

# Holy Week Brings To Close Annual Quiet Lenten Period

Today, Palm Sunday, brings the first day of Holy Week and the last week of Lent, a period each spring of comparatively little social activity. Many women's church groups have marked the season with special study groups or devotional projects, and other women of the valley have devoted the past few weeks to the Red Cross drive, the annual Easter Seal sale or other civic activity.

During Holy Week, of course, social activity is held to a minimum, and there are many special church services. But shops will be buzzing with last-minute Easter shoppers seeking a beflowered bonnet, a new frock or suit and trying to choose from the many smart new accessories just right for the spring of 1950.

A special Red Cross activity this past week was the training course for the women who will work with the new community service unit of the Jackson county chapter. This community service unit, by the way, is the only one of its kind.

Each speaker last week, whether doctor, nurse or social worker, endeavored to inspire the endeavored to inspire the ideas of grace in their particular field, and while all brought much to the class, one speaker in particular touched her listeners more than the others. This was Mrs. Vera Thompson of Portland. Mrs. Thompson spoke with deep authority about blindness, for Mrs. Thompson has been totally blind for 20 years and is now a teacher with the Oregon Commission for the Blind.

She told her listeners that they shouldn't commiserate with, or pity the visually handicapped. "Just cheerfully say 'hello' and if the person seems to need help, offer it in a matter-of-fact manner," she said. Mrs. Thompson impressed on them the importance of using the term "visually handicapped" rather than the word "blind."

"When you see a sightless person hesitating at a street corner, don't grab at him, but just offer your arm and say 'Would you like to take my arm?'" the speaker explained. The visually handicapped often use the expression "take a wing" when offering an assisting arm to one another, she said.

Two facts which she gave were new to most of the class. One is that, according to Oregon law, passed in 1947, every person with vision under 20 over 200 points must carry a white cane, and these persons have the right-of-way in traffic. The other fact was that there are almost 60 such persons in this county, many of whom the commission has, or is aiding.

If there are those who need help, they should communicate with the commission. Mrs. Thompson stressed, and she says every case is carefully investigated. In some cases, financial aid is given for operations. In other cases, home instruction is given to aid the visually handicapped person, and this is the type of work Mrs. Thompson does.

Mrs. Thompson was enthusiastic about the new Red Cross venture, and said it could be of great aid to the visually handicapped. Such persons need help in many ways, such as aid with personal shopping, she said, and told how some unscrupulous clerks and shopkeepers will take advantage of those who do not see to sell them inferior merchandise or unsuitable articles. The visually handicapped often need transportation facilities also, and help in many other ways.

Mrs. Thompson not only brought inspiration to the class, but she brought a recruit in the person of Mrs. Chris Zink. Mrs. Zink has long aided the commission with its work with the blind, and accompanies Mrs. Thompson on her trips around Medford when the latter is here. Mrs. Thompson didn't take long to convince Mrs. Zink that her knowledge of the visually handicapped should be used to aid the Red Cross program here.

There is an old saying that "every dog has his day" and so it was at the Rotary club Tuesday, only it was the women who had their day. Wives of Rotarians moved in on the men. When the faithful Rotarians arrived, they found their wives had snatched their club buttons and were already seated in the dining room, and from then on the men didn't have a chance.

Mrs. George Maddox, president of Rotary Annes, greeted the surprised husbands and then Mrs. Vinson Vaughan exceeded the program. The men didn't get to sing any songs, or make any speeches, or give any reports. All they were permitted to do was listen and pay fines collected by a female committee armed with rolling pins and carrying receptacles not ordinarily seen at luncheons.

Mrs. Martin Sands, Mrs. John Day, Mrs. H. D. Christensen, Mrs. S. E. Phillips, Mrs. Glenn Gibbons and Mrs. McAllister, wearing derby hats, made up a sextette and sang a number of popular songs. Broadcaster Jimmy Dunlevy's wife took his place at the microphone and gave a news report. A bit of padding, strategically placed, aided Mrs. D. in resembling her husband.

Other Rotary Annes on the program were Mrs. Lewis Wayburn and Mrs. Allan Perry. Mrs. Perry delivered a speech, arousing considerable suspicion in the minds of the Rotarians with her subject, "Rats," and her allusion to "rattery." She displayed a live white rat, which was supposed to illustrate her talk.

It was the reverse at the dinner party given Tuesday night by the Fellowship Forum of the First Christian church at the Ralph Cooks' home, for at this party the men did all the work. They planned and prepared the menu, decorated the tables, served the dinner and yes, they even washed the dishes afterward.

Wayne Wakefield prepared the roast, William Strode cooked the vegetables, Bob Church made the salad and arranged the appetizers. Clayton Holt brought the rolls and Cecil Raycraft baked two cakes. He let himself go on this, baking one tricolor layered creation as well as a devil's food.

The men had to have a little fun, though, so Mr. Wakefield prepared an elaborate fake cake, decorating a cardboard box with beautiful chocolate icing sprinkled with chopped nuts. After the ladies had duly admired this work of art, it was given to Mrs. Cook to cut, who soon discovered that it was an April Fool dessert.

The men are probably wondering now if they didn't overdo the thing a little, what with table decorations and nut cups and all, because the women promptly decided that this would become an annual affair. Just so the men wouldn't forget how marvellous everything really was, Mrs. Cook took colored pictures, including one of Mr. Wakefield's cook apron, which was lettered, "genius at work."

When the Shakespearean Festival board met at the I. E. Schuler's Monday night, there was not only talk of actors, plays and costumes, but of a fair for opening of the festival and more plans for the proposed Elizabethan garden.

The garden idea has been in the minds of Mrs. Schuler, board member, and Mrs. L. D. Inskip for a long time and they have now the official support of the rest of the board. The plan has progressed to the point where

garden clubs of this district are being asked to aid, and Mrs. R. T. Nichol, district garden club president, is explaining the plan to each club.

Mrs. Inskip has done quite a bit of research on old English gardens, and it is the idea of the women not only to lay out the garden as it would have been in the days of Shakespeare, but to plant it with shrubs, trees and flowers known in that day.

When the more formal business had been finished, the gathering broke up into groups and the lively discussion continued until after 1 a. m. Mrs. Harry A. Skerry of Ashland, still remembered here as Margaret Ruth Bolton, gave the hostess a helping hand with the food, even sneaking out a tidbit of yummy dessert for a guest forced to leave early.

Floyd Hart, Medford lumberman, has had a book dedicated to him. The book is Author Edison Marshall's latest novel, "Castle in the Swamp," and is dedicated to Mr. Hart "in ever gratitude for his true friendship and staunch help."

Author Marshall, a native Oregonian educated in Medford, left here about 15 years ago and has since lived in the east and south, producing several novels with a wide range of plots. His latest is described as a tale of old Carolina. —O. S.

**Postponed Meeting**  
The regular meeting of Past Matrons' club of Reames chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, has been postponed from Monday, April 3 to Monday, April 10. The meeting will be held in the Girls' Community club.

**Announcement**  
Miss Louise James to Morris Miller. Miss James is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lester E. James, Sams Valley and her fiance is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Miller, also of Sams Valley. —(Braun photo).

**Announce Trothal**  
Mr. and Mrs. Lester E. James of Sams Valley announce the engagement of their daughter, Louise, to Morris Miller, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Miller, also of Sams Valley. Both young people are students at Medford senior high school. No wedding date has been set.

**Gold Star Mothers**  
Election of officers will be held by Medford chapter of Gold Star Mothers at a meeting of the group Thursday, April 5 at 8 p. m. Plans will be discussed for instituting the chapter and installation of officers.

**Lake Creek Unit**  
Lake Creek — Mrs. E. E. Meyer will be hostess to Lake Creek Extension unit members Wednesday, April 5 at 10:30 a. m. Broiled dinners will be the day's project led by Mrs. Arthur Burrell and Mrs. Adolph Peck. Anyone interested is invited to attend.

**To Elect**  
Delegates to grand lodge and a district deputy will be elected at a meeting of Olive Rebekah lodge set for Monday at 7:30 p. m. in the IOOF hall, 221 West Sixth street. The grand lodge session is to be held in Astoria. A social hour will follow the business session.

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CENTRAL AT MAIN

**Announcement made last week of the engagement of Miss Louise James to Morris Miller.** Miss James is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lester E. James, Sams Valley and her fiance is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Miller, also of Sams Valley. —(Braun photo).

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