

Travelogue of Latin America Given by Knife-Fork Speaker

Mrs. Bertita Harding, speaker at the March meeting of the Rogue Valley Knife and Fork club Friday evening, gave a vividly worded travelogue of Latin America.

She praised the "Good Neighbor policy" of the United States, but declared that it came about "400 years too late," and drew an attractive picture of the 20 nations "south of the border."

Reasons for Neglect

The pert, blonde, Hungarian-born traveler, author and lecturer gave two reasons why she thought that Latin America had suffered from the "prolonged neglect" by the United States. First, she said, the U.S. was so occupied with its own growth and development that it had no energy left over for looking southward.

Secondly, "distance appeals, distance is romantic," and when America finally got in the mood to travel it went, first to Europe where most Americans have ancestral roots, and later to the Orient, lured by appealing and romantic advertisements of the travel agencies.

Finally, when World War II cut off travel to the east and west, American travelers began to look south—but just as German U-boats cut off sea travel in the Caribbean.

Two Exceptions

There were two exceptions to the no-travel-south rule, she said; merchants whose trade was with Latin America, and the "obscure, unheralded American teachers who used their skimpy savings to go south and who, when the war came along, furnished a reservoir of bilingual, friendly people whose understanding of the southern lands was a needed strength to this nation.

Mrs. Harding, who was reared in Mexico and who has traveled extensively in Central and South America, described in some detail the efforts of America to win over the nations to the south when it became evident that their help would be needed in World War II—particularly that of Chile, whose giant deposits of nitrates, the only ones in the western hemisphere, were needed for the chemicals and munitions of war.

Started at Gestures

It was then that the "Good Neighbor policy" was instituted, she said, and Latin America (which finally had come to accept the Monroe doctrine, including its aspects of no involvements in European doings, after it had been promulgated without advance notice), was "somewhat startled" to find the U.S. making friendly gestures.

But, since it was a tacit admission that the centuries of neglect were a mistake on the part of the U.S., she said the southern countries began to warm up to the big northern nation. The first conference called to put the Good Neighbor policy in to effect, at Lima, was a failure, Mrs. Harding declared, and she blamed it largely on the fact that the U.S. secretary of state at that time, Cordell Hull, while a man of impeccable integrity, had no flair for diplomacy.

A second conference, at Havana, was more successful because Sumner Welles, then undersecretary of state, was a polished, multi-lingual and professional diplomat, who could

sense the nuances of the occasion, and who could talk to the polished professional diplomats of Latin America on an equal footing.

The third conference, at Rio de Janeiro, succeeded in winning Chile to the allied cause. Mrs. Harding said, again largely due to Welles' effectiveness. In a little digression, trained men in diplomacy, rather than North Americans' traditional suspicion.

The second portion of her talk was descriptive of the Latin American nations themselves, which she separated into four groups.

The first was the Indian nations of Mexico, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, San Salvador, Honduras, Panama, Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador and Peru. She described the ancient Indian cultures of these lands, which 4,000 to 16,000 years ago had advanced cultures, and developed independently the arts and sciences of mathematics, painting, architecture, and, later, astronomy.

She said the day is coming soon when the Pan American highway will be finished, and North Americans will be able to drive to all the Latin countries. Even now, she pointed out, it can be done with a few "jumps" by rail or sea.

One of the fascinations of these nations are the "Asian" faces of the Indians in most of them, and the "faces of Egypt" of the natives of Yucatan. She described the "legends of antiquity, which, because they have persisted, must be based at least partly on truth," which tie the Indians to the mongolian races of Asia, and the Yucatan natives to the types found in Egypt. She mentioned the legends of the lost continent of

Atlantis, and cited the resemblance between the arts of old Egypt and the arts of Yucatan.

She also pointed out that South America lies almost entirely east of New York City, and that the Atlantic there is only some 1,600 miles wide.

The second group of nations, those of the Pampas Argentina, Chile, Uruguay, Paraguay and Bolivia, have no similar Indian heritage, and as a result were settled and Europeanized and developed more rapidly than the Indian nations, she said. She described each briefly.

The third group, the Caribbean nations, she listed as Cuba, Puerto Rico and Santo Domingo, and termed them the "portal" or "steppingstones" to South America.

The last grouping includes only Brazil, she said, for it is so big, so different, so amazing, that it cannot be classed with any other. She told of the "terra incognita" of the Amazon jungle, which still has to be tamed; of the vast stores of underground treasure of minerals and precious stones; of the potentialities of rubber and citrus fruits, and of how all this remains to be developed, for only coffee, of which Brazil produces 90 per cent of the world's supply, is a major factor in the economy.

She closed her talk with another appeal for development of a professional class of diplomats in the United States, who will be able to help lead Brazil into development for the benefit of the world and of peace.

The meeting was held at the Rogue Valley Country club, and Club President Dunbar Carpenter introduced the speaker.

Hawaiian Volcano Appears to be Set For Another Rest

Pahoa, Hawaii — (U.P.)—The subterranean fire pits of Hawaii's Kilauea volcano may be simmering down for another few years of slumber, according to seismologist Dr. Jerry Eaton.

Eaton said his instruments at the Hawaii Volcano Observatory were recording earthquakes at a rate of one every three or four minutes Friday, as compared to a two-a-minute pace earlier in the week.

Most of the earth shocks were too slight to be noticed except by the sensitive needle of the seismograph, but tremors that could be physically felt were coming every two or three hours.

Eaton said he viewed the situation as "a little more hopeful," but added he and other Hawaii residents were "holding our breath" until the quakes die out completely.

Townpeople Alerted

Civil Defense Director Peter Pakele said the 1500 townspeople of Pahoa still were on alert for evacuation if a new eruption occurs, and some 500 residents of previously vacated villages were still living in temporary shelters here and at Olaa, 12 miles away.

Pakele said the volcanic fissures which spouted fiery lava in last week's spectacular eruptions were quiet and a 3500 foot "escape road" was being bulldozed around last week's lava flows.

Million People Face Death by Starvation in North Viet Nam

Haiphong, Indochina — (U.P.)—Famine threatens Communist North Viet Nam and 1,000,000 people face death through starvation unless Red China comes to their aid, official circles in Haiphong said Saturday.

Many-peasants arriving in this French-controlled city on the mouth of the Red River from

Communist-controlled areas are suffering from beri-beri, the disease caused by lack of sufficient vitamins, the informants said.

Worst in South

Refugees said the threat of famine is worst in the region south of Haiphong once one of the main "rice bowls" of the Far East.

They said that at Phat Diem peasants are getting one meal a day from Communist political officials who already have reduced the monthly rice ration from 15 to 13 kilograms.

Reports indicated the famine is expected to be worse than that of 1945. Sources added they doubted the Peiping government

would send relief supplies in view of the reported shortages in China.

Added Incentive

They said the food shortage and the threat of famine were giving added incentive to previously reluctant anti-communists to abandoned ancestral farms and seek refuge in South Viet Nam.

Some 300 refugees make their way through Communist Viet Nam daily to this port city which the French must surrender in May under terms of the Geneva agreements.

5,000 Troops Take Part in Exercise Off California

Ft. Lewis, Wash. — (U.P.)—About 5000 troops of the 38th Regimental Combat Team boarded Navy transports in a steady stream Saturday as the starting hour for tactical phases of Exercise Surf Board, a joint Army-Navy amphibious maneuver, drew nearer.

The exercise will involve landing the soldiers and their equipment on a California beach for operations against installations of an "aggressor" force.

The troops have been loading their supplies and equipment aboard LSTs all week. The troops themselves will go to California on attack transports. About 50 Navy ships will be involved in the maneuvers.

The first ships of the fleet were scheduled to leave here Saturday and the entire fleet was supposed to be at sea by tonight.

Rehearsal Slated

A rehearsal landing will be staged on Silver Strand near San Diego next Friday, and a firing demonstration will be held on San Clement Island, Calif., next Saturday.

The actual assault maneuver is scheduled to begin March 21 under plan "A". An alternate plan "B" assault would begin March 25. The maneuvers will continue until the end of this month when the ships will return here.



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Sharp-Eyed Woman Recognizes Suspect Sought for 27 Years in Double Murder

Portland — (U.P.)—Sherman Johnson, a 67-year-old ex-convict, was held on two counts of murder Saturday because a woman with a vivid memory recognized him after 27 years.

Johnson, alias Uncle Ben Purvis, was booked on two murder warrants as a fugitive from Stillwater, Okla., wanted for a shooting in an Oklahoma dance hall in 1928.

Spotted in Tavern

He was arrested after he was spotted by Mrs. Ione Harper of Portland, a sister of one of the murder victims. She said she saw Johnson in a local tavern recently and thought he resembled the slayer.

She said his right index finger was missing, as was the slayer's.

Mrs. Harper said the man appeared to recognize her, and said "hello." She told police of the incident and they wrote Payne

County, Okla., authorities for details of the shooting.

Sent Warrants

Sheriff E. G. Schroeder of Payne County sent copies of two murder warrants for the arrest of a man known as Charlie Goss, alias "Dew Drop Inn Red."

The warrants charged Goss

with the dance hall shooting in Cushing, Okla., on Jan. 1, 1928, in which Essmie Pless, sister of Mrs. Harper, was killed and three others wounded. One of the wounded later died.

Johnson denied implication in the shootings, but admitted Friday that he was from Oklahoma.

Leading Clergyman Plans To take Part in New Plan For Church Administration

BY WILLIAM H. MYERS
United Press Correspondent

Chicago — (U.P.)—One of the nation's best-known clergymen will leave for Denver, April 1, to serve as a "guinea pig" in an experiment in church administration.

"It's sort of a test of Christian gentlemanliness," said the Rev. Alton Motter.

Motter will join at Denver with the Rev. J. Benner Weaver in the experiment which will determine whether two pastors can serve the same congregation simultaneously on a basis of equality.

They will serve as "co-pastors" of the 1600 member congregation at Messiah Lutheran Church in Denver.

"Ben has been there about six months," Motter said. "The idea of a co-pastor, rather than an assistant, originated with him. He sold the church council and the congregation on the idea."

One of The Biggest Groups

Motter is leaving behind him one of the biggest "congregations" in the Chicago area. He is director of the Chicago Sunday Evening Club which holds interdenominational services in orchestra hall.

During last year's assembly of the World Council of Churches here, Motter directed press relations with hundreds of reporters who covered the historic sessions.

"If our experiment is successful, it will mean that bigger congregations can be served in fewer churches with better facilities," Motter said.

"We think two pastors can meet the total needs, social, youth, music, educational and spiritual, of people better in one church than they could in two churches."

"We plan to work as a two man pastoral team."

The system, Motter thinks, will work out better than that of a pastor and assistant.

Ministers Are Human

"Ministers don't like the idea of serving too long as assistants," he said. "It may be somewhat un-Christian, but it's a naturally human attitude. Co-pastorships will solve the problem."

Weaver and Motter plan to divide preaching chores about equally. The church, which belongs to the United Lutheran Church, offers three services each Sunday. It is the largest Lutheran Church in Colorado.

"Parishioners will have their weddings, funerals, baptisms, choice of either Ben or me for pastoral counseling or ministrations in time of sickness," Motter said. "We feel church followers should have a choice in these matters just as they have a choice in doctors."

The ministers will draw equal salaries. Weaver and his family will continue to occupy the present parsonage and the church council has given Motter his "choice of any residence we would like to buy in the vicinity of the church."

Los Angeles Men Held In Jewel Theft Case

Phoenix — (U.P.)—Maricopa County sheriff's deputies were questioning two Los Angeles men Saturday in connection with the theft of an estimated \$100,000 worth of jewelry from the home of California oil heiress Mrs. Elsinore Machris Gilliland.

Sheriff's Captain Stanley Kimball identified the two suspects as Leroy (Skippy) Malouf, 32, and Stanley Adams, 42. Kimball said Malouf was on \$7000 bond pending trial in Los Angeles March 30 on a charge of receiving stolen property and that Adams admitted having a prison record.

The two men were stopped by sheriff's deputies as they were driving through Phoenix early this morning. Neighbors of Mrs. Gilliland had described an automobile similar to that driven by the pair as the one seen near Mrs. Gilliland's home Friday night just before the burglary.

McCarthy Takes Blast at President

Washington — (U.P.)—Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy (R-Wis.), in a new blast at President Eisenhower, Saturday demanded to know "what, if anything," the President is doing to secure the release of American servicemen held by Red China.

"The mothers, fathers and wives (of the imprisoned servicemen) get no information from you on this, as though they had no right to know," McCarthy said in a public letter to the Chief Executive. "I submit that you are mistaken in this."

The White House had no comment. McCarthy's letter followed up his blistering attack on the President last Dec. 7. At that time, he accused Mr. Eisenhower of a "shrinking show of weakness" in dealing with the Chinese Reds on the issue of freeing American prisoners.

Prospector Survives Dynamite Explosion

Ontario — (U.P.)—A 60-year-old prospector survived a dynamite blast Friday but hospital physicians feared he would lose his sight.

Franz Olsen, of Huntington, Ore., suffered severe eye injuries when several dynamite sticks exploded prematurely while he was working in his mine.

Doctors at the hospital here said they were unable as yet to determine the extent of the injuries. Olsen was also bleeding about the face and body from the strong concussion.

Further details of the incident were not available.

House Demos Warn Group To Go Slow

Washington — (U.P.)—Veteran House Democrats intend to raise a "go slow" sign to a group of Democratic freshmen preparing to issue their own statement of foreign policy, it was learned Saturday.

Informed sources said Democratic leaders feel that although their freshmen colleagues should be commended for their active interest in foreign policy, it would be unwise for them to issue any dissident statements as a group.

They said some party leaders fear such action might be interpreted abroad as an indication of disunity within the country or the Democratic party on foreign policy issues.

The freshman group, led by Rep. Henry S. Reuss (D-Wis.) has been drafting "A declaration of foreign policy" calling for a bold new approach in Europe and Asia.

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