

Potpourri

Second Lt. Milton Loros of Medford now has a story to tell—one which luckily has a happy ending. Not long before the young officer, a jet pilot, received his wings at Williams Air Force base, Phoenix, Ariz., he was one of two flyers who rode a T-33 jet trainer down to a safe landing on a small grass field at Faulkton, S.D.—the type of field on which no jet can be landed—according to the classroom lectures.

A few days later the two watched while an older and more experienced pilot accomplished the rare feat of flying the plane off a strip of highway pavement near the field on which the emergency landing had been made.

The exciting story began with Lt. Loros, then an air cadet, and Second Lt. R. H. Bolwanz, one of his instructors, were on a training flight from Phoenix. Their radio went out, they became lost and finally, with fuel almost gone, Lt. Bolwanz put the plane down on the first open spot, which happened to be the Faulkton field.

The next problem was how to get the plane off the little, sod field, since a jet, on a takeoff, could not gain enough momentum in a 2,500-foot run. To dismantle it and truck the pieces to another field would cost thousands of dollars, so Lt. Col. D. L. Corning of Sioux Falls, S.D., decided to try and take it off from a near-by strip of paved highway.

According to a story in the Des Moines Register, a strip of highway some 6,000 feet long was selected, all signs and other obstacles were removed and the plane towed into position. With thousands of people watching, Lt. Col. Corning headed the plane down the 32-foot wide highway under full throttle and after traveling about 2,100 feet, got the jet into the air. He flew it to Sioux Falls, where the radio equipment was repaired.

Lt. Loros, known to friends as "Mickey," told his parents that even mail boxes along the highway were taken down, and that traffic was stopped for about an hour while preparations for the tricky takeoff were made. School in Faulkton was dismissed, in order that pupils might watch the unusual sight.

Lt. Loros is in the news again today, for the same day he received his commission and his wings, he was married to Mary Conn, Tucson, and the newlyweds are now in Texas.

Dormitory housemothers seem to have changed a lot since Potpourri was a coed. In our day housemothers were "older," shall we say, usually had gray or white hair and spent their spare time playing bridge. Today we have pictures of two housemothers, taken at SOC's annual valentine ball last Saturday night. Neither is anywhere near old, both attended the dance (one with a student) and one serves coffee and cookies for some of the students after dances.

Miss Fran Barta, housemother at Susanne Homes hall, looking glamorous in a smart black evening gown, helped two photographers and a reporter get their pictures at the hall, and then went along to the dance with her date. Arriving at the dance, we were told by one of the students that we should take a picture of Dr. Phyllis Plichta, faculty member and housemother at the men's dorm, who had been invited to attend the dance as the partner of Herbie Yamanaka, student from Hawaii. "She's wonderful," said the freshman girl earnestly. "The boys—everyone simply loves her. She's practically the ideal woman."

With these glowing words ringing in our ears, we hurried off to find Dr. Plichta and her date. Both readily agreed to pose, both flashed easy, warm smiles, and we had our picture. Maybe the boys at the university and OSC who are growling about this housemother business should take a tip from their sister school at Ashland.

The entire evening at SOC turned out to be fun. Not the least of the evening's experiences was meeting Carl Vermilya, Oregonian photographer, who had also been assigned to cover the dance. (Neither the Tribune or the Oregonian knew the other was covering the dance until both had completed arrangements, which in itself was something of a coincidence.)

Photographer Vermilya not only is a first-rate news camera man, but a friendly and cooperative person as well, so Potpourri and her co-worker, Ken Knackstedt, hung around part of the time to watch him set up and take pictures for a story to be run later this spring in the Oregonian's magazine section.

Rogue Valley Country club was filled to the brim Monday for the annual benefit luncheon and card party of Alpha Rho chapter, Beta Sigma Phi. It's that time of the year when a woman is never quite sure what to wear, since the temperature falls to 20 degrees at night but the sun is apt to shine brightly in the day time. So some had on winter clothes and others spring costumes.

Mrs. Curt Butterfield, who the Saturday night before had been named the chapter's valentine sweetheart girl, looks equally pretty in black or white. Saturday night she wore a white cotton formal gown, with touches of valentine red, but Monday afternoon she wore a smart black frock. Her hat, a round black frill on the back of her head, was centered with a cluster of fresh red carnations.

One group of the guests didn't play cards after luncheon. Instead the women put their heads together and had a serious discussion. But it was to the point, for the party was to benefit the Pilot school at Phoenix, and the women were discussing certain bills now before the Oregon legislature which may either do away with the school, or change its operation if it is continued.

The Pilot school, operated last year for the first time as part of an experiment by the state system of higher education, is for children who have learning problems and do not fare well in the ordinary school room. Those particularly interested in the welfare of these children, are studying these bills with great care. In Monday's party-meeting were Mrs. Una Inch, Mrs. Robert Minear, Mrs. Chester Guehes, Mrs. Melvin Hall, Mrs. Frances Klein of Ashland, Miss Dorothy Huskey, Miss Dorothy Collard and Mrs. Riley Cook.

Mrs. Herbert Sampert shared the fun of her recent trip to Hawaii with some of her friends last week. Mrs. Sampert remembers the islanders as people who are genuinely warm-hearted and friendly, and who have learned to do a lot with what they have at hand—such as native dancers who make their skirts fresh every day from ti leaves.

Guests learned of many island customs—such as the fact that an unmarried girl wears a flower over her left ear, but if she's married, it goes over the right ear. If she wears the flower in the middle of her forehead—that has a special meaning, too.

A puzzled Western Union employee called a certain Medford woman recently and said he had a wire for her. Hesitatingly he informed her that the unsigned wire, from a city in California, had but one word. The word was—crocus. "Thank you," said the woman briskly, and hung up. She knew what it meant—it was from her sister who simply wanted to spread the good news that spring had come to her California garden and that the first crocus was in bloom.

Potpourri has two crocus blossoms, quite a bit of yellow jasmine, daffodils three inches high and all sorts of spring signs. But when we looked in the kitchen sink Thursday night, we knew spring couldn't be far away. It was swarming with tiny ants.—O.S.

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FUR STORAGE

Symphony Society Engages Director From Cleveland

Portland—Theodore Bloomfield, 32-year-old native of Cleveland, will be conductor of the Portland Symphony Orchestra for the coming season. Engagement of the young American musician was approved Wednesday by the directors of the Portland Symphony society. Mr. Bloomfield will be in complete musical charge of the orchestra for the season beginning October 17.

In revealing the choice of the symphony directors, Mrs. Ralph D. Moores, president of the symphony society, said: "Our directors were unanimous in their conviction that we shall have in Mr. Bloomfield, a conductor who can develop our orchestra toward major status. Everyone who heard his two concerts with us agreed that he has a great talent for orchestra and an astounding musical sense. Individual comments from various members of the orchestra lead us to believe that our players recognize Mr. Bloomfield's great talents and will look forward to collaborating with him."

The new director was born in Cleveland in 1923 and received his musical training at Oberlin college and at the Juilliard School of Music. He is an accomplished concert pianist, as well as a conductor, and played French horn with the National Orchestral association in New York while he attended the Juilliard School, and studied piano privately with Claudio Arrau. He also studied privately with Pierre Monteux.

In 1947 Mr. Bloomfield was appointed assistant to George Seil with the Cleveland orchestra, and organized a Little Symphony orchestra in that city. His work with this latter group, especially in Mozart festivals, drew national attention, including an article in Time magazine. He has also conducted the El Paso symphony, the ABC symphony and the New York Little symphony. With members of the NBC symphony he made several recordings for MGM in 1953.

In 1951, Mr. Bloomfield toured Germany under the auspices of the U. S. State Department as a piano soloist, and in 1952 made his European conducting debut in Italy. Since that time he has been guest conductor with more than 15 orchestras throughout Europe, and now makes his European headquarters in Rome. He is now on a trip to Spain and Portugal for concerts in Madrid and Lisbon. The new conductor will probably visit Portland during the

New Orleans Woman Designs Ten 1955 Mardi Gras Floats

By JEAN LIPSCOMB
United Press Correspondent
New Orleans, La. —(U.P.)— A pretty 26-year-old suburban busi-

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coming summer to complete plans for the season which opens on October 17.

nesswoman, Betty Rae Kern, is the brains and hands behind 10 of the fabulous floats which make Mardi Gras world-famous.

Betty, who learned the intricate designing art from her father, chucked a job as an accountant two months ago to devote full time to the equally exacting task of planning and constructing the towering floats. She believes she is the only distaff designer in the business. She is one of many persons who lock themselves in huge warehouses in the New Orleans area this time of the year to turn the riots of color which made Carnival parades renowned for their beauty and extravagance. Residents and visitors to this city during the pre-Lenten celebrations will see the parades February 20.

Long Hairs
"I think float-making is really woman's work," says the five-foot three-inch, 124-pound designer. I think women have more of a flair for design than men."

Betty served a six-year apprenticeship with her father, Roy A. Kern, and this year she swung her "first, very own contract" for the Choctaw Krewe parade. Float building was just a sideline for Kern, but Betty spends a grueling day at the task, sometimes as many as 15 hours.

Often neighborhood children, curious about the floats, will poke their heads in the warehouse. Betty swears them to secrecy—the theme always is secret until parade time—then puts them to work.

Betty, a high school art major, does all the intricate detail work and her father helps with the structural part. She allows the children to do flat work only, "nothing detailed."

Sometimes, it's the last-minute rush that counts in float making. Betty says. She recalled how last year she discovered the night before the parade that she had skipped one whole side in the final trimming because the float was pushed snug to the wall.

"Right then I knew that I wouldn't get any sleep that night," she said. "We called in a couple of friends to help us and in three hours we had trimmed the forgotten side. It measured just 18 x 6 feet but it looked gigantic to us then."

And what will Betty do after Carnival ends with the tolling of church bells signaling the end of revelry and the beginning of Lent at midnight, Feb. 22?

"I'm going to take a long vacation—and then start thinking about next year's floats."

High School News Notes

By CYNTHIA RUKOVINA
Instructions in Latin American dances, jitterbug and fox-trot are being taught by Instructor Ron Hamilton in the Hi School Girls' Gym on Wednesday nights. The lessons started last week and an enthusiastic turnout indicates they will be continued. Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton, formerly with Arthur Murray, have taught dancing at the University of California at Berkeley and also danced professionally.

Deanna Bruning, junior, was chosen as the February "Girl of the Month" by 11 girls delegated by the Girls' League Council. Her selection was based on several personal qualities including character, service to school, dependability and initiative. She was presented the Girls' League pin to be worn by each "Girl of the Month." At the end of the year the names of all the monthly winners will be placed on a ballot and the Girls' League will choose a "Girl of the Year" who will receive the pin permanently.

Movie Presented

Medford Hi boys were presented a movie on Wednesday and Thursday as part of the Boys' League activities for the year. The movie was a sports feature entitled "The Guy Who

Came Back" and was divided up for the two-day presentation.

Chi Epsilon, senior chapter of Tri-Hi-Y sponsored a Mardi Gras dance after the Ashland basketball game Saturday night. Chairmen for the dance were Nancy Hamilton and Lanora Kyker.

Five orchestra students have been chosen to represent Medford Hi at the all Northwest Orchestra in Eugene, April 13 to 16. Those who will make the trip are Sonja Peterson, Viola Russell, Nancy Walstead, Shirley Stafford and Deanna Campbell.

Twenty members of the science club Phy-Chem will go on a field trip to the COPCO Computing Department next Thursday. This is one in a number of field trips to places of interest to science students the club has planned for the year.

The Pep Peppers of Klamath Falls have extended an invitation to the Medford Hi Pep club to a dinner before the game next Friday in Klamath Falls. The Pep Club is planning a trip to the Pelican's home for the game Friday night and will return after the game.

Dead line Sunday Classified is at noon Saturday; 10 a.m. Monday for Monday; other days 5:30 previous day.

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Jayton, O.—U.P.—You now can buy a kitchen range which folds away when not in use. The built-in oven of the electric range has center-opening vertical doors which operate like French doors, making it possible to install even in a tight corner of the kitchen. The surface cooking units, which can be mounted at the back of ordinary base cabinets if desired, fold up out of the way when not in use. (Frigidaire division, General Motors.)

U. of M. BUILDS

Ann Arbor, Mich.—(U.P.)—The University of Michigan has begun construction on a \$1,850,000 Automotive Engineering Building to expand research and instruction in all phases of automotive engineering.



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