



**Beach Ballet** Lillian Jarvis and John Marsha, of the Volkoff Canadian ballet, rehearse their routine on a Georgian Bay beach, Ontario, during practice for the coming season.

### Mt. St. Helens Hikers See Rare Specter

**By J. HUGH PRUETT**  
Astronomer, Extension Division, Oregon Higher Education System

Early on August 13, 10 mountain climbers from the Obsidians, an out-door organization well-known in the Pacific coast states, set out from their summer camp at Spirit Lake, Wash., intent on scaling the nearby, snow-topped old Mt. St. Helens.

The larger number who had not attempted the climb.

The ascent was successful, and late in the afternoon when half way back from the rounded summit, the party unexpectedly came upon the rare (excepting from airplanes) and striking phenomenon long known as The Specter of the Brocken.

Miss Adeline A. Adams of the University of Oregon library staff, greatly enthused over the beautiful spectacle, described it as follows:

"We were on the sunlit Dog's Head, a very steep, rocky prominence between two mountain glaciers. The ice below us to the east was covered with a dense sheet of fog, the glistening smooth top of which was probably 50 yards lower than we were.

"The sun, still well above the western horizon, was casting distinct shadows of all members of our party on the top of the fog layer. But the amazing part of it, something I had never seen before, was that each person saw his own shadow surrounded by a complete circle of a rainbow. He could see the rainbow only around his own shadow and not around those of the others.

"I swung my arm in a half circle as high as I could and the shadows of the tips of my fingers on the fog just touched the rim of my personal rainbow."

As stated in this column recently when rainbow-forming conditions exist, each person sees only his own rainbow,

since the center of the circle, of which the colored arc is the circumference, is exactly opposite the observer from the sun—as is his shadow.

A straight line would run through the sun, the observer and the bow's center.

That afternoon on Mt. St. Helens, ten visible Specters of the Brocken were painted on the gleaming, white fog, but nine

were unseen by any one member of the party.

This phenomenon is not quite a true rainbow, but is more like colored coronas sometimes seen on thin clouds encircling the moon. Diffraction plays a more prominent part than refraction.

The name comes from The Brocken, a mountain in German Saxony, from which the observer's rainbow-encircled shadow is said first to have been described in 1780.

Many legends center around this mountain in Prussian folklore. Long ago it was thought that evil spirits and witches held "high carnival" on its lofty summit on Walpurgis night. Some within sight of the mountain still retain a slight superstition regarding the old-time stories.

### Registration Gains At Parochial School

Silverton — Father John Walsh of St. Paul's Catholic parish, Silverton, is reporting their parochial school well under way for the year's work. With the six additional to enter this week, there will be 104 registrants.

Sister Gertrude, Superior of the Convent, is teaching the third and fourth grades.

Head of the music department, with out-of-parish pupils received, is Sister Victoria, here from Woodburn during the past year.

Sister Edward Mary, principal of the school, is teaching the

first and second grades; Sister Veronica, the 5th and 8th, and Sister Germaine, the 7th and 8th grades.

An Arabian alchemist of the tenth century named Albuqasim was the first known man to mention the distillation process.

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### Silverton Parochial School Plans Drive

Silverton—With plans in order for completing the parochial school building of the parish, a drive for \$12,000 is arranged to terminate on the date of the late autumn bazaar and dinner, during the latter part of November, for St. Paul's Catholic church. This amount will finish the brick work on the new building.

These plans were finished at a Sunday meeting of the men's committee of the parish. Composing the committee are Dr. A. L. V. Smith, chairman, assisted by Maurice Schroenenberg, Edward Lambert, William Flanagan, Edward Hynes, Alfred Schledler, Tom Martin, Jack Uselman and E. J. DeSantis. Father Walsh is advisor.

The bazaar and annual dinner for the public, is under direction of members of St. Monica's Altar society. The tentative date has been set for November 20.

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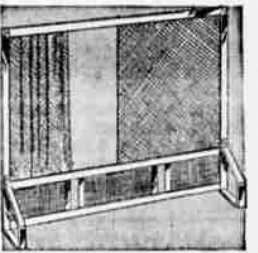
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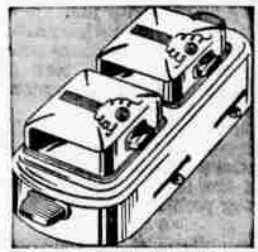
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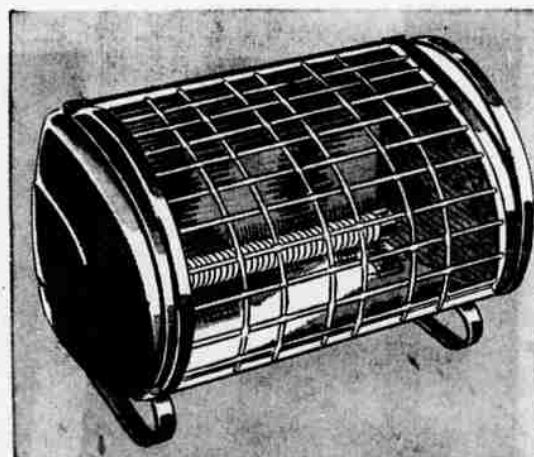
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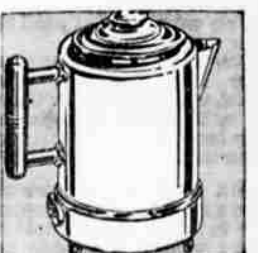
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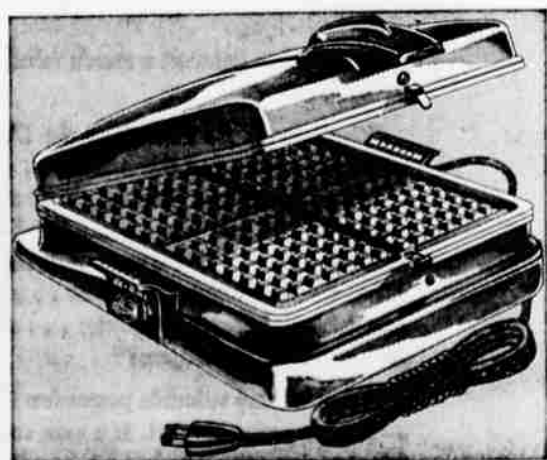
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