. class. The rain finally ceased and the basement started to recede. Damage was held to a mini mud, thanks to helpers. JDT slipped on the concrete & cracked her head. So far it hasn't been a concussion, but it hurts.

finger-snapping, tongue sticking, and, naturally, clapping. But to discover that someone else is working along those lines is both gratifying and dismaying. My challenge is to now complete the many works I have in process, before Mr. Nurack beats me to the punch. I refer, of course, to my "Passage for Pugilists," a duet with stunning percussive treatment of uppercuts, left hooks, etc., culminating in the final Knockout. I have already finished "Knucklecrackers Suite," Toccata for Teethgrinders, and Sonata for Harp and Stomach Growls." At Dr. Dougan's suggestion I read the story of the famous Le Petomane, and have been inspired to compose a "Wind Quintet for Five Farters." The fugue is especially effective. I have blocked out "L'Allegro, a Tone Poem for haughtiness and Orchestration-- a choral work, it starts with flutters and chucklers, progresses through some subtle modulations of sardonic, derisive, and triumphant laughs, and a brief passage of hysteria, to the final belly laugh complete with attendant snorts, gasps, wheezes, and a brief coda where one is laughing so hard that he cannot make any noise at all. The conclusion to this work, "El Penseroso," will explore the repertoire of grief. Weeping, wailing, blubbering, snuffling, burbling, sobbing, whooping, and so forth. My "Senile Symphony" has progressed no further than the first movement, "Arthritis," where I do alot with creaking; I think the second movement will be "Myeloma." Some natural sounds may be too delicate to orchestrate, such as one person digging out an ear, but a whole chorus of ear-diggers might work. Jackie herself is no newcomer to this field, witness her "Belching Song" in Ghost Boat. I'd like to expand that to a whole contrapuntal chorus of belchers. Or, also considering an "Elegy for Emphasizers," which literally takes your breath away. More difficult, since the soloists would have to be asleep, is my "Serenade for Snorers." I have a wife who snores in A flat, and other readers of the ENNL will never have forgotten the virtuosity of or-or-Grampa W.J. Dougan in this area. My "Snot Sonata" is divided into "nose blowing," "phlegm," and "Expectoration." The audience will, at last, have a musical channel for all the coughing, sneezing, sniffing and hocking that they always do anyway. "Illness Interlude" will feature gagging, vomiting, and the various expressions of pain. And we mustn't let our prejudices lead us to overlook what we consider the crude "natural sounds" but try to elevate them to the realm of (count on P. 5)



SHE COULD BE ARRESTED FOR THAT



"SUPPER DISH ABUSE"!



FULL TEXT OF GR-GRAMA'S HONOR

Vera Wardner Dougan Honored By Beloit-Janesville Symphony Orchestra, Eaton Chapel, Beloit College, Tues Nov 23 1982. Presented by Bill Goetzow, Pres. of the Beloit Janesville Symphony.

One of the musical treasures of the Beloit Area is Vera Wardner Dougan. Tonight on this significant occasion when piano soloist Robert McDonald, a 1979 Artist Winner of the National Federation of Music Clubs Competition, performs, it is fitting and proper that we recognize Vera Dougan for her leadership as President of the National Federation of Music Clubs and her lasting contributions to this community.

Vera was born in Chicago, educated at MacMurray College, the American Conservatory, and Kendall College of the Arts. It was in the 1920's when Vera met Ron when both were performing social work in France in those difficult days after World War I. Master farmer Ron Dougan brought Vera home to Beloit. Admired mother of four musicians herself, Vera has worked together with Master Farmer Ron to color a corner of Wisconsin on the National maps.

Vera's enthusiasm, her purpose of direction, and her leadership in a long roster of clubs and organizations began in 1926. Her affiliation with Treble Clef, the Wisconsin and the National Federation of Music Clubs, led to her election as president of the National Federation. It was during this term that she spoke in every state in our nation.

An innovator as well as an educator, Vera was the founder of the Beloit Symphony Guild as well as its first president; inaugurated the "Crusade for Strings"; instituted the folk music archives; and sponsored the annual Parade of American Music by the Federation.

The Vera Wardner Dougan Endowment Fund was established by the NFMC to administer scholarships and awards to further the careers of striving and worthy artists. These recipients perform at the Peninsula Music Festival in Door County each year and receive the awards from Vera.

[Here comes the part that Mother doesn't like.] The NFMC isn't one that people talk about everyday. Rather, it is a quiet, secure, faithful supporter ready with a pat on the back and encouragement with awards of scholarships for young artists - truly the backbone of fine music.

More than 20 citations & honors, including the honor any doctorate of Music from MacMurray College and the Theodora Youngman's Citizenship Award from the Wisconsin Federation of Women's Clubs have been bestowed on Vera Dougan, as well as life membership on the Board of Directors of the Beloit-Janesville Symphony.

During Dwight Eisenhower's presidency, Mrs. Dougan served on the People to People Committee, and is a fellow in the International Institute of Arts and Letters. She served for 8 years on the American Symphony Orchestra League Board of Directors, and has been an active member of Treble Clef for 54 years.

On this occasion of the performance of award-winning soloist, Robert McDonald, McDonald, and the 29th year of the Beloit-Janesville Symphony Orchestra, we honor Mrs. Dougan who has given over 55

Farmer Hangs His Own Goat

ROVIGO, Italy (AP) - Farm-grade crossing with the bar or Martino Ferrari looked out of down. He tied the rope around the tavern window and discovered the bar and went into a nearby tavern to wait for the train to hang his own goat.

Ferrari bought the goat Tuesday. He was leading it home with a rope around its neck when he came to a railway

pass.

Next time he looked out the window, the train had passed, the bar had lifted, and the goat was hanged.

Aside from that, Martino, how was your pause that refreshes?

RECEPTION PLANNED

Spfld. A reception to celebrate the marriage of Ms. Gillian Jackson & Mr. Arthur "Skip" Brotman is being planned (as of Dec 6) for Jan 1, 4-7 or 8 PM. It will be a gala event, and it will also be to celebrate the birth of Cressida, & give all Spfld friends a chance to meet her. Plan to be here if you can! For it is also a celebration of the meaning of family and friends.

KOPLOW COMMENTS, (Con't.)

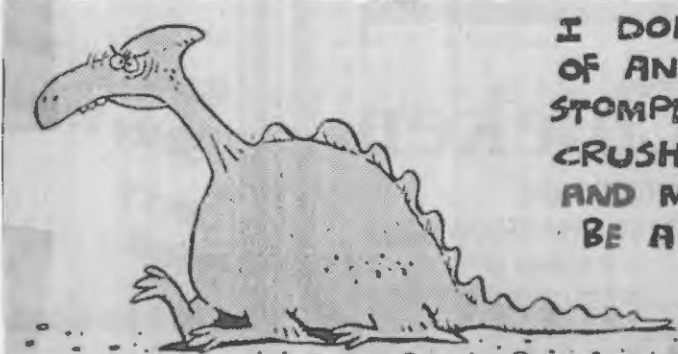
pure aesthetic experience. My "Sonata for Lute and Pissers" though the soloists will have to stand behind a screen, may succeed in this. And at the risk of immodesty, I am going to assert that "Execratory Variations" is really moving. The Allegro movement is titled "Diarrhea" and the Largo is, of course, "Constipation." At one point the entire orchestra grinds to a complete stop, and it will take the combined straining of the whole audience to get it moving again. Surely the most effective grand pause in all musical history! I think it will be a great relief to everyone when this production is over. A catharsis.

Said this is a family publication, I hesitate to describe my magnum opus, "Orgy for Orchestra," but it should be the most arousing of all! Masters Johnson are auditioning soloists for me. The prelude is a quiet one, "Foreplay," but I confess my debt to Papa Haydn contains a one-measure surprise at the end, "Premature Ejaculation." The rondo, "S&M," features the rattling of chains and drone bass of leather boots. The Mazurka has no grand pause, but a complete cessation midway - "Coitus Interruptus." I think you'd be glad to know, though, that the finale works up to a terrific double climax. It's going to make "The Hall of the Mountain King" sound like "Row Row Row Your Boat."

years to promote and cherish education, culture, and music through the performing arts. Congratulations to you, VERA WARDNER DOUGAN! ***

AND YA-

HOOT TO
YOU,
GR-GRAM,
GRAMA
and
MOM
!!!



I DON'T KNOW WHAT KIND OF ANIMAL IT IS, BUT IT STOMPED ME, MANGLED ME, CRUSHED, DEMOLISHED, MAIMED, AND MUTILATED ME... IT MUST BE A THESAURUS.



(cartoon can't be last page.)

LAST MINUTE YULE WANT:

Harover Ellie wants the largest, most complete, paper-back thesaurus there is! (I've said her the one on the left, except it's hide-bound & how would we wrap it?)

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Natural childbirth ban angers women

by Elaine Potter

WOMEN throughout Britain are being asked to attend a rally in London on April 4 to protest against a decision by one of Britain's top teaching hospitals to ban natural childbirth. The rally is being called by The National Childbirth Trust, which gives advice to more than 18,000 women a year.

The issue has come to a head at the Royal Free Hospital in Hampstead, where Professor Ian Craft, who is known for his successes with test-tube babies, heads the department of obstetrics and gynaecology.

Until recently, some mothers who wished to have their babies without drugs or anaesthetics, and with as little interference as possible from hospital staff, were permitted to do so by the hospital. One particular consultant there, with a nationwide reputation for encouraging natural childbirth, had attracted women who had been trained during pregnancy for "active births"—which means moving freely during labour and choosing the position they find most comfortable—squatting, standing or kneeling, for instance.

But the ruling opinion at the Royal Free, as at many other hospitals in Britain, is that natural childbirth is less safe and less convenient than so-called "high technology" childbirth, where the woman gives birth lying on her back, often wired up to electronic monitoring equipment, and anaesthetised to varying degrees.

Sheila Kitzinger, a founder of the National Childbirth Trust and author of a guide to maternity hospitals, says: "There is more and more



Nancy Hocking and the baby she wanted to be born by natural methods

evidence that when women can deliver spontaneously, it is safer for the mother and baby. Women have to speak out in a clear voice: it is they who are having the babies, not the doctors. It is the job of the doctors and midwives to help the mothers give birth, not to take over."

Above all, she believes, women should be free to choose what style of birth they

want. Many hospitals throughout Britain do not allow women to choose their method of delivery. Indeed, the April rally outside the Royal Free is against all hospitals that ban active birth.

One case which is cited by the protesters is that of Nancy Hocking, a 29-year-old American who was so incensed by her experience at the hospital last August when having her

first baby that she vigorously complained.

Her story, as told to Neville Walton, district administrator for the hospital, goes as follows: at midnight on August 29 last year, she had been in labour at home for 22 hours. She judged it time to get to the hospital. When she arrived, calm and confident, she got on to the delivery table on her hands and knees, the position

she had found most comfortable in the previous two hours at home. The midwife on duty—whose name Mrs Hocking does not know—immediately asked her to lie on her back. She refused. Another midwife and a student doctor arrived to try and persuade her. She still refused, arguing between grunts of pain, that she was most comfortable as she was.

The midwives then produced a crumpled scrap of pink paper which they asked Mrs Hocking to sign, exempting them from all responsibility if anything went wrong. Reluctantly, she signed. Then, to her astonishment, the two midwives sat in the far corner of the delivery room, crossed their arms and refused to help.

Mrs Hocking's confidence began to give way. In her own words, "I stopped pushing because I was very frightened. I didn't want the baby to be born with no one to help. My husband didn't know what to do. To alleviate his fears, when he asked me, I eventually agreed to turn over." The midwives then returned to Mrs Hocking's side. Twenty minutes later her daughter was born.

Neville Walton, replying to Mrs Hocking's complaint, said that her experiences were due in part to a "misplaced understanding that alternative methods of childbirth were available at the hospital".

Mrs Hocking says that Professor Craft later told her that he was not prepared to use natural methods until they were proved to be as safe as those currently in use.

Walton made it clear last week that the prohibition applied to all patients at the hospital and not just to those under Professor Craft.

When she was in E. Lansing over Halloween weekend, talking at the Michigan Council of Teachers of English. (Nancy & Wendell, as well as Megan and Chad Hocking, are godchildren of Jackie Jackson's, and are also old friends of the entire Walsh clan.)

When JDT took her sabbatical in 1979, she stayed in London with Nancy and her husband Ara Nigogosian. Nancy is an artist, & sketched JDT in the nude, which portrait now hangs in Gib Hocking's study. She also repairs oriental rugs. Her father-in-law had the most fabulous garden JDT has ever seen, stretching up his back yard. It was made, JDT thinks, with help from his sons and other family members, and has been a labour of love over many years. JDT sometimes puts herself to sleep thinking of that garden, and of various events during her London stay with Ara & Nancy, including her birthday party, given by them. JDT made an effort to get to E. Lansing where Nancy & Babe are now paying a surprise visit, but negotiations with the schools fell through. However, JDT is seriously considering accompanying her godchild Wendy on a bicycle tour of England in May, & will see Nancy & her family then.

THE EDITOR OF THE EMPTY NEST NEWS-LETTER WISHES ALL READERSHIP THE HAPPIEST OF HOLIDAYS. — and requests that copy be sent, preferably in black ink and ready to cut out and paste into our columns.



London The times, of course, is the London Times, and the pictured mother is none other than our own Nancy Hocking, who has been creating quite a stir over there! Her protests have served as a rallying point for thousands of women and a number of organizations, & she is responsible for a natural childbirth international meeting being held in London at this time. J.D.T. got in on all this exciting & interesting news when she stayed with Gib, Judy & Wendell Hocking in Okemos