

V. 1. 2. 3 in one vol

# *The* Roland Park Company's MAGAZINE ✓

DEVOTED TO NEWS OF  
ROLAND PARK ∴ GUILFORD ∴ HOMELAND



HOUSE SHOWING ITALIAN INFLUENCE

Photo Holmes I. Mettee

Residence of Mr. and Mrs. George Siemomm, 3 Overhill Road, Roland Park. Parker, Thomas and Rice, architects

*Live in The Roland Park-Guilford District.*

*Fifteen hundred acres of restricted land—  
Roland Park, Guilford, Homeland.*

Vol. 1

MARCH, 1926

No. 3

*Published Monthly by* THE ROLAND PARK COMPANY  
18 EAST LEXINGTON STREET ∴ BALTIMORE, MARYLAND



## THE INITIAL DEVELOPMENT OF HOMELAND

THE development of Homeland into a garden-suburb similar in character to Roland Park and Guilford was started in the fall of 1924. Ground was broken by the construction forces on October 28 of that year and during the next twelve months virtually all of the street improvements and public utilities were completed in the initial area.

This comprises ninety-one acres of the entire tract of three hundred and ninety acres, the section rolling gently from St. Alban's Way on the west to Bellona Avenue and Putney Way, its eastern boundaries. A feature of the topography is the chain of small lakes that gives Springlake Way its name.

Springlake Way parallels the longer stretch of St. Alban's Way, running north through Homeland from Homeland Avenue, the Southern extremity of the property.

In discussing the development, G. W. Stephens, Jr., chief engineer of The Roland Park Company, said that every effort had been made to preserve the natural beauty of the terrain.

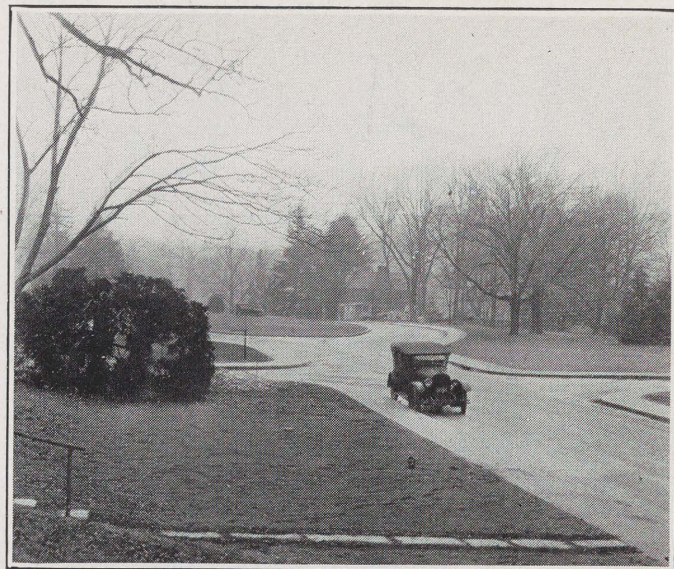
"The lakes were especially considered in the construction of Springlake Way and part of St. Dunstan's Road," Mr. Stephens added, "and the winding roadways and sidewalks of these thoroughfares follow the contour of the land.

"Special attention was given to the preservation of trees throughout the wooded parts of the development, and dry stonewalls were constructed wherever it was necessary to protect the roots of a fine tree or to support a bank.

"The rough grading of the roads and alleys of the initial development was rushed during the fall of 1924 and it continued through the succeeding winter months, despite the fact that there was lots of bad weather, snow and freezing, that made the mixing and placing of concrete very difficult. These conditions continued, perhaps you remember, almost without interruption to the end of March, 1925. Naturally when Spring arrived the project went ahead with increased speed.

"The construction work completed at the expiration of a year from the starting time included the laying of more than three miles of roads and alleys, five miles of sidewalks, seven miles of concrete curbing and proportionate mileages of sanitary sewers, storm-water drains and water mains. Prior to paving, connections had been made for sewer, water and gas service lines to prevent subsequent digging.

"I want to express hearty appreciation for the close cooperation of the various city departments and the public utilities corporations in the development."



VIEW IN HOMELAND  
NORTH UP ST. ALBANS WAY SHOWING CIRCLE AT UPNOR ROAD

## MARCH WORK IN THE GARDEN

Last call for dormant spraying. This is essential to keep down scale in your trees and shrubbery. Miscible oils are best for the purpose.

Finish pruning grape vines and all late summer blooming shrubs.

Keep an eye on the hardy borders and bulb beds and when signs of growth are apparent take off enough mulch to prevent distortion of the young plants. Do not remove all of the protection until danger of a hard freeze is past.

Rake the lawn, roll it when the ground dries out sufficiently, sprinkle grass seed in bare spots and scatter sheep manure or other light fertilizer.

Burn all rubbish in which insect pests might have spent a pleasant winter.

Plant hardy lilies—auratums, tigers, speciosums, elegens, Henryii, etc.

## WOMAN'S CLUB HAS VARIED PROGRAM

MEMBERS of the Women's Club of Roland Park are being given an opportunity to hear and take part in discussions concerning many matters of general public interest, from the trend of modern music to politics.

The March calendar opened with a talk on Gardens by Mrs. Frank Gould, and the same subject was assigned for March 16, Mrs. Gould being announced for that date, also, and for March 30, when Miss Ada F. Beard, chairman of the Home Garden Committee of the Women's Civic League will be the speaker.

"Your Part in America's Musical Renaissance" was the subject for the meeting in honor of Mrs. Marx E. Obendorfer, preceding by a day the lecture recital by Miss Marion Rouse, "What Next in Music?" Miss Rouse has made a special study of the works of the rebel French composers of Le Groupe des Six, Lord Berners, Stravinsky and others of that affiliation.





MABEL GARRISON

### HOW FAMOUS DIVA PLANNED ROLAND PARK HOME

"I DID it all on a railroad train."

So Mabel Garrison replied when we asked her how she planned and decorated her home at 3 Overhill Road.

The house, which occupies an ample lot at the corner of Kittery Lane, was designed by Parker, Thomas and Rice and its Italian feeling is emphasized by the faint pink that flushes the stucco walls.

The rich emerald of the foundation planting of broad-leaf evergreens combines with the background to make a delightful tonal combination.

Miss Garrison is, as you must know, counted among the leading American sopranis. Having sung her way to fame at the Metropolitan Opera House, she has since become personally known to music lovers in all parts of the world through her recital tours.

In private life she is Mrs. George Siemonn and she and her husband spend all of their time between concert engagements at their Guilford home. Mr. Siemonn, by the bye, is himself a musician of the first rank.

"I really did decorate my home while traveling," Miss Garrison said. "Of course I mean that it was all thought out in advance. After I had decided what I wanted I began to pick up pieces of furniture that fitted in with the scheme, finding them in all parts of the world—sometimes in places where they would be least expected. My finest Italian chest, for instance, I purchased in Cleveland.

"As a result of this preparation I was all ready to go ahead when our house was finished. I had the Italian style principally in mind but did not want to stick too closely to it. I do not

at all think it necessary to adhere strictly to any particular period in order to make a room attractive. It seems to me that decoration should suggest personality rather than archaeology. It is quite possible to put things together that are not of the same origin or period and still maintain harmony of line, mass and color.

"I do not know how good my decoration is but there is one thing certain—it is all my own. The idea of turning a house over to a professional decorator and giving him carte blanche does not appeal to me."

The principal room of the Siemonn residence is, as might be expected, the music room. It is large and beautifully proportioned with high ceilings and a fireplace set, Italian fashion, above the level of the floor. The over-mantel decoration is a built-in replica of a Michael Angelo Madonna in plaster harmonizing with the cream walls.

### THE NEW LUPINS

IT might be a good idea if you decided this spring to try some of the new lupins. This hardy plant has been undergoing a good deal of experimentation at the hands of the hybridizers lately and a number of very lovely new shades—"art" shades some dealers odiously call them—have been produced.

It is accordingly no longer necessary to depend upon just the pink, blue and white lupins. They are lovely enough in themselves to justify any gardener's care, it is true, but the popularity of this plant will doubtless greatly increase once its new variations of color have become well known.

The lupin is not the easiest thing in the world to grow by a long shot. It has a disagreeable habit of making a great show of itself for a few months and then, despite what might be expected, it frequently dies out altogether.

Unless its habits are studied carefully but little success may be anticipated. For one thing, it abhors manure and, indeed, seems to thrive best in poor soil in which there is considerable sand. It also is exacting in its demands for water during its growing and blooming season. Care must be exercised in giving it plenty of room.

Under the best of conditions the lupin will often produce between 50 and 100 tall bloom stalks. It is a host for aphids and must be sprayed with a nicotine solution as soon as this hateful pest is discovered.

A jolly children's party was held on St. Valentine's Day by Mr. and Mrs. Carl Edgar Smith, 4203 St. Paul Street, for their sons, William and Edgar Smith. The program included feats of magic by Cowen. Mr. and Mrs. Smith give a number of parties during the season for their boys.



## The Roland Park Company's MAGAZINE

*Published monthly by*

THE ROLAND PARK COMPANY  
18 East Lexington St., Baltimore, Md.

WARREN WILMER BROWN, *Editor*

Upon request The Roland Park Company's Magazine will be mailed to any address.

The editor will be happy to receive for publication items of news and personal interest about things and people generally of **Roland Park, Guilford, Homeland.**

*Copy must be received by the first of each month.*

VOL. 1

MARCH, 1926

No. 3

### *Caution and Catalogues*

WHAT with the girls chattering about new supplies of furs, the wise acres predicting late blizzards, the sight now and then of robins (most fatuous of birds), idiotically prospecting in the sleet for worms—what with these and other signs, both blessed and accursed, no calendar is needed to tell us that Spring is preparing for her debut.

And this being so, it is wise for those of us who are counting the days until we can once again make things fly in the garden, to pause for a moment before rushing ahead with the plans that we hope will make our demesnes at least approximately elysian—to say nothing of increasing several hundredfold our horticultural prowess.

Nobody in all Christendom has more foresight where Spring is concerned than the men who put out the garden catalogues. "There is a budding morrow in midnight"—so sang Keats in one of his most inspired sonnets.

"There is a budding market in midwinter"—so one imagines the cataloguers, and especially their advertising managers, intoning among themselves when the year is blackest.

Hence the first of the annual crop of catalogues as usual arrived on the wings of a howling snowstorm and there has been an avalanche of them ever since. After all, it is just as well that this is so, for it gives one a chance to see what's what among the new offerings, to make one's selections at leisure, and what is more important, to decide on the eliminations.

At no time in the whole swing of a twelve-month does the gardener need to exercise greater caution than when he is buried to the neck in the seed and nursery catalogues. In the first place the element of time and fascination is to be reckoned with, for the spell of these things is of a sort to make plausible the theory held by some metaphysicians that time is an illusion if space is not.

Nothing is easier than to plunge, as it were, into a sea of catalogues, say, at 7 P.M. and not emerge therefrom until 1 A.M.—passing from enchantment to the deadly realization that the furnace is out and that the amaryllis is doubtless chilled to the bone—and after all of these years of waiting for that bloom stalk!

Truly, indeed, the catalogues are wonderful and wonderful is their lure. In all seriousness, those put out by the more reliable houses are sometimes beautiful specimens of the printer's and engraver's art. But no such manifestation is needed to enthrall us, at any rate—or anybody else, maybe, who has the weakness of his enthusiasm.

### *Pointed Comment*

*"It is not advisable for the average home-maker to experiment in his garden, but rather to place reliance on tested standbys whose proved qualities have brought them down as favorites of the present generation."*

LEONARD BARRON

No matter what the form, they have gripping power—power almost akin to that produced by the dramatic suspense the playwrights are forever talking about and which so few of them ever achieve.

What, coming down to suggestive actualities, has greater dramatic possibilities than a garden? One, perhaps, starts with a quite simple prologue, but always with a definite scheme in mind. Then, after getting the "characters" introduced as aptly and as agreeably as possible, the thing develops—or should—gradually approaching its climax. Whether or not it be beautiful or even worthy from the pragmatic viewpoint, may depend upon you. But never entirely. Just as in a play—as in life itself—the *dramatis personae* (that old-fashioned term!) may get out of hand. Nature may attend to the affair all herself.

If you want a concrete example, plant cinnamon vines, morning glories or loosestrife near your delphiniums! We hope, though, none of you will exercise so little sense, even for empirical ends.

The thing to do as the catalogues come storming in, is to decide definitely what you want before you start to make out your order slips. Go over the lists carefully, studying varieties, types, cultural requirements and so on. Consult the color charts in fixing your tonal schemes, avoid the snare of both the excessive and the minimum price—and above all, don't expect everything (or anything) to achieve the full glory of the printed or pictured description.

Sophistication is one of the gardener's most valuable assets. For the sophisticated never expect too much of anything at any time or any place.

### *A Book for the Amateur Gardner*

AMONG the books that are of particular value to the amateur gardener is "Flower Growing," a work revised and adapted from I. M. Bennett's "The Flower Garden" by Leonard Barron, editor of that excellent magazine, *The Garden and Home Builder*.

Mr. Barron states that this is a book for the amateur who wants flowers in his garden, plenty of bloom under average conditions. It is not intended, he adds, as a manual of instruction for growing all kinds of flowers in all kinds of ways but rather a simple straightforward comment upon the method of handling the more easily grown flowers with the assurance of good results.

Roses for instance are not included. Naturally they would not be in any such work, for dear knows if there be anything in the world that demands specialized attention it is the rose. The volume is well printed and illustrated and you will find it handy as a constant source of information and mayhap encouragement.

There are discussions of soils, raising seedling in flats, hotbeds, coldframes, transplanting, repotting, bulbs, annuals, herbaceous borders, dahlias, phlox, iris, peonies, planting the house front and so on.

"Flower Growing is published by Doubleday Page Co. Garden City, N. Y., and sells for \$2.00.

(Other Book reviews on page 6)





THE OLD SPRING HOUSE IN WINTER

The chaste beauty of the old spring house in the Falls Road section of Roland Park is never emphasized more strongly than when it is etched against a snowy landscape.

This building, which is greatly prized by architects because of the Greek purity of its lines and proportions, is south of Englewood Road between Falls Road and Edgevale Road. It is a survival dating from the early days when that part of Roland Park was Oakland, the estate of Gen. Robert Goodloe Harper, a son-in-law of Charles Carroll of Carrollton, an officer in the War of 1812 and a United States Senator from Maryland.

#### ACTIVITIES START AT NEW GOLF CLUB

The first early spring affair at the new Rodgers Forge Golf Club is the dance scheduled to take place on March 20. The Committee consists of A. D. L'Esperance, chairman of the House Committee, Pannill Martin, George Ward and William McGill.

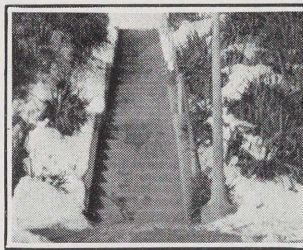
Another dance will take place the night of April 9, with J. S. Downing as host. The Rodgers Forge Club House, which opened last December, may be engaged for private dances at small expense.

The entire 18 holes of the golf course have been completed and the indications are that it will be in constant use, once the weather becomes settled. The course was designed and constructed by the well-known expert, Herbert Strong, and is considered among the best in Maryland.

E. T. Backus is acting president of the Club, John E. Raine is secretary, William O. Pierson is treasurer and W. L. Diamant is executive secretary.

## BYWAY SKETCHES

### *Hepburn Path*



IT really is curious to note how much "personality" paths and lanes have—ten times more than roads and streets. The latter may be handsome and imposing; they may invite the vision to long and lovely journeyings through tree-canopied avenues. They may border homes of rare beauty or quite simple cottages.

But no matter how inspiring or diverting, they do not, as a rule, have much more to say than is apparent on the surface. The thoroughfare is too much traveled, too much shared in common to have any subtlety or mystery left.

You must be more or less familiar with the byways and the side streets to interpret either a rural or an urban community. By their little rights-of-way, their short cuts ye shall know them. So is one prone to think.

Paths, like people, have a range of "mood," or temperament, if you will, that is quite limitless. But they likewise fall into broad generalizations. Some, for example, are all in the open, whereas others have to be followed into the quiet, remote places in quest of their secret.

Hepburn Path belongs to the former category. It is a sort of landscape staircase in the University Parkway section of Roland Park, extending from Wickford Road, on the lower level, to Somerset Road, into which it opens close by the beautiful E. Asbury Davis residence.

Hepburn is a straight, narrow and also rather steep way. It cuts through a slope thickly clad with yuccas (what delightful emerald accents they sound!) barberries and other shrubs, the grey of its stone steps blending delicately into the winter landscape.

Climbing along in leisurely fashion, it pauses after a little as if to get its breath and take an admiring glimpse of the fine prospect to the east—a prospect in which a couple of energetic and gossiping young pines also seem deeply interested.

A short distance further up, Somerset Road sweeps around to meet it, seemingly with a gracious gesture of welcome.

#### TO TAKE PART IN FLOWER MART

The Guilford Garden Club will have a booth at the Flower Mart, which will be held on May 12, as usual, at the foot of Washington's Monument.

The March meeting of the Club will take place at the residence of Mrs. Henry S. White, 39 Warrenton Road. Clay Primrose, landscape architect will be the speaker, his subject being "Alpine Planting."





TYPICAL WINTER SCENE IN THE ROLAND PARK-GUILFORD DISTRICT

Decked as if for some royal festival,  
The lonely pine has flung a cloak  
Of ermine over her emerald robes.

And so she stands, a breath-taking miracle,  
Held in the spell of a new fantastic beauty  
Wrought by the snow.

#### ABOUT NEW BOOKS

*"How Music Grew"* by Marion Brauer and Ethel Peyser (G. P. Putnam's Sons, N. Y.)

THIS book is as useful for the mature student as it is for the beginner. Its authors had a big task ahead of them when they set about writing it and very successful indeed were they in handling it.

"How Music Grew," in fact, is about as comprehensive as anything of its scope could be. It condenses in one stout, profusely illustrated volume the information of a whole musical encyclopedia. It starts with the birth of music and continues the narrative down to contemporary times.

*The Le Gallienne Anthology of American Verse*  
(Boni and Liveright, N. Y.)

The prophet or whoever it was who said that of the making of books there was no end, must have had anthologies especially in mind. We picked up the latest of them to come to notice, Le Gallienne's Anthology of American Verse, with much interest—and no little misgiving. It does contain a good deal that must have given its editor a frightful pain when he included it.

But his plan of making a sort of record of the development of American verse is obvious and that necessitated the selection of much that has absolutely no literary value now.

For all that the book gives one an idea of the really surprising amount of good poetry that has been and is still being produced in this country. Lizette Woodworth Reese, Baltimore poet, is represented by three examples.

*"Gentlemen Prefer Blondes"* by Anita Loos  
(Boni and Liveright, N. Y.)

This is the diary of a terrible gold-digging female—a flapperish harpy who has no sense at all except that which indicates which way the Ritz winds are blowing. It is frankly a burlesque for fully grown-up people and is amusing enough—for awhile if you like that sort of thing. It has made a hit and is in the best selling class. Ralph Barton did the illustrations and they are very good.

Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Arnold Kummer frequently have as their guests at their home, 2 St. Martin's Road, actors appearing in Baltimore theatres. Mr. Kummer is prominent in American theatrical circles as a playwright.





ANOTHER VIEW IN THE ROLAND PARK-GUILFORD DISTRICT AFTER A LATE FEBRUARY STORM

This and the other snow pictures in the present issue of our Magazine were selected primarily because we thought them attractive.

They are also of interest as suggesting that the whole gang of poets who have immemorably sung the beauty of snow were not hopeless low-grade idiots, as the city dweller, used to the

#### DR. AND MRS. LOWE HOLD RECEPTION

Dr. and Mrs. John W. Lowe were hosts at a large reception held the night of February 12 at their residence, 334 Roland Avenue, in honor of their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. John Blake Lowe.

Dr. and Mrs. Lowe were assisted in receiving by Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Elliott, Mr. and Mrs. J. Ewell Harris, their sons-in-law and daughters, Dr. and Mrs. Charles R. Twilley, the latter Mrs. Lowe's sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Hearn of Elkton, Md., Allan B. Lowe, and Mr. and Mrs. John Blake Lowe.

The house was beautifully decorated with early spring flowers and an orchestra played throughout the evening. About 200 guests were present including a number of out-of-town people, among whom were Richard Reese of Wilmington, Del., Robert L. Stevenson of Philadelphia, Mr. and Mrs. George M. Ferris and Paul Welsh of Washington and C. B. Finckel of New York.

frightful mess a snow fall makes of his streets, might be justified in supposing.

No subtle casuistry is needed to convince those who live among trees and gardens that they have it all over their city friends when it comes to having beauty, as it were, at beck and call the year 'round.

#### AMONG OURSELVES

AMONG recent visitors at the Club Cottage in Roland Park was Mrs. Mildred Ruth Wilson of New York, a well-known exponent of art photography, who exhibited at the Baltimore Museum of Art, under the auspices of the Baltimore Photographic Club last season. She will return to Baltimore in the near future to fill commissions for child portraiture.

Mrs. John W. Garrett of Evergreen, is a member of the committee in charge of the lectures that are being given at the charming new home of the Friends of Art, 8 East Pleasant Street. The course will end March 19, when Rosita Forbes will speak on "From the Red Sea to the Nile."

Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Bouton of 100 Club Road, sailed on March 6 for Gibraltar on the Str. Lapland. They expect to spend three months touring Spain and are accompanied by Mr. Bouton's niece, Mrs. W. D. Gilman, Jr., and her daughter, Miss Jane Gilman, of Chattanooga, Tenn.



## CHURCH AND SCHOOL NEWS

THE Young People's Club of St. David's P. E. Church gave a performance of a comedy called "Penelope" for the benefit of the new parish house fund the night of February 13. The play was performed in the Sunday-school room under the general direction of Mrs. Charles Gantz, the coach.

Miss Sophie Robinson, daughter of Mrs. Lucy Robinson, 116 Hawthorne Road, and Foster Talbott had the leading roles. Others in the cast were Miss Elizabeth Stinson, Miss Edith Gantz, Mrs. Edward R. Fenton, Miss Elizabeth Protzman, Edward K. Morrison, David Royer, Edward R. Fenton and Reginald Stewart.

People who are interested in the history, politics and customs of Latin-America are invited to attend the lectures that are being given in the St. David's Guild Room by Mrs. Roger Walke every Thursday in Lent at 3.30 P.M.

*Concert at Presbyterian Church*

An attractive program was presented at the concert given by the Haydn Symphony Orchestra at Roland Park Presbyterian Church on February 19. The soloists were Miss Leslie Frick, mezzo; Miss Lois Benson, who presented Drake's "Ode to the Flag," Robert Stidman, barytone; Miss Mabel H. Thomas and Arthur L. Dobbin, pianists. The orchestral numbers included the overture to "Martha," a selection from "Faust," Suppe's "Jolly Robbers," "A Waltz" from Strauss "Fledermaus," Drumm's "Hail America" and Och's transcriptions of a German folk-song in the old and modern manners.

*Busy Schedule for Second Presbyterian*

More than 200 young people representing many churches attended the February conference of the Baltimore Christian Endeavor Union at Second Presbyterian Church.

A few nights later a group of young men and women of Second Presbyterian congregation presented "Officer 666" in the Church House for the benefit of the building fund.

Music Day will be made an annual feature of the church, Rev. Dr. Robert G. Leetch, the pastor, announced in a recent bulletin.

During the last month Second Presbyterian shared with the Aisquith Street Church in the support of the Presbyterian Home for the Aged. Mrs. Charles S. Neer and Mrs. W. W. Stockham were in charge of the donations.

Weekly Community Suppers are being served for 50 cents at 6.15 Thursday evenings, followed by a meeting. Everyone in the Roland Park-Guilford District is welcome.

*Gilman School Play*

"Captain Applejack," a play by Walter Hackett, was given by the Dramatic Association

of Gilman Country School in the Maryland Casualty Club House the night of March 5.

Rehearsing started early in January and the performance showed the results of careful and intelligent training. The cast included Richard Warfield, Thomas Rianhard, Taylor Kenney, Horace Rumsey, Thomas Perkins, Francis Meade, and Lyttleton Purnell. Dancing followed the play.

*Discusses Home Life*

The Roland Park Country School, Friends School and Calvert School, took part with Bryn Mawr School in the open meeting held in Osler Hall, March 2, at which Mrs. Forbes-Robertson Hale discussed "Our Shrinking Home Life—How to Expand It."

Mrs. Hale is known both as an actress and as an international leader among the women who are taking an active part in the public life of the day. She is a niece of Sir Johnston Forbes-Robertson.

*Motor Coach Service for Homeland*

For the convenience of residents of Homeland, prospective owners of property in this section and of its visitors generally the Roland Park-Homeland Company is maintaining regular motor coach service.

The Company's luxurious six-wheel coach travels back and forth between the terminus of the No. 11 car line, at Bedford Square in Guilford, and Homeland.

*Appear in French Play*

Dramatic activities of the winter at the Roland Park Country School included the performance of a French play, Thibault's "Triboulet," by the girls of the Fourth Main Class.

The principals were Misses Margaret Fayerweather, V. Thompson, Polly Norris, Julia Gardner, Kitty Walker, Virginia Porterfield and Sarah Miles. Others taking part were Misses Nancy Carroll, Rebecca Dobbin, Mary Haydon, Betty Lawrence, Frances Norton, Martha Murray, Ann Poultney, Beverly Reynolds, Christine Rouse, Dorothy Smith, Isabelle Wagner, Ellen Walton and Anne White.

*An Essay Worth Attention*

There appeared in the January number of the *Theatre Arts Monthly*, an essay on Tragedy that commends itself to serious students of dramatics. It was written by Miss Edith Hamilton, for many years head mistress of Bryn Mawr School, who is now living in New York.

Miss Hamilton's essay is scholarly without being dull, it is concise and subtle in its distinctions, penetrating in insight and governed always by aesthetic impulse.