Solo to Scandanavia

Bergen Shops Filled With Native Crafts

By MAXINE BUREN
Statesman Womans Editor

BERGEN, NORWAY: June 7 — Yesterday I spent doing the Bergen shops, which are very tempting for anyone who had not up to that time, let loose of many travelers' checks. This I cannot now boast, for the silver, pewter, woolens and other beautiful native crafts are most inviting.

Contrary to the custom in many states, where the sales tax gouges the unprotected, you get 10 to 15 per cent off the purchase price when you export, and this at least equals freight charges, which are low. One shop even pays the freight.

One of my important purchases for the day was a lovely white cotton, long-sleeved undershirt, which I shall wear to supplement my girlish light-weight pajamas and dare anyone to find it out. The Norge hotel in Bergen, though scrupulously clean and given to smiling service, has a terrible bed. You are warm on top, with the now-welcome eiderdown "dyne" (spelt the same but pronounced different from the Danish), but the mattress, which I suspect of being cement, though it might be horsehair if a little bit softer, is just like the basement floor to try to warm from your underside. Two nights now, I have really been chilled on the south, though comfortable on the north exposure. The fisherman's undies should do it.

Pewter is wonderfully inexpensive — huge platters 12 inches wide and hand made, costing under $10, less the discount. A perfectly lovely hand-knit sweater in Norwegian design will cost maybe $15 or much less if a child's size. They make a lot of enameled silverware in Norway, which is more expensive than carved sterling but exceedingly attractive. It comes in table ware and lots of jewelry is made from it. Blues, reds and yellows predominate.

The Norwegians seem to crave fruit, though it seldom appears on the table. Stand after stand is found in the farmer's market place. I found some sealskin moccassins that looked good to me, though I didn't buy any for myself. In one shop there were also deliciously warm looking felt boots of gray — just the thing for a cold evening in Bergen.

In the afternoon, I went on a small tour of Trollhagen (home of Edvard Grieg) and to one of the oldest stave churches in existence. As usual, the guide spoke excellent English, and told me something of the economics of the country.

Trollhagen, not far above the fjord on a hilly promentory should inspire anyone to make beautiful music. Grieg's home is a simple white one, lined in knotty pine, well weathered, and containing many relics of Bergen's famous son. He is buried in one of the most beautiful spots. The country going up to Trollhagen is deeply wooded, and carpeted with flowers and bunch ferns.

A Trip to Trollhagen

The old stave church is so named, most people believe, from the construction. There are four huge upright timbers, called staves, which hold the high central tower. The design is not unlike a pagoda, which, in view of the fact that the Norsemen wandered far into the orient, may have been the inspiration. The roof is very steep, made of carefully cut wood designed to look like tiles. These have been covered with tar to preserve them. The interior is like it was originally, except that there are small pews, while the ancient Norse knelt on the floor. The stave church, now owned by one of the wealthy shipbuilders of Bergen, is open to the public and for occasional worship. It was taken from its original situation and rebuilt on a beautiful wood of beech and pine.

This stave church dates back to the 12th century when Christianity first began in Norway. Among the interesting features was the lepers' window, which permitted these outcasts to follow the services from outside. Incidentally, there is a lepers' hospital in Bergen, though now housing only a few patients.

One section of the city, being built up with attractive new duplexes, is for the better paid shipyard employes, who get loans from the owner at a low rate of interest. They cost about 150,000 kroner, which would be somewhat over $20,000, rather expensive for the salaries given Bergeners. The houses are sometimes of wood, but a great deal of stone is used in construction. The Bergeners use lots of red paint, and also favor white houses. These homes compare favorably with our standards and Bergeners take advantage of the wonderful vistas from the hills.

There is no unemployment in Norway, and I've not seen one unkept house or a family that looked poor. There is so much building going on that anyone could find employment in this one trade.

Mrs. Merrill Is Feted on Birthday

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Van Cleve entertained at dinner and an informal reception at on Sunday at their Ratcliff Drive home honoring her mother, Mrs. Beatrice Merrill, on her 83rd birthday.

Mrs. Merrill's other daughter, Mrs. Walter Rhule, came up from Grover City, Calif., for the occasion. Grandchildren and great-grandchildren attending were Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Ferry and sons of Coquille, Mr. and Mrs. John Rhule, Gary Rhule, his fiancee, Miss Nancy Kreitzer of Lebanon, and Brent Rhule of Coquille.

Other relatives calling were Mr. and Mrs. Albert C. Gragg, George Gragg of Monmouth, Mrs. William Zosel and Mrs. Minnie Gragg of McMinnville. A number of friends also attended the reception.

Juniors Plan River Days Events

Salem's forthcoming Willamette River Days festivities and the part the Salem Junior Woman's Club will play in them were the object of a special meeting Monday night at the Woman's Club.

Mrs. William Ferguson, member of the River Days board of directors and a Junior Woman's Club member, introduced the club's River Days Queen candidate, Sherry Steen, and explained the festivities ticket selling program to the members.

The club voted to enter a float in the River Days parade and Mrs. Marvin Simpson, Mrs. Orville Kannier Jr., Mrs. Fred Olson and Mrs. Ronald Houck were appointed to be in charge of the float preparations.

Other members appointed to co-chairmen positions at the meeting were: Junior Woman's Club River Days ticket sales, Mrs. William H. Hicks and Mrs. Asa Lewelling; River Days banquet, Mrs. Richard Allen and Mrs. Stevin Benson; Coronation, Mrs. Robert Stevens and Mrs. John Ericksen; ticket sales captains, Mrs. Fred Olson, Mrs. Richard F. Riedel, Mrs. Clark Carlton, Mrs. George Norris, Mrs. Charles Proctor.

Plans Told For Tea

Mrs. Warren Hocker announced the Junior Woman's Club participation in a silver tea on June 14 to be given in honor of Mrs. George Roseman, state president, at the YWCA from 2 to 5:30 p.m. Money from the tea, which is being jointly sponsored with the Salem Woman's Club and the Zenith Club, will be donated to the YWCA swimming pool campaign.

The Junior Woman's Club will be in charge of refreshments and a nursery will be furnished for children of women attending the tea.

It was announced that the state project for next year will be C.A.R.E. Mrs. James R. Gray, first vice-president, was in charge of Monday's special meeting in the absence of Mrs. George Dewey, president.

Final Meeting And Picnic

DONALD—The last official meeting of Venus Chapter, Order of Eastern Star will be Saturday night, June 29 at which time Father's Day and Flag Day will be recognized.

Annual picnic of Venus Chapter will be at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Pence, worthy matron and patron, on August 18.

Mrs. Pence attended the 68th annual session of the Grand Chapter, Order of Eastern Star of Oregon June 3 to 6 inclusive in Portland. She served as a delegate from Venus Chapter and also as one of the assistant grand warders during the session.

Oregon State Duo Married In Corvallis

The newly married Mr. and Mrs. Dale Ernest Rockwood (Marieta Louise Etzel) will be making their home in Corvallis this fall, where they will continue their studies at Oregon State College. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George E. Etzel of Dallas and Mr. Rockwood is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Don Rockwood of Coos Bay.

The June 8 ceremony took place at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Corvallis with the Rev. Mr. Johnson officiating at the 3 o'clock rites.

Of Chantilly lace and tulle over satin was the bridal gown, fashioned with a sweetheart neckline and a tulle yoke. The tiered, bouffant skirt was of lace ending in a satin train. Her fingertip veil cascaded from a sweetheart headdress of lace acorned with pearls and sequins. She carried a white prayer book marked with pink rosebuds and a mother of pearl rosary, a gift of the bridegroom.

Mrs. Richard Gray was her sister's honor matron and she wore a white net ballerina gown over green taffeta, a white net cape and picture hat with green satin ribbon. The bridesmaids, Mrs. Charles Coffey, sister of the bride, and Miss Elinor Hefferman, wore similar gowns only of white net over orchid. They all carried white carnation bouquets.

Robert Rockwood stood with his cousin as best man and ushers were Charles Coffey and Dave Laibr, cousin of the bride.

Mrs. Etzel chose a black gown trimmed in white with white accessories and corsage of gardenias for her daughter's wedding. Mrs. Rockwood wore a rose lace gown with white accessories and gardenia corsage.

The reception was held at the bride's sorority house, Alpha Xi Delta. Pouring were Mrs. Robert Rockwood and Mrs. Jenny Severt. Mrs. John Hafner cut the cake.

For going away the new Mrs. Rockwood donned a white suit with pink accessories. The couple will be at home in Coos Bay for the summer.

Series of Three Piano Recitals

Mrs. Genevieve Mickenham will present her piano students in a series of three recitals on June 13, 14, 15, at her studio at 2025 Fir St. Time for these recitals will be 7:45 p.m. and they will feature both solos and two piano numbers.

Appearing tonight are Shirley Burton, Norma McCallister, Margaret O'Day, Walter Winslow, Neeley W White, Sharon Fulton, Janice Akerson, Barbara Mickenham.

On Friday Jim Hamilton, Ivan Schechtmann, Buddy Knapp and Johnny Knapp, Bill Nichols, Sue Turner, Nell Gilman, Mary Olson, Judy Mansfield, Margaret Gilman, Beth Humphreys and Frances Hamilton will play.

Playing Saturday will be Danny Cadmus, Kathy Cadmus, Linda Kautz, Ane Neiman, Sandra Davis, Glen Robinett, Judy Robinson, Rachael Vancel and Larry Grimes.

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New Committees Are Announced

Mrs. Tim Bredahl was initiated into Marion Auxiliary, Veterans of Foreign Wars Monday evening at the Veterans of Foreign Wars hall. The president announced the following committees: Mrs. Myrtle Taylor, hospital; Mrs. Virgil Bolton, cancer; Mrs. Ivell Haley, home fund; Mrs. Maude Olson, bonds.

Mrs. Vernon glass represented the auxiliary at the World War I convention held in Salem last week. Committee reports were given by Mrs. W. L. Barnett, Mrs. William Beard, Mrs. Clarence Forbis and Mrs. Henry W. Freisen.

Mrs. Ivell Haley, assisted by a group of the members, served a dinner for the Marine Corp League during their convention. Mrs. William Johnson, Mrs. Clarence Forbis, and Miss Mary Gilhuly attended a meeting of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary in Corvallis.

CLOVERDALE — Miss Carol Newkirk arrived at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Loren Newkirk, Saturday from Fresno, Calif. Carol has been attending college in Fresno the past two years. She will be home a week before she is to return to Fresno, where she will be employed during the summer.

WILLAMINA—Mrs. Glenn Sprigg and baby daughter, Ronda, were given a shower by Mrs. Robert Harritt. Enjoying the party were Mrs. Jim Paul, Mrs. James Smith, Mrs. Wendell Wooden, Mrs. Marnie Edmiston, Mrs. Orlando Myers, Mrs. Harry Shipley, Mrs. Merle Rabuck, Mrs. Henry Amacher, Mrs. Otis Barr, Mrs. Merle Newbill, Mrs. Virginia Miner, Mrs. Frank Smelser, Mrs. Evan Davis and Mrs. Jack Ison.

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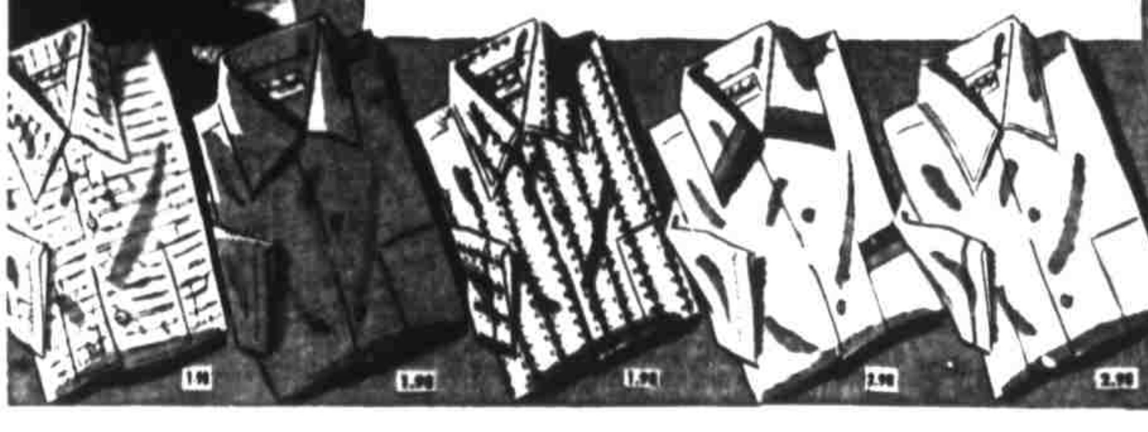

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