

Trip to Mayaland Described to Lions By Miss Humphreys

Heppner Ladies Get Thrill at Vera Cruz; Ancient Ruins Seen.

The recent trip of Misses Leta Humphreys and Rose Leibbrand through Mexico was not without its thrills, so Miss Humphreys related before the Monday Lions luncheon.

It was on the return from Yucatan, the country of prehistoric ruins occupying a peninsula in the Gulf of Mexico at the country's southernmost extremity that one of the biggest thrills was experienced. They had boarded their train at Vera Cruz but their leaving was delayed by striking railroad workers. Another train, loaded with religious pilgrims was delayed alongside. The pilgrims evidenced fervor as the day progressed, becoming more and more effusive in their religious tantrums. Fearing violence, railroad officials caused the Heppner ladies' car to be drawn out from the station to a position on the very precipitous grade leading out of the city. Here they spent the night, only to learn the next morning that the religious fanatics had threatened in the night to cut their car loose from the engine. Had this been done, the car undoubtedly would have made a mad dash down the mountain, and the chances of anyone within surviving would have been slight, indeed.

Yucatan, or Mayaland, was Miss Humphreys special theme, though she told incidents of the trip coming and going. They traveled by rail from Mexico City to Vera Cruz, the trip taking them across a high, arid plateau where patches of corn and sisal were the only signs of cultivation. Vera Cruz, the seaport from which a Mexican steamer was taken to Yucatan, lies at the base of high mountains, and Miss Humphreys described the trip down these as quite uncertain. They viewed Vera Cruz with some foreboding, too, as its dim lights out of the night lent credence to their anticipations of a very old and typically dingy Mexican city. Mexican hotel hostlers were at the train. And their uneasiness was little relieved when a boy disappeared into the night with their luggage, and their native guide led them off afoot into the night for the Hotel Imperial. They asked for a taxi, but instead were placed aboard a clankety old street car. Just a block's ride on this, however, and they were unloaded to find their hotel at hand, and their luggage safe.

Just a little point to guide Mexican tourists. Miss Humphreys advised that baggage handling in Mexico is uncertain. If it gets out of sight, it may never be seen again. Also, it is advisable to carry everything in one suitcase, for hostlers charge by the parcel, an amount for each parcel, more for larger parcels and a lesser amount for smaller ones.

At Vera Cruz, the ladies learned more of the vagaries of Mexican transportation service. They had not been able to line up boat transportation before leaving Mexico City, and so desired to make arrangements for it immediately on reaching Vera Cruz. However, they arrived the day before Good Friday. Good Friday was a holiday, and the next day being the day between Good Friday and Easter was also a holiday. Easter came on Sunday, and that was a holiday, making four days before they could contact the steamship office. Then they secured passage only to find the ship would be two days late in sailing.

They took in Vera Cruz thoroughly in that time, to realize the fulfillment of their anticipations. Vera Cruz had progressed but little thru the years, and was withal unattractive. They toured it mostly by street car, taking a different car each time into various parts of the city. Apparently the car tracks served as dryer for the laundry as clothes were seen lying on the white sand all along the tracks.

Miss Humphreys said it was at

Vera Cruz she had the first practical application of her high school Latin. They wished some water purification capsules to take with them to Yucatan where much of the water was reported to be impotable, and dropped into the shop of a botica, or pharmacist. Miss Leibbrand's best Spanish brought only distilled water. Then it was that Miss Humphreys wrote the Latin for what they wished, and the botica's face lighted with understanding as he filled the order satisfactorily.

They were given board and lodging on the ship during the two-day delay, and when they finally sailed they were accompanied by the "music" of cows and calves from a ludicrously mixed cargo of sugar, livestock and automobiles.

Mayaland was an improvement on the rest of Mexico, Miss Humphreys said. The people were creditable ancestors for anyone. Streets, homes, and all at Progressi where they landed, were attractive, and Merida, the base of their sightseeing, proved to be a beautiful city with its palm-lined streets with wide parking strips in the center; the white clay abodes with thatched roofs, all with typical patios in the center.

A hundred-mile trip inland was required to reach the ruins of the prehistoric Maya civilization, where they viewed the old sacrificial wells of the Toltecs, climbed the pyramids and looked at the age-old murals, much of it resembling Athenian culture. Miss Humphreys related some of the little known historical background of the ruins, said to date around 600 A. D.

They checked the register of visitors and found only once before had Oregonians inscribed names there. Two Salem boys had been there a few years before.

LEXINGTON

By BEULAH NICHOLS

Baccalaureate services for the senior class of the Lexington high school were held in the auditorium Sunday morning. The address was delivered by Rev. R. C. Young, pastor of the Methodist church of Heppner, who used as his subject "Building a Life." Commencement exercises will be held Thursday evening at 8 o'clock.

Mrs. George White and Mrs. S. J. Devine entertained twelve members of the Lexington Home Economics club at the home of Mrs. White last Thursday afternoon. After the usual business was taken care of, the hostesses served delicious refreshments. Those present besides the hostesses were Pearl Marquardt, Laura Rice, Alta Cutsforth, Lorraine Beach, Carna Campbell, Hortense Martin, Bertha Dinges, Bertha Nelson and Beulah Nichols.

The Troubadors have been engaged to play for the dance at the grange hall on May 29.

The oiling of the Lexington-Echo highway has been completed and the road crew has gone on to Pilot Rock where some oiling is being done.

A meeting was held at the school house Monday afternoon for the purpose of preparing a budget to be voted on at the annual meeting in June. Besides the members of the school board and the clerk, those who served on the committee were

Emma Breshears, B. H. Peck, Elmer Hunt and Orville Cutsforth.

A bridal shower was held at the Ladies Aid room Saturday afternoon, honoring Mis Beulah Eskelson of Heppner. A large number of Miss Eskelson's friends attended and she received many lovely and useful gifts.

The trained animal circus which came to town Saturday proved to be quite an attraction for the youngsters of the community.

Eugene Majeske entertained the members of the seventh and eighth grades with a party at his country home Friday evening. Games were enjoyed during the evening and refreshments were served at a late hour.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Van Winkle and daughters have returned from Salem where they went to visit Mrs. Van Winkle's father, Joseph Eskelson, who has been ill.

Mrs. Etta C. Hunt of Portland is spending a few days visiting relatives in this community.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Marquardt were recent visitors in Portland.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur A. Schneider of Woodburn were week-end guests of Mr. and Mrs. Oral Scott at their Blackhorse home. Before coming here they made a tour through Washington to look at the crops. They report that crops here look much better than in the neighboring state. From here Mr. and Mrs. Schneider went to Portland where they plan to attend the I. O. O. F. and Rebekah grand lodges before returning to their home.

Pete Celoria of the Interstate Stables in Portland was buying horses in this community this week.

Mrs. Archie Munkers of Salem spent last week at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Munkers.

Mr. and Mrs. Orville Cutsforth motored to Condon Saturday to attend a meeting of Elks and their ladies.

Fred Fulgham spent last week in Portland.

Mr. and Mrs. H. N. Burchell of Sheridan were looking after property interests in this community the first of the week. While here they were guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Johnson.

Seven students received their eighth grade diplomas at the graduation exercises held in the auditorium Wednesday evening. They were Doris Scott, Donald Campbell, Eldon Padberg, Jerrine Edwards, Erma Scott, May Rauch and Eugene Majeske. The program was as follows: March, Miss Jean Crawford; salutatory, Doris Scott; class history, Donald Campbell; class motto, Eldon Padberg; piano duet, Mrs. George Gillis and Miss Mary Alice Reed; valedictory, Jerrine Edwards; class key presentation, Erma Scott; class will, May Rauch; class prophecy, Eugene Majeske; piano duet, Mrs. George Gillis and Doris Scott; presentation of Turner scholarship cup, George Gillis; presentation of Scout cup, George Gillis; guitar solo, George Gillis; presentation of diplomas, Wm. D. Campbell; March, Miss Jean Crawford.

The Turner scholarship cup, an award given by Mrs. Lilian C. Turner, was this year awarded to Jer-

rine Edwards, Doris Scott and Donald Campbell. The Scout cup, an award given by the Lexington grange for honor and industry in Boy Scout work, was awarded this year to Wendall Fulgham.

The high school students and faculty enjoyed a picnic at the H. O. Bauman ranch Monday evening. Ice cream and cake were served.

Peggy Warner of Corvallis is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Warner.

Mrs. Pat Healy and children of Heppner were guests of Mrs. J. G. Johnson Monday evening.

Orville Cutsforth was a business visitor in Pendleton Monday evening.

On the night of June 5 Lexington grange will sponsor a dance for

the benefit of the 4-H clubs of this community.

ART MURALS GIVEN OSC.

Corvallis—Two large murals made by a new wood inlay process known as marquetry, and which depict Oregon forest scenes, have just been placed in the entrance of the forestry building at O. S. C. The huge pictures, 11 by 15 feet in size, were made in Portland under a WPA artist project supervised by Mrs. Amie Gorham. The different colorings and designs are made by using veneers cut from scores of different woods gathered from all parts of the world. One mural shows a forest in pioneer days and the other a sawmill in an Oregon woods.

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COAST-TO-COAST ATTRACTION

A TENT SHOW Sponsored by the Lions Club to Benefit Heppner Swimming Pool Fund.

HEPPNER, ONE NIGHT ONLY

Wednesday, May 26

BRASS BAND AND ORCHESTRA, BLACK FACE COMEDIANS, QUARTETTE, BUCK'N WING AND TAP DANCERS, ALSO A VERY CLEVER COMEDY JUGGLER.

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The Famous Cotton Town Minstrel

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Doors open at 7:30. Admission: Adults 40c, Children 15c
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