

Medford Woman, Visiting Europe, Writes of American Way of Life

Editor's note: The following article is one of several written by Mrs. I. E. Schuler, who left Medford in April to spend several months abroad. Mrs. Schuler, after traveling in Holland and the low countries spent some time in Germany with Maj. and Mrs. V. M. Lancaster, who at one time lived in Medford. Mrs. Schuler has now taken an apartment in Vienna where she expects to make an extended stay.)

By MRS. I. E. SCHULER
Vienna, Austria—It is with a certain trepidation that I take my typewriter in hand to start the correspondence I promised. I have always felt that Cedric Adams had a good idea in calling his Minneapolis Journal column "Thoughts While Shaving." It gives him such leeway—he can be as irrelevant, as rhetorically abrupt, and as disconnected as he wishes.

That I like, for it is the little things, having no relationship one with the other, but which are curious and interesting to me, of which I would like to write. For, from the method of sweeping their cobblestone streets in this big city with little home-made faggot brooms, to the system of marketing, they are, indeed, different, and the longer I live among them the more I sense the difference.

So with apologies to old—I mean former—pupils, like Helen Hedrick, Herb Grey and Marjory Hopkins, I will write, disregarding composition and content—American Way of Life.

Dorothy Thompson's article on

the American Way of Life in this month's Reader's Digest interested me because she says it was during a visit of British relatives that she began to realize there was a distinctly American way of life, different from others. I have tried to put my finger on the difference, which is certainly more in Austria than equipment and method of routine living.

The people are kind, friendly, and I think, would go out of their way to help you, but they reason differently somehow, and I wonder if it could be that they have had so much trouble that there is no spark left, no enthusiasm for living, no sense of security—in fact, none of those grand sensations which we Americans take for granted.

A letter from Harold Stieler (the German boy who was an exchange student at Ashland last year) in a way brings out the same thing. He is now teaching in an American school in Nurnberg. He writes, "I am now teaching English in an American house, and am having a great time doing it. It is not only the language which I enjoy teaching, but also the American way of life—in short, everything that makes America what it is, and I plan to go back to the states."

"Europe is fine for mature people, people who have had their share of living in this world but, for young people it is a checkrein, a straight-jacket which hinders, if not prevents all development, personal and social, suffocating it in its quag-

mire of tradition."

Those of us who knew Harold realized he was an exceptional remarkably brilliant young man, born and bred in the best German manner. This conclusion of his, I think, but do not know, came after he returned to Germany, not while he was in America.

For me, visiting here, it is good. I love everything, and everybody. I like the grandeur of the architecture, the magnificence of the parks, the climate—and the glamour that one instinctively attaches to places where history has been made. However, being here, makes that intangible "American Way of Life" very precious.

People Are Poor

I have a great desire to give you the picture of Vienna today, as I, an ordinary person, see it. People are poor, and living costs are high. A fine young man who has but one arm is the desk clerk at the Bristol Hotel. He earns a thousand schillings a month, from which 20 is taken for taxes. The leave him in our money, less than \$40 a month to support a wife and child. He told me that he had tried to get a degree at the university, but had given it up, realizing that he could not earn a living as an educator.

A friend of his had struggled through to earn his degree, and he met him the other day—a street car conductor. That paid more money. It is all very baffling.

The young woman with whom I am studying German and French told me practically the same thing. Her father had been a well known surgeon in Vienna. They lived well, and she had been educated in Switzerland, England, and Italy and besides, she has a degree from the university here. She speaks five languages fluently, and is a charming interesting woman. She earns 60 cents an hour teaching, and she goes to the pupil. The same is true of my music teacher.

It is the story of thousands of educators. Were it not for the Americans here, they would be much worse off than they are. The language teacher told me that she and her mother would

Driving Violation Convictions Rise During Half-Year

Salem—(U.P.)—Oregon drivers were convicted of 23,517 moving traffic violations in the first half of this year, according to the office of Secretary of State.

Convictions increased by more than 2,000 over the same period of 1951.

Leading the list was driving while drunk, with 1,367 convictions and subsequent suspensions of driver licenses. Suspension of driver license on conviction of drunk driving is mandatory under Oregon law.

Other major traffic offenses for which licenses were suspended after court convictions or on the basis of action in the secretary of state's office included: Driving while licenses were suspended or revoked, 406; reckless driving, 189; failure to report an accident, 110; violation of the basic rule, 80, and failure to appear for tests, 27.

Thirty-nine licenses were lifted from drivers who had bad driving records. The office said these drivers had too many traffic violations and accidents to be considered safe risks behind the wheel.

The office noted that drivers with unsafe records are given every chance to redeem themselves, but failure to do so results in suspension.

have starved—literally starved—had it not been for American CARE packages. That is a story in itself; it goes back to a grandmother who had been kind to a poor child at one time. The poor child somehow reached America, and became rich, etc.

The same people pay at least 30 cents a pound for cherries, and 90 cents for butter and approximately \$1.20 for a pound of beef, and they do not have margin to fall back on. There is plenty of food in the markets, but it is approximately on a par with ours as to price. How would we do it on \$40 a month?

The Seminole Indians were formed in the 18th century when the Creek tribe was split.

Tuesday, July 15, 1952

MEDFORD (OREGON) MAIL TRIBUNE—FIVE



KEEPING UP WITH THINGS—Dwight D. Eisenhower (left) and his brother, Milton, watch the credentials committee hearings on television in the general's hotel suite in Chicago.

Around Hollywood

By ALINE MOSBY
United Press Correspondent

Hollywood—(U.P.)—Keefe Braselle takes the prize as the frankest star in Hollywood. He admitted he won the title role in "The Eddie Cantor Story."

Keefe won the musical role

of the year plum by the simple method of cornering the picture's producer, Sidney Skolsky, who revived Al Jolson's fame and made Larry Parks a star with "The Jolson Story."

Skolsky also is a columnist and local bon vivant who headquarters at Schwab's and pitched him on the role," said Braselle.

Never Stops Selling
"I used to sell shoes, and before that, trucks. Selling! I've never stopped selling. When I got excited and started pitching Sidney, my voice got real high, like Cantor's. It rang a bell in Sidney's head."

"So we worked for two months in secret, rehearsing with some old Cantor records. Skolsky would routine me, and

Cantor would polish me. Finally I auditioned in Jack Warner's office for Skolsky, Cantor, Jack Warner and the studio executives."

Braselle insisted he won't imitate Cantor on film, but will give "an impression" of the comedian. Keefe will comb his hair like Cantor's and he's been practicing the Cantor hand gestures and hops and skips.

Tries For 3 Years

Cantor's portrayal tried for three years to get into musicals when he was under contract at MGM. Now he's a musical star at Warner's, but it'll be Cantor's voice, not his, on the songs. He'll mouth the words, the way Parks did while Jolson sang in "The Jolson Story."

"If I had the choice, I'd imitate Cantor sing the songs. He's sensational," said Braselle. "He's always been my idol. When I was a kid my parents let me stay up late to listen to him on the radio."

"But we're talking about Cantor. Let's get back to Braselle. I have a theory that if you have talent, somewhere along the line the opportunity will present it-

self. You have to keep plugging. There is no such thing as an overnight success."

"I had a sign made for my dressing room. It says, 'Anybody I can see, I can sell.'"

BLINDNESS IN FIREWORKS

Columbus, O. — (U.P.) — State Fire Marshal Harry J. Callan says that the careless use of fireworks is one of the major causes of blindness in Ohio. He said 25 per cent of all patients in state-supported institutions for the blind are there because of injuries received from fireworks.

Friendly Tip Meant

Money For Newlyweds

"Every penny counts these days, so thanks to a friend's advice, I switched to new Vano Powdered Bleach. It gives me so much more suds with far less soap. Bleaches beautifully, too," says Mrs. Henry L. Vano chemists revealed Mrs. L.'s claim was correct. Vano's built-in water softener cuts soap consumption and cost while it bleached perfectly in either soft or hard water.

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