Norway's Gerd Recollects Village Life in Homeland

By BETTY ANN STEVENS

"I can't even talk," Gerd Hansen, Coed Capers chairman, croaked from the pillows. "How are you ever going to interview me?"

Propped up on the couch in her room at the Kappa house, amid hot-water bottles and scrap-books, Gerd announced sturdily, rubbing her hand across flushed cheeks, "Gosh, but it's fun to be sick for a while and have everyone come and see you. It's wonderful. The cook says she's going to make me an onion pack."

She's "very enthusiastic" about the forthcoming Capers, with the belief that November 19 should "mean something" to any coed.

A question concerning her Norwegian background brought forth —"Do you want to know things like we came over here nine years ago? Well, we were seasick all the way over . . . mother, the twins and I."

Wild West

When they finally arrived for a four-day visit in New York, relatives tried to discourage them from going west, because of the bears and Indians.

"It was so funny," Gerd giggled. "We didn't know any English, but by the time we got to Marshfield we could say 'what time is it?'." On the way across the country she had her illusions shattered about America being a country of palm trees, hula girls, and mansions.

Onions

Learning English with the help of a Norwegian-English dictionary was difficult, Gerd found, especially when shopping at a Marshfield market. She carefully looked up "lok," the Norwegian equivalent of onions, and found them defined as "bulbs." A puzzled proprietor was able to fulfill her request only after she had explained that they "smell awful and you get tears in your eyes."

"I just can't say 'railroad'," Gerd laughed. "Mr. Casteel tried to help me for a while by having me speak with matches in my mouth."

An old-fashioned scrap-book next drew attention, and we were looking at a picture of small, towheaded Gerd in a cart drawn by a St. Bernard dog near her home in Norway. "Mmmm-hmmm, my hair used to be blonde. You know, there's another girl in the house, Gail Nelson, who talks Norwegian, and we talk it a lot."

About her relatives in Norway, Gerd exclaimed with earnest precision, "Oh, mother heard from them through the Red Cross last Saturday. They're all well and have enough to eat, so she's happy about it."

German Occupation

Gerd believes that conditions are better in Norway now because "the Germans are busy on their own home front, but of course I feel this way . . . it would just kill me if they do anything . . . but they can't really change it."

"The Moon Is Down," wasn't very much like Norway, and Nazi tyranny is exaggerated, in Gerd's opinion. "There was a drunkard in our village who said some things he shouldn't to a Nazi, and they killed him." She feels that the Nazis aren't above taking hostages, but they don't go in for wholesale murder.

"Go back to Norway? I want to," she said quietly.

An honor roll student, blue-eyed Gerd came to the University on an Aaron Frank scholarship, was tapped for Kwama and elected AWS sergeant-at-arms last year, and is a member of Phi Theta Upsilon.

"Bill? I called him up last night, and the funny part about it is that he called me at exactly the same time," she admitted smilingly. Gerd wears the SAE pin of Bill Tugman, who is now stationed at Camp Adair. "Everybody's coming back," she observed. "Alysone's Bob Gray . . . Pres Phipps . . . and Tessie (Kappa housemother) was so glad to see him that she walked up and kissed him."

Gerd would like to "just travel and not worry, and just see people. I think after the war's over we will, don't you? Fly our airplanes to Europe . . . flit around the world."

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AWS Notes

With little Janet "Pewee" Ross dressed in diapers and a zoot suit, Coed Capers will have novelty as well as being just "absolutely absolutely." (Pewee, you remember, is the stooge of "Squirrel" Huntington, the two of them being co-mistresses of ceremony.)

—And, with the members of one of the houses on the campus coming as expectant mothers—what more can be said?

Speaking of this last little item is a reminder of the contest which goes on between all the coed living organizations for the "best" costumes worn to the Capers. Miki Campbell adds that other houses should be deciding what they will wear—remembering that all the members of a house dress alike.

The main "brush-up" rehearsal for this "coed only" program is Wednesday night, with the event itself "coming off" the following Friday. Activity for the present is centered in practicing and looking for costumes, say the committee heads.

Besides the class skits Barbara McClung tells us that there is an activity skit entitled "Art Masterpiece Revolt." Kwamas, Phi Thetas, and Mortar Boards are responsible for this. Some of the main parts will be played by Kathryn Dunn, Joan Dolph, Beverly Padgham, Betsy Wootton Howard (as Whistler's Mother), Phyllis Evans, and "Mimi" Staub.

What sounds especially promising is the faculty skit called "Pistol Packin' Momma," at least this is the first report we have heard about that group of "actresses."

If you can't come to the Capers why not buy a ticket anyway? Because, remember, all the proceeds go toward buying a bomber except for a certain amount going to the service scholarship fund.

—By Betty Lu Siegman

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Romance Makes Way Through Midterms

By MARTHA THORSLAND and MARY M. ELLSWORTH

Don't you sometimes have the feeling that just once it would be fun to see your name in print in something other than an infirmary "ad"? Well, it's a cinch to make this column. ALL you have to do is get married or engaged or pinned. Nothing to it. When the big event happens just drop a feather and we'll be around to find out about it.

But to Get to the point . . . Bobbie Rundell, Alpha Gam, and **Ensign Lyle Nelson,** Delt, are celebrating their second week's wedding anniversary. It happened in Chicago.

The Tri Delts are relinquishing **Barbara Lesher** to Lt. Turner Byrd. They're to be married the middle of this month.

From Alder lodge comes the news that **Dot Kapps** is wearing the Kappa Sig pin of **Don Beardsley.** Also, **Valerie Strahl** is engaged to Howard Krebs, a University of Portland man.

Barbara Brice, Dee Gee, passed through town the other night on her way south to meet and marry Jack Converse and happily end a long story. **Helen Wilhelm,** another Dee Gee, came back to the campus after a few days in Portland, the proud and happy possessor of Stan Prather's Sword-and-Shield. He's an OSC man.

For advice on how to get your man just contact Birch lodge. From the above mentioned house **Margaret Thompson** is engaged to Pvt. Bud Smith; **Ardyce Mast** ditto to **Lyle McGuire;** and **Virginia Glover** is wearing a Theta Chi pin.

News of the summer is still trickling in. Latest is that of the marriage of **Dodie Schwarz,** Alpha Phi, to Lt. Jim Osborne, an Alpha Delta from Cal.

Beth Parks, KAT, last week announced her engagement to **Jimmy Maize,** Delt, correctly titled ensign. He was here on leave for the big occasion.

We are informed that **Dorislee Riley,** Pi Phi, and **Peter Howard** are a little hurt. It seems they announced their engagement some time ago and it's never been in the Emerald—so here's practically a whole paragraph to make up for it.

Pi Phis

The Pi Phi freshmen have been at work and last Monday announced "their" first engagement. **Marian Church** is being drafted into the army under the command of Major Jim Rogers, Jr. of Mobile, Alabama.

By this time (or shortly after) **Elise Older,** Sigma Kappa, and **Verne Ward** should be bride and groom. Verne is with the ROTC.

At the ADPi house Betty Davis announced her engagement to Lt. Jimmy McGuire. **Both** are from Grants Pass. **Incidentally,** don't be alarmed if you see the ADPis wearing wings. **Betty** gave a pair to each of her sisters at the gala dinner.

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