

Seeing New Zealand By Lois Winchester

On Sept. 21 we drove to Santa Rosa, Ca., to visit our son and daughter-in-law, Lowell and Edie Turner and to join them for a trip to New Zealand. On Sept. 26, we flew from Santa Rosa to Chicago on an American Airlines 747 Luxury Liner that holds 303 passengers and has 10 to 14 stewardesses and three flying officers. This big bird is as long as a nine-story building is tall and cost 23 million. We flew at 29,000 ft. What luxury service the 747 gives, really out of this world!

We stayed all night in Chicago with a flight officer friend of Lowell's, whose wife was going to babysit Lowell's younger daughter, Kisha, while we four were away.

Up and Away
Next morning we got up at 6:00 to be on time with our luggage and ready to depart on our trip non-stop to New Zealand. We managed to get in two breakfasts before getting on the plane that day and had four more meals on the plane before landing in New Zealand. We had to keep setting the time back until Ernie only had two hours to celebrate his birthday. We were traveling 600 miles per hour and the sun was going about 1000 miles per hour, so all in all it was the longest day we ever spent in our lives. We flew for 20 hours and I thought the sun would never go down. Lowell got some beautiful pictures of the sunset when it finally did come.

Stops in Hawaii and Fiji
We refueled and stretched our legs in Hawaii and on the Fiji Islands. We arrived in Auckland, New Zealand a very tired foursome. Thank goodness Lowell realized it would take some time to orient our bodies and become rested after crossing the equator and flying for so many hours. So he had made reservations at the International Continental Hotel for three days. The first day was mostly spent resting the badly needed rest.

Sight Seeing Begins
The second day we took a bus tour of Auckland and surrounding country set in beautiful wooded hills. We even stopped at a winery to sample wines. The third day we took a cab ride to Auckland's large museum. The fourth day we boarded a bus for our week's vacation in the country surrounding Roturua. It was a fairly large city with only stop and go lights at the very center of town at one intersection. These signs directing traffic say "Give", and that is just what people do—give the right of way. There is no honking and rushing on anyone's part. Folks there are so friendly and extra courteous and helpful. They all seem to be able to spot foreigners as far as they can see. As we drove on the left-hand side of the road and seemed to be in doubt as to who had the right of way, they always smiled, waited, and then waved us on our way. The sidewalks in some places had a white line down the center, and the people walk on the left-hand side the same as vehicle traffic moves.

Beautiful, Clean Countryside
As we drove, we observed that even the smaller places were well cared for and showed the pride, effort, and time taken to keep them so well painted and so attractive. The whole country

did not show the pollution that lazy, shiftless people often cause by dumping their garbage anywhere as happens in the U. S. Many pastures were divided as far as you could see over the rounded hills by carefully trimmed hedges. There was the most beautiful green forage everywhere. The overabundance of sheep appeared to all be in tended parks. Dairy cattle were more in evidence than beef cattle. Since good green feed is such a plentiful commodity, butter there sells for 33 cents a pound, milk for 8 cents a quart, and big loaves of bread for 17 cents.

Horses Treated Differently
One of the strangest sights to me were the horses. Most of them still were flapping around in their pretty green pastures with their dingy, old, everyday canvas horse blankets on to protect them from the rain and cold winds. Very few people there build barns or sheds for the protection of their stock. They do leave the thick, bowed trees in groups to form winter protection. In many places trees are planted along the fence lines and the limbs are allowed to grow clear to the ground on one side to form wind breaks.

About Fishing and Indians
The fishing was good and the guys got some nice fish, but not as large as they had hoped for. One day we left the boat on Okataina Lake and climbed up on a hill that stuck out in the lake. As we climbed to the top we explored and counted 33 Indian caves. They were dug in the sandstone. The rooms were round on top and perfectly square or rectangular on the bottom. We were told that the Mori people (New Zealand's Indians) used to store food and to live in them. There was an ancient burial ground by the lake, but it has been covered with lake water now. There is no outlet and the lake water keeps rising. In fact, the gift shop at Okataina Lake has two feet of water in the bottom of it. They have build a rough subfloor in it so they can continue business in the same building.

An Exciting Discovery
The highlight of my trip was the afternoon that Edith and I were buzzing to town in our little rented VW. As we went in, we spotted an odd dead animal on the side of the road. On our way home we stopped to investigate. As I turned the brown, furry, cold, stiff animal over with my toe, the most pitiful, loud cry came out of it, and we were surely startled to find life in such a rain-soaked, dead, carcass. I felt into its pouch and came out with what everyone at the lodge told us was a baby wallaby. A wallaby is a relative of the kangaroo, only much smaller. After we studied some animal pictures, we decided the natives did not know their own animals, because we had rescued a baby possum from its mother's pouch. Possums there carry one baby in a pouch, instead of a litter on their back as our possums do.

An Understanding Waitress
The tiny fellow certainly needed care. His predicament was worked out nicely because I contacted a kind waitress at the lodge who adapted the squalling little creature. She made a bag-type home with a hot water bottle in its bottom. She fed the tiny possum often from an eye dropper. He was very happy and growing OK when we left there. Another interesting experience was walking up the road from the lake after dark and viewing the glow worms. Their lights twinkle and gleam like scenes of tiny fairy cities.

About New Zealand's Fauna
The only natural wild life on the New Zealand islands were bats and the Kiwi birds. Kiwi birds are wingless and don't fly. They were an easy prey for the natives who nearly exterminated them in cooking pots. Very few remain in the jungles and a scant few are in zoos. The bats remain and many other animals, such as deer, elk, possum



LOIS SHOWS Baby Wallaby she rescued from dead mother's pouch.

and wallaby, which were imported to the islands years ago. Controlled shooting safaris of these animals are being presented for the killing pleasure of big brave gun-toters. Soon such a place near Roturua will be open for money-making business. We were fortunate to see deer meander across the jungle road ahead of us one day. Live creatures are so much more beautiful and fascinating to observe while they are enjoying life. It was a thrill to watch a wallaby dart and really travel on his tail and hind legs. Some possum crossed the road in our car lights and moved like galloping native badger; they seem about the size and build of our badgers.

Some Interesting Sights
Many parts of New Zealand are blessed with hot geysers, boiling mud pots, colored terraces, boiling lakes, and other sights that remind one of Yellowstone Park and its wonders. The uncleared jungle land with its hundreds and hundreds of different varieties of trees, palms, ferns and other terrific plant life seems to be loaded with all kinds of happy, singing birds. What a joy to look and to listen to nature in its natural state.

One wishing well, called Rainbow Spring, produces one million gallons of the clearest spring water each hour. There was so much force that the coins tossed in for good luck took quite awhile to float to the bottom or to stop on some ledge.

Want To Keep Traveling
We had a great trip and such wonderful experiences. We hope to make many more trips. We feel the American Airline is wonderful; their courtesy and service is tops for pleasure flying. We returned home on Oct. 13.

GEORGE STEAGALL & FAMILY
Mr. and Mrs. George Steagall and Tommy hosted their family this year at a large Thanksgiving dinner which has become an annual tradition for the Steagall family.

Those present were Mr. and Mrs. John Ratcliff and Shannon, Wilbur Steagall and Lola Breeding, all of Lexington; Mrs. Cora Burnside of Spray; Mr. and Mrs. Jack Sitton of Kinzua; Mr. and Mrs. Bob Steagall and Rob of Albany; Earl Steagall of Canyon City; David Sitton and Barbara Misenor of Fossil.

During the day, the assembled family received long distance telephone calls from Mary King Taffey of Kenner, La. and Eunice Strudgson of Erie, Pa., both sisters to George Steagall. The family then called brother Dave Steagall in Portland.

Kinzua Card Club Community Fare

KINZUA — The Double Deck card club had its regular meeting last Wednesday evening with Mrs. Virginia Kelso as hostess. High was won by Marietta Wilsey, second high by Bonnie Campbell, and pinochles by Marj Boring and Marilyn Bailey. Others playing were Virginia Sitton, Rita Bowman and LeVelle Jellic.

Mrs. Melba Mitchell was hostess Thursday evening to the members of her card club in the First Grade room. High was won by Sue Mattison, low by Cheryl Berg, and pinochles by Evie Luper and Roberta Conlee. Others playing were Cindi Combs, Irene Samples, Sharon Bell, Molly Day, Lucille Bird, Marietta Wilsey and Lauri Hire.

Mrs. Wanda Dunlap was the hostess last Wednesday evening to the card club at the Camp 5 Community hall. High was won by Betty Murdock, low by Cindy Weaser, and the pinochles by Lauri Hire and Sue Mattison. Others present were Pat Van Arsdale, Terry Todd, Becky Wright, Marguerite Stanton, Evie Luper, Sharon Bell, and Doris Stubblefield.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Slinkard and Mr. and Mrs. Lee Bailey spent the weekend in Portland on business.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Wilsey went to Pendleton Saturday on business, returning home that evening.

Farewell Dinner
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Harper and son Gavin were honored guests Saturday evening at a farewell potluck dinner held at Jeffmore Hall. Charlie Smith was the master of ceremonies and presented the Harpers with a money tree. They are leaving soon for Warrenton where they will make their home and Dick will be employed.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Benson were in The Dalles Saturday on business.

Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Dyer and Jeremy went to St. Maries, Idaho for the weekend and when they returned they brought Mrs. Arthur Reichelt to visit her daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Les Malloroy.

Mrs. Ron Eversole and Mrs. Orval Headley were business visitors to The Dalles last Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Hire and Frank Spivey were business visitors to The Dalles on Monday of last week.

Irrigon Gains New Pastor, Family

By FRANCES ROSE WILSON

IRRIGON — The Rev. Charles Ashby has accepted the pastorate of the Irrigon Baptist Church. Rev. and Mrs. Ashby and their 5 children currently reside in Pendleton, and plan to move to this area in the near future.

The Irrigon Baptist Church is planning promotion Sunday in their Sunday School hour on Dec. 5. That evening at 5:00 p.m. they will have a potluck dinner in their basement, to be followed by a business meeting.

Thanksgiving weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ollis Lathrop were Mrs. Lathrop's mother, Mrs. Walter Smith, Mrs. Lathrop's son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Terry Witherspoon and baby daughter of Hermiston and Mrs. Lathrop's son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Sid Wagoner of Redmond. Wagoner is attending college in Bend, preparing for Forestry Service, and Sheryl is employed by the Bureau of Land Management.

Baptist Ladies Meet
The Ladies aid of the Community Baptist Church met at the church Thursday. They had a Christmas gift exchange early since a member was leaving for the winter. A successful church bazaar was held the previous week.

Officers elected for the coming year were: Chairman, Minnie Hoadley vice chairman, Elva Sanders; secretary-treasurer, Eva Anderson.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ingalls were Sunday dinner guests of her sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Froberg. The dinner was given to honor Mrs. Ingalls on her birthday.

Eva Anderson Leaves
Mrs. Eva Anderson left Sunday to spend the winter with her daughter in St. Paul, Minn. She plans to return in February.

F. A. Gerald Mesteth, son of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Mesteth, is home on a 14-day leave from the Navy, after completing boot camp at San Diego.

The Rev. and Mrs. Walt Warner of Blackfoot, Idaho, spent the Thanksgiving holiday with his brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Batie Rand, and his brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Warner. They were joined on Thanksgiving Day by the Rand's son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. David Rand and children of Portland and Herbert Rand and children of Hermiston.

Bruce Buchanan, student at Oregon State, spent Thanksgiving with his folks, Mr. and Mrs. Orville Buchanan, Bob and Wayne.

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Thanksgiving weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. Al Partlow and Sheryl were Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Berg and Ron of Vancouver, Wash., and Mr. and Mrs. Fordie Mills, Ricky, Randy and Steve of Hermiston.

Pancake Supper
The Irrigon Assembly of God Youth Group sponsored a pancake supper at the A.C. Houghton Cafeteria Saturday evening and used the proceeds for their "Speed-the-Light" pledge. The "Speed-the-Light" program is a Missionary project where by the youth of the Assembly of God Churches provide their missionaries with equipment such as automobiles, bicycles, motorcycles, tape recorders, radios, loud speaking systems and articles that will help the missionaries in their work.

Mr. and Mrs. Perry Pummel and Ricky drove to Portland to spend Thanksgiving with their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Jose Busto and Robert. While in Portland, they also visited Pummel's mother, Mrs. Beulah Pummel.

Mr. and Mrs. Billy Griffin and sons Billy, Jr., Sam, Tim, Pat and Mike went to Shady Cove Wednesday to spend the Thanksgiving weekend with her brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Coy Reed and family.

Mrs. Myrna Miller of Portland spent Thanksgiving in Irrigon with her brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Jorgensen.

Thanksgiving dinner guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs.

Dale Hurn and family were her folks. Mr. and Mrs. John Cook, who recently moved from Albany to Umatilla, and Mr. and Mrs. Rick Stanley and boys.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Fogert left Wednesday for Idaho Falls, to spend the Thanksgiving holidays with their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Corsi, Sheryl, Randy, Melinda and Christine.

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie N. Smith spent Thanksgiving in Portland with their sons and daughters-in-law. Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Smith and family and Mr. and Mrs. Dick Smith and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Berger drove to Sandy, Ore., Wednesday and spent the weekend with his brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Howard W. Berger. They were joined there by their daughter, Judy Berger of Portland, and Mrs. Berger's mother, Mrs. Bertha Catlow, also of Portland.

David Schmeder is Home

David Schmeder, a student at OTI in Klamath Falls, arrived home Tuesday evening to spend the Thanksgiving weekend with his folks. Mr. and Mrs. Bill Schmeder, they were joined by Schmeder's son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Stevens and Erin of Woodland, land, Wash., and Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Schmeder of Hermiston.

Mr. and Mrs. Guy Clark and children of Portland, were guests of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Stephens over the Thanksgiving holiday.

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Mark a cross (X) in the square between the number and the name of each candidate voted for.

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