

Booth Junior High School Band Highly Praised By Adjudicator at Music, Drama Festival Here

By LILLIAN MILLER

Booth Memorial Junior High School Band gave a rousing opening to last night's contests in the Prince Rupert Music and Drama Festival, with the playing of "Field General," followed by a beautiful musical picture of "Sunset Hour."

Adjudicator Mrs. Mary Wood remarked: "If this is a junior band, I'd like to hear the seniors." She described the band as very well disciplined and harmonious. Band leader, Mr. Fred Huber, was highly praised for his fine work with the youngsters.

Highest marks of the evening went to Mike Colussi's Elks Accordion Band, which was not only beautiful to hear but lovely

to see. Mrs. Wood praised the group for its complete feeling of wholeness, each player working for the group.

She suggested that a more relaxed attitude and bigger smiles would have helped the "feeling" of the music.

Three very tiny people from Ketchikan did a very big job of three very little pieces. They were the Junior String Ensemble which captivated the hearts of the audience with their violin versions of "The Little Song," "Just Me and Ma," which was played without bows in an almost professional manner, and "Jolly Fellow."

Mrs. Wood said "this is the very beginning of chamber music." Conductor of this wee group was Mr. Scott.

Twenty angelic looking girls of the St. Andrew's Junior Choir, led by Peter Lien, sang "Dear Land of Home" and "As Torrents in Summer" with a great deal of feeling.

However, Mrs. Wood felt this group must practice an immense amount of scales and chords before they can be really good. The second piece was given much more praise than the first, because the girls enjoyed singing it.

Mrs. Wood had more constructive criticism for Shirra Holliday and Alleen Ritchie, who played a two-piano duet called "Irish Dance." She said that any playing in two parts is not easy unless the players know each others parts as well as their own. She felt that the pair have great possibilities.

Robert Jensen chose a "masterpiece for the violin" when he chose Concerto in A Minor by Bach, and he did a beautiful job of interpreting the piece. Mrs. Wood felt that part of the work was beyond his technical ability, but with much work and "slugging" he will be a master violinist.

A group of three adult solos were all given high praise. Mrs. Rae Moir and Mrs. Patricia Wicks were both told they have good voices, but they do not use their breath to advantage. Again, with "slugging" these can be beautiful voices. Abel Rush sang with "a very pure and very true voice." A careful study of English pronunciation will help. Mrs. Wood encouraged him to continue singing for a lot of people.

The evening was closed by two piano duets. Norma Johnson and Margaret Olsen must practice and study each other's parts in order to really play duets well. Mrs. Wood praised the "gay pace" of their number. Myrna Knutsen and Victor Prystay were urged to continue their excellent playing, but never to stop working and studying.

Class 100 — Booth Memorial Junior High School Band, con-

ducted by Mr. Huber. (a) Field Marshal, 85; (b) Sunset Hour, 83. Class 105 — Elks Accordion Band, conducted by Mike Colussi (a) La Golondrina, 87; (b) Gems of Stephen Foster, 83.

Class 98—Junior String Ensemble (from Ketchikan) Danny Michelson, Wyonna McCombs, Duane Torgeson (a) The Little Song, 84; (b) Just Me and Ma, 84; (c) Jolly Fellow, 83.

Class 12—St. Andrew's Cathedral Junior Choir, conducted by Peter Lien (a) Dear Land of Home, 79; (b) Torrents in Summer, 84.

Class 79—Two Pianos: Shirra Holliday and Alleen Ritchie (a) Irish Dance, 80.

Class 90—Violin solo — Robert Jensen (a) Concerto in A Minor, 84.

Class 30—Solo, adult: 1. Mrs. Rae Moir (a) Voi lo Sapete, 80; (b) Dei Best Wie Vene Blume, 79. 2. Abel Rush (a) Behold; I Tell You a Mystery, 80 (b) This is My Task, 81; 3. Mrs. Patricia Wicks (a) The Russian Nightingale, 83; (b) A Piper, 84.

Class 80—1. Norma Johnson and Margaret Olsen (a) Country Gardens, 80; 2. Myrna Knutsen and Victor Prystay (b) Country Gardens, 86.

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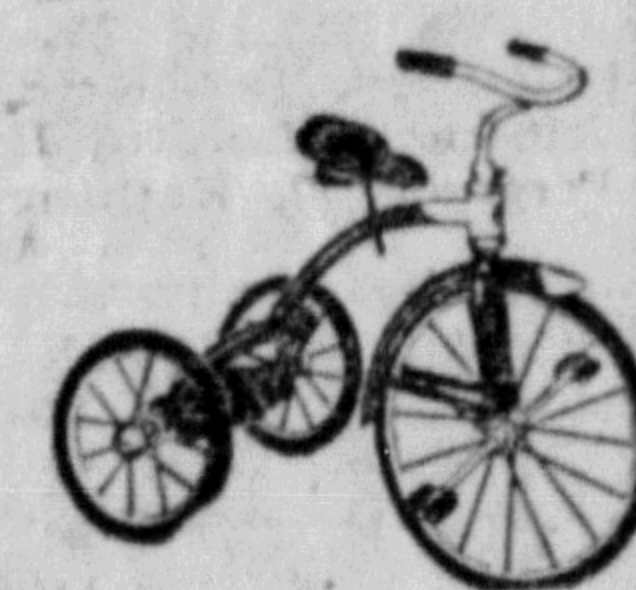
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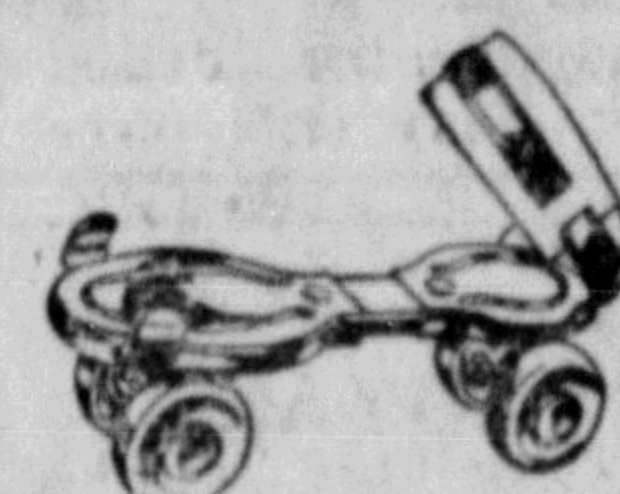
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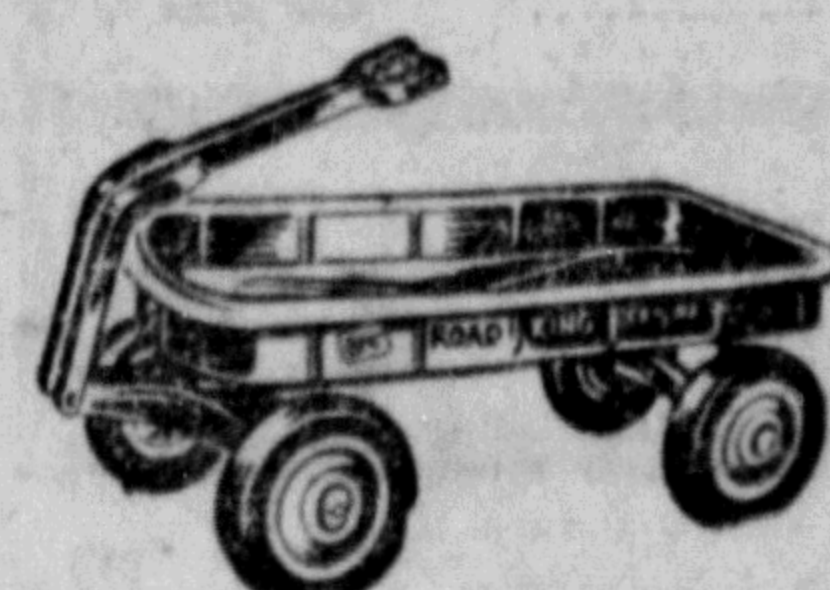
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