

images

By CARL HALL

LETTERS II. Do not abuse your freedom of creation. A freedom your country has achieved with blood and sacrifice for the greater part by the so-called "non-creative" element in your society; two wars in your generation alone. Don't forget these, remember it every second of your working day. You may be talented but a lot of "non-creative" living and dying preceded you in time.

Time for you to spend in paint or song came at the price of denials. Your early American history achieved the station you now hold by facing first things first. A continent was subdued, there was no art, esthetics as you know them, on the frontier, but there was beauty, mystery, adventure, optimistic hope, happiness and pain in the challenge where survival was held in a precarious balance.

You are to bring a summation to that balance that once rode a ship, a covered wagon, trod a foot trail, sighted on the end of a rifle, thirsted in an arid hope that was capped with a mountain that seemed impossibly far away.

A Responsibility
A dream brought you into being. You have to embellish that dream, artistically deepen it with vital clarification. You have to put into it a richer heart, a greater depth of beauty. You have to add to its esthetic and spiritual potential so it can continue to be a potential.

If you are indifferent or underestimate this responsibility you will lose yourself and fail as an artist must never fail, by default and hypocrisy.

It may not be possible to have "collective creative thinking" but it is possible to have enough individuals of worth who can create a potential towards that state. By a more concentrated concern toward the collective group which do desire to belong in a larger spiritual and esthetic order, the creator can become a living conscience.

You Are Free

As you assert your right to creative freedom, the right to be free to express yourself, make sure you have the character, conscience and dignity of purpose to warrant that assertion of liberation. As you orate on the freedom of the artist, include the non-creative audience, who, for the greater part must work at non-creative jobs eight hours a day, to make the money, you hope will be spent on the fruits of your "freedom."

Do not, as you approach your audience, deny the right to misunderstand your work, even overlook it. If you have a right to speak they have the right not to listen. Rather than condemn, try to meet on mutual ground. Compassion is needed on both sides but both have to meet in the center. Yelling will get you nowhere.

You are not perfect, so holier-than-thou that you can get along without an audience. You are not alone and you know it. The modern movement has been trying that for quite a while and as a group are getting scared.

The new art organizations arising on the American scene have an element of fear in them: the artist is not filling the niche in society he should and the implications are numbing in their explicit meaning. The artist's "freedom" is letting him down, or is the artist letting freedom down? Think carefully on this.

Stanley Glarum To Direct Choir

Guest director for the mass choir at the annual Choir Festival, May 2, will be L. Stanley Glarum, director of the Lewis and Clark college choir and music director at Westminster Presbyterian church, Portland.

Mr. Glarum received his Bachelor of Music degree at St. Olaf college, Northfield, Minn., where he was a member of the well-known choir and studied composition with Dr. F. Melius Christensen. He received his Master's degree in composition at the University of Washington.

During the war Mr. Glarum served in the Air Corps and was director of air corps choruses. At Lewis and Clark college for seven years, he teaches organ, counterpoint, choral arranging and choral methods, and has written a number of choral works. One of his compositions, "Sing Praises," will be sung by the combined choirs.

Study Group Meets

"The Neighborhood Scene" will be the subject of discussion to be led by Mrs. Robert L. Turner at the regular meeting of the AAUW pre-school child study group Wednesday night at the home of Mrs. Robert E. Gangware, 2640 Pioneer Drive, at 8 p.m. Co-hostesses will be Mrs. Dan Trullinger and Mrs. Everett Meier. A nominating committee for next year's officers will be announced during the evening.

Bush House Open

Hosts this afternoon during the regular Sunday open house at the Salem Art Museum, Bush Home, will be Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Gormsen and Dr. and Mrs. Richard Upjohn. The interested public is invited to view the house and the Japanese exhibit between 2 and 4:30 o'clock. Hostesses for the Wednesday afternoon open house will be Mrs. L. E. deWeese and Mrs. David Dunway.

Presbyterian Guilds Slate Meetings

The guilds of the Women's Association of the First Presbyterian Church have slated their April meetings as follows:

The Crown Guild will meet on Tuesday, April 6, at the home of Mrs. Kenneth Potts, 2880 South 12th St., for a 1:15 dessert luncheon. Mrs. Walter Snyder, Mrs. Edward Stadter and Mrs. Edward Roth assisting. Mrs. Bjarne Erickson, leader.

The following guilds meet on Wednesday, April 7:

The Adah Guild will meet at the home of Mrs. W. L. Lantis, Rt. 1, Box 778, 1 p.m. dessert luncheon. Mrs. Carl Chambers, leader.

The Deborah Guild with Mrs. Leo Childs, 320 N. 14th St., 1:15 dessert luncheon, with Mrs. A. H. Bailey assisting. Mrs. George Brown, leader.

The Esther Guild with Mrs. Dewey Rand Jr., 1375 Market St., for 1:15 dessert. Mrs. A. E. Archibald, leader.

The Leah Guild with Mrs. John S. Harper, 1363 Court St., for 1 p.m. dessert. Mrs. S. S. Tonseth assisting. Mrs. Walter Pugh, leader.

The Lydia Guild with Mrs. Paul H. Hauser, 925 Saginaw, 1:15 dessert. Mrs. Claude Murphy and Mrs. Curtis Hale assisting. Mrs. Bert Hulst, leader.

The Martha Guild with Mrs. John Raphael, 1715 Yew St., for 1:15 dessert. Mrs. J. J. Stutt, assisting. Mrs. Marion Lamb, leader.

The Ruth Guild with Mrs. L. M. Purvine, 533 S. 12th, 1:15 dessert. Mrs. L. E. Barrick assisting. Mrs. Ethan Collier, leader.

The Sarah Guild with Mrs. W. L. Osborne, 1695 Norway, 1:15 dessert. Mrs. Clifford Parker, Mrs. Elinor Bundy assisting. Mrs. Robert Howells, leader.

The Westminster Guild will meet in the social hall of the church for a 1 o'clock dessert luncheon. Hostesses are Mrs. William E. Wagner, Mrs. Stanley Hammer, Mrs. Edmond MacCollin, Mrs. H. Burdette Owen, Mrs. R. Prael and Mrs. Robert Siddoway. Mrs. Eugene Manock is the leader. There will be a nursery for small children.

Parliamentarians Meet

The Salem Unit of the National Association of Parliamentarians will hold their regular meeting Wednesday night at the Credit Bureau Bldg. at 7:30 p.m.

The lesson will be "The Nominating Committee's Duties" conducted by Mrs. O. J. Adkinson and will be followed by a parliamentary drill with Mrs. James Lamb as leader. Mrs. Winifred Pettyjohn will preside at the meeting.

Monthly board meeting of the Salem Branch, AAUW will be held Monday night at the home of Miss Mirpah Blair, 675 Marion St., at 8 p.m. Mrs. L. C. Wooden will be the co-hostess. Mrs. Arthur Sprague, president, will preside.

Bethel 35, Job's Daughters will meet Monday night at the Scottish Rite Temple at 7:30 p.m. There will be a short meeting with a talent show following at 8:30 p.m. Parents, friends and the interested public are invited to attend.

Mrs. Garlen L. Simpson will entertain the Gamma Phi Beta alumnae at her South 23rd Street home Tuesday night. A 6:30 dinner will be served with Mrs. Jack Steward, Mrs. Donald Liudahl and Mrs. Robert Ebersole as co-hostesses.

The Woman's Society of Christian Service of the Leslie Methodist Church will meet at the church at 12:30 p.m. Wednesday for a luncheon to be served by the Evelyn DeVries Circle. The business session will feature the annual election of officers.

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Hello—Just the other day I was talking with someone who was puzzled about what she called "a lack of personality" in her home. She said everything went together as far as color was concerned, that she had plenty of furniture in the room, but something was lacking—she said it looked as if no one really lived there. And what should she do?

We sketched a layout of her room and found that it was a fairly large one, but that she had placed the furniture around the room so that it filled the corners and the wall space, with the result that, although it looked nice, it offered no furniture grouping for two or three to sit down to visit. Each one had to talk to someone clear across the room.

We should always arrange furniture with the thought in mind of how best it will serve its purpose, and who can use it. For instance, I have often seen a pair of chairs placed on either side of a lovely spinet piano. A beautiful looking arrangement to be sure, but how about the two people who are trying to talk, or rather yell, across its width? Put the piano on the wall away from the conversation group, where a traffic lane is. Reserve the rest of the room for furniture groupings, for nothing is worse than to sit in a chair where everyone must pass in front of it and still try to carry on an intelligent conversation. You've been in that spot, I'm sure!

One trick is to put the sofa at right angles to the fireplace, a coffee table before it, and at least one chair opposite—it looks inviting right away. And since there's nothing we human beings love to do more than talk, we might as well plan for it!

Something else to add to help a room take on new personality, is to add a focal point to quicken interest and make the room different than any other. An antique piece of furniture, an especially lovely table of a wood or marble different than the other pieces, a grouping of intriguing pictures over the sofa.

Growing things have a way of adding new life to a room, too. Put a tall split-leaf philodendron beside your TV set and see the square box apparently diminish in size. The greens in a large planter on the mantle, desk, or piano take away the stiff line of the furniture.

Of course there's nothing like wallpaper to create character, interest and personality—and overnight at that! We don't need to be satisfied with an unlive-in look, we can do something concrete about it, and do it now!

See you next week,

Mary Thomas
Interior Decorator
Roberts Bros.