

On Lollipop Lane

Tambourine Ride Back To 20's Set

By Sue Miller

Debby Phinney, songwriter and Bolton Hill mother of two, stepped out of her backyard onto Lollipop lane wearing an



Buzzsaps photo—Ralph L. Robinson

MRS. DEBBY PHINNEY

authentic "Roaring 20's" costume.

"The neighbors won't mind," she said, as she showed off the neat, hard-top alley where neighborhood kids ride their bikes and skate. "They're used to this sort of thing."

Lollipop lane is named after an elderly maiden lady who used to give lollipops to neighborhood youngsters. Up until last fall when the community battled city officials for the right to christen the alley, it was just an anonymous L-shaped area in the rear of the 200 block West Lanvale street.

Once The Gin Belt

The black and silver beaded flapper outfit, borrowed from a Center Stage actress, is reminiscent of bygone days when Bolton Hill was known as the city's Gin Belt.

Lollipop lane, the Charleston era costume and Mrs. Phinney—and much and many people more—are all part of a sixth annual spoof which is scheduled tomorrow night when the community of city buffs laughs and even gets a little sad about life in Baltimore.

About 50 people from all walks of life, and some of their children, will take part in a varied, amateur musical that will be staged in the Daffodil room of Memorial Episcopal Church. The curtain goes up at 8:15 P.M.

"We've only had time for two weeks of rehearsals," says the vivacious Mrs. Phinney. "We write until the last two weeks, then rehearse. The night before showtime we always wonder why we do it. And the next day, we're always so glad."

Mrs. Phinney, now earning her second bachelor's degree at

the Peabody Conservatory, is the musical director and choreographer.

Ray Hamilton is the producer.

Eight of the show songs are original, written by Mrs. Phinney, the wife of an aeronautical engineer who commutes to his job in Silver Spring.

Others have original words, many written by Mrs. Sue Farnham, the minister's wife, but use familiar tunes.

23 Amateur Acts

Skits and bits beef up the revue which boasts 23 amateur acts that will raise funds for Bolton Hill's tot lot equipment and the Bolton Hill Nursery School scholarship fund.

*"Have you bought a dog?
Did they steal your car?
Do you take your evening
strolls to the Mt. Royal
bar?"*

*If you answer yes,
Under no duress
You're prepared to survive
Bolton Hill.*

That's a sample of the words that will be sung to "On the Hill Where You Live."

Others make light of the community's parking and "dogee doo doo" dilemmas.

Every Hour Except

Still others rib the hill's churches vying to be leaders and the fact that Baltimoreans can commute to Washington every hour by train except during commuting hours when there are no trains.

Tom Ward, who is seeking a seat on the Supreme Bench, will do his famous "standing back flip" which made its Baltimore debut in 1967 when he

unsuccessfully sought a City Council post.

The show producers claim they will give anyone in the audience equal time if they can follow Mr. Ward's lead.

Robert Thieblot, School Board member, will be on stage, too, doing a monologue that will rib the school decentralization explanation that was televised and subsequently widely criticized because it was "unclear" and "difficult to understand."

Tambourines, Too

Mr. Thieblot and Diane Diederich will be dressed as Salvation Army workers. To the banging of tambourines they will sing, "Rolling Along With Rollo." The tune will be that of "The Battle Hymn of the Republic."

State Senator Julian Lapides, who is Jewish, will represent the Episcopal Church in the "Ecumenical Waltz" number. He is rehearsing his act for the first time tonight.

And A Torch Song

No revue is complete without a torch song. Here, Mrs. Phinney in "Out of Town," writes about a girl that has been jilted. Her name is Baltimore.

"This is really our saddest song," Mrs. Phinney explains. "We're lamenting the fact that people are leaving the city."

In case you don't hear it tomorrow night, it goes partly like this:

*Out of town
Everything is out of town
Every season, every day
Something else will move
away*

*And can't be found.
No Park Plaza, Belvedere
And the Deutsches Haus, I
hear*

They're tearing down.