

Straub Housemother First for Dorm Men

By Paul Mackey
Emerald Feature Writer

A bit of the Civil War was brought onto campus a year ago when the University initiated the system of housemothers for men's dormitories.

Mrs. Katherin DePue, housemother for Omega and Sherry Ross halls in John Straub dormitory this year, became the first and only men's dormitory housemother in the University's history when she accepted the experimental post at Susan Campbell, then a men's dorm, in 1953.

A native of Charleston, W. Va., she is one of five children in a family which has a long list of Civil War ancestors—on the Confederate side. She is now a member of the Daughters of the Confederacy.

"I know I'll be kidded about this," she said after revealing her ancestry.

Mothered Theta Chi's

The smiling-eyed, motherly, Southerner came to the University after spending six years as housemother for the Theta Chi fraternity at the University of Maryland.

"I hadn't really intended to be a housemother for boys," she admitted, "but at the time, the Theta Chi's needed someone to replace their housemother who had just died. My son and daughter both thought it was a wonderful opportunity and so I accepted — after four months deliberation."

A widow, the tall, trim-figured Mrs. DePue has a daughter Mrs. Nancy Kefauver, a distant Estes Kefauver relative, and a son, James Marshall DePue, Jr. Her family includes five grandchildren.

'My Boys' No Trouble

Referring affectionately to the men in her living organizations as "my boys," Mrs. DePue claims to have had no real troubles in

all her seven years as a housemother. Her manner is gracious, calm, and respect-commanding.

As a housemother, Mrs. DePue is expected to lend a more "homey" quality to the dormitory and at the same time establish "gentlemanly characteristics" in the men of the organization. Her presence is many times a hardship on the uninhibited and necessitates more discreet language and dress among the men, but the end result is most satisfying to her.

There have been "only a few occasions," she said, when she has needed to take steps to quiet or correct "my boys." Then she needed only to make her presence known to the offender and the trouble was quelled.

Mother Away From Home

"In the East it is common to have housemothers for men's houses and dorms," she said, "and I don't think they could get along if the system were changed. The men actually learn to rely on her presence, for she plays nurse, manager, counselor, hostess, disciplinarian, many times cook and in general, mother."

Mrs. DePue's gentle, melodic voice still carries just a wisp of an accent revealing to the listener her birthplace. She has tried to cover it up, she said, but when she gets excited "it slips."

A good housemother must be faithful and dependable to her "boys" and Mrs. DePue is no exception.

"My boys come to me with many problems. It may be school, home, girls or even their dress, but whatever it may be, I'm always willing to listen," she said. As one of "Mrs. DePue's boys" put it, "she's a real good guy."

They're All 'Boys'

She thinks there is no major difference between the men here at the University and the men in Eastern schools except that the Eastern men "are a little more fussy about their dress."

Mrs. DePue first decided to come to the West and "God's country" after her son told her how beautiful it was. James, now living in California, studied at Oregon for his master's degree.

Since coming here, the transplanted Daughter of the Confederacy has found the University and the Northwest much to her liking.

"The University is just the right size and is very pretty—in any weather," she concluded.

Beauty Queens Tell Career Hopes, Dreams

Career hopes and dreams of beauty queens vary vastly as is exemplified by four lovely freshman girls who have been in recent beauty contests.

They want to teach, do creative writing, be a medical technician, and be a model wearing new and fashionable clothes.

Connie Becker

One queen is Connie Becker of St. Helens, who already is known to university students for her performances in Friday at Four and the Homecoming Variety Show.

The vivacious brunette is presently majoring in liberal arts, but plans to go into elementary teaching soon. She is an Alpha Chi Omega pledge.

Connie was Miss St. Helens, Miss Columbia County and then a runner-up to Miss Oregon during the past summer.

She also was elected queen of the St. Helens Salmon Derby this past year.

The popular brown-eyed girl includes tap dancing among her hobbies. She has been taking lessons for 13 years.

Marianne Hauke

Marianne Hauke (pronounced how-key) wants to be a medical technologist and she is now taking courses towards this goal. She has to spend three years at Oregon and 12 months at Portland before receiving her MT degree.

She reigned as a regatta princess in the Astoria Regatta last July, as elected by the high school senior class.

The reserved and quiet princess also wants to take a course in Norwegian since she has a Scandinavian background. She would like to study in Norway before she completes college.

The blue-eyed blonde has not pledged yet, but prefers "to wait since it's so confusing."

Marianne spent the last summer working in a clinic when she was not appearing in contests and festivals throughout the state.

Sunny Lundberg

Sunny Lundberg is a studious student as well as an attractive one. Doing creative writing is the poised California lass' aspiration.

The Los Angeles Golden Jubilee queen of last August and the queen of the Pasadena flower show has had some works pub-

lished in Seventeen and other magazines.

The owner of approximately a 3.5 GPA, Sunny wants to make a four-point and keep her grades up there. She is now majoring in liberal arts, but her main interest is in English.

Sunny hopes to attend Columbia university before she graduates.

The attractive brunette has traveled too. Last year she took a three-month vacation in Europe at which time she saw the Coronation.

"Sunny" is her real name, she declares, partly because of "Sunny California" where she has spent her entire life.

Charlotte Schmidt

Charlotte Schmidt, a charming auburn-haired liberal arts major, wants to be a clothing model after she graduates from college.

Charlotte has done some modeling at the Marie-Easterly Modeling School.

She was a princess on the Vancouver float in last year's Rose Parade and has lived in Vancouver all her life.

The 17-year-old girl was one of five finalists for the Phi Sigma Kappa Moonlight Girl this fall and is a member of the YWCA.

Dad's weekend chairmen will meet at 6:30 p.m. today in the committee room on the third floor of the Student Union.

Campus Briefs

● Candid photos of campus activities are still wanted by the Oregana, according to Nancy Lidbeck, member of the photography staff. They may be turned in to the Oregana office between the hours of 4 and 5 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday.

● E. A. Cykler, professor of music, will discuss "Beethoven and his times," at the Friday night lecture and coffee hour at 7:30 p.m. in the browsing room.

● There will be a meeting of the chairmen of all Dad's weekend committees tonight at 6:30 p.m. in the Student Union, according to Nan Hagedorn and Patty Fagan, co-chairmen of the event.

● Shirley Marshall, assistant professor of anthropology, will lead a discussion on India at 4 p.m. Thursday in Student Union room 318. The YMCA will sponsor the forum.

● Skull and Dagger will meet today at 4 p.m. in the Student Union. All members should attend.

● Representatives from each of the quartets entered in the Barber Shop quartet contest are to meet today at 6:30 p.m. in the Student Union.

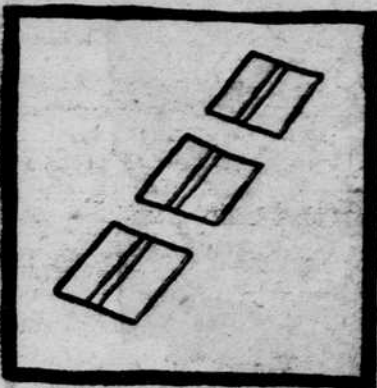
● Wesley LaViolette, composer and author, will deliver a lecture Friday at 9 a.m., 202 Music building. He will illustrate the talk with his own compositions.

Blank Mind Yields \$25 Doodle Prize

It can be done and an Oregon student did it.

Don Toepfer, sophomore in architecture, has had his entry in the Doodle contest published—and he received \$25 for it.

Toepfer entered three doodles



HIGHWAY FOR GRASSHOPPERS
B. D. Toepfer
University of Oregon

"Doodles,"

Copyrighted 1953 by Roger Price

in the contest after his roommate complained that no one could win. He drew a couple to show the doubting roommate that it could be done.

Even then Toepfer did not intend to send his doodles in, but his roommate talked him into doing so.

Now \$25 richer, Toepfer says, "It was easy. All I did was let my mind go blank."

YMCA to Discuss India's Role in World

A discussion of "India's Role in the World Today" will be given by the YMCA and Indian students today.

Discussion will be at 4 p.m. in the Student Union YMCA lounge.

All interested persons are invited to attend.

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presents

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