



**WAITING TO HIT BALL** is Douglas Arnold, Nutley (white shirt), during daily exercise period. Barry Yaches, North

Brunswick (plaid shirt, left), has just hit ball. All boys are required to go outdoors for half hour following lunch.

## It's Not All Work

fore Christmas, they will return north to sing on a televised program of the annual tree lighting ceremony at Rockefeller Center in New York. After the holidays, the boys will board their specially equipped bus (a one-room school on wheels, with piano, snack bar and flip-down desks) for a tour of the northern states and parts of Canada.

Just as not all boys can go on tour, neither can all boys attend the school. Only a small percentage of the thousands auditioned each year is selected. Some among this select number are unable to accept because of the \$1,200 yearly tuition and board fee.

Auditions are granted to applicants after each concert. The basic requirement is musical intelligence. Mr. Bryant plays a tune on the piano. The boy is told to sing it back. Even though he has a beautiful voice and several years of training, he may not be able to do it. Another boy, perhaps with no training, will reproduce each note accurately. The latter has musical intelligence.

If the audition is successful Bryant next makes it clear

to both the boy and his parents that chances of being selected for the touring choir during the first year — fifth grade — are almost nil. His chances in the second year will depend upon his scholastic standing, degree of maturity and mastery of the choir repertoire, which consists of three operas and 20 to 30 other numbers sprinkled heavily with Bach and lightened with show tunes, spirituals, Christmas carols and folk songs.

Bryant warns candidates that poor behavior will not be tolerated. Boys must adjust quickly to the school or leave. His picture of the school is not all rosy but it is honest. The formula for making the touring choir, he tells them, is "work hard and behave yourselves."

Even hard work may not be enough. When a boy's voice begins to change, which may happen anytime from the fifth to ninth grade, he may finish the school year, but may not come back the following year. Changes sometimes occur before boys have had an opportunity to tour. Usually boys can make it through the eighth grade but seldom longer. This