

Two Medford Travelers Visit Fifteen Countries In Europe and Africa; Irish Kind to Hitch-hikers

Concluding a tour of 15 countries in Europe and North Africa, Miss Cathy Clabby and Miss Noreen Kelly will return to Medford in time for the Christmas holidays. Miss Clabby is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Clabby, 409 Laurel street, and Miss Kelly's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Edward C. Kelly, 906 West Fourth Street.

The young women left the United States in August and traveled first in Ireland, which both described as delightful. Miss Kelly wrote home of Dublin, saying the gardens, even around individual homes, were "works of art," and that the city was a combination of narrow streets, quaint shops, old cathedrals, colleges and castles. She added that the two attended an excellent play at the famed Abbey theater and that she "picked up a replica of the Kelly coat of arms."

The travelers also visited Cork and went on to Blarney castle where "we duly kissed the Blarney stone." Miss Kelly wrote that Killarney and Kerry county have the most spectacular scenery in Ireland with sheer mountains, beautiful lakes and hills of many colors. Miss Kelly commented that because of the system of "primogeniture," the custom of the eldest son of a former inheriting everything, at thousands of young farmers have and every year.

The two young women tried hitch-hiking in Ireland, writing that they had "phenomenal luck" and found it a good way to get acquainted with the native residents. However, this was the only country in which they thought hitch-hiking would be safe.

They arrived in Edinburgh in time to attend the annual summer music festival and took in the Military Tattoo during which different regiments march to bagpipes. Here the travelers visited monuments, parks, and art galleries. Later when traveling through the Western Highlands of Scotland Miss Kelly wrote "The scenery was indescribably beautiful—high mountains plateaus, hilly ranges alive with fantastic colors; jagged peaks dipping down abruptly into lovely, sparkling lakes and rivers; wooded glens and fertile meadows. It was just like living in a dream—we went for miles without seeing any people and only scattered herds of strangely colored animals and

shaggy looking cows and sheep with black heads."

Use Hostels
The two travelers spent their nights either in the homes of residents, or at youth hostels and of these latter Miss Kelly wrote "Hosteling is a very enjoyable experience in itself. The hostels usually contain two or more big dorms, one for the girls and one for the boys, a wash room for each and a big kitchen where one can cook food on gas burners. The bigger hostels have several dorms apiece. Aside from being very inexpensive, generally two shillings sixpence or about 34 cents a night, they are also a "good deal" because students from all over the world use them and one can get good tips from fellow hostellers on what to see and how best to see it in a given country.

"At night there is usually much talking and laughing about travel experiences and often there is singing (usually songs we've never heard before.) The biggest drawback is finding a place to take a bath, as most hostels don't have either warm water or a bath tub. Once in a while we stay in a guest house or hotel, but these are much more expensive."

The travelers spent hours tramping around London and seeing the many historic buildings and squares and Miss Kelly wrote "we also acquire an appreciation of timelessness around so many ancient buildings, filled with history." Miss Kelly, herself an attorney, also told of meeting a "young barrister" while she was visiting law courts and inns of court who took time to show her points of interest and fill in details of history and custom.

Attend Theater
She told of seeing "King Lear at the Palace theater down town, with John Gielgud as Lear and Claire Bloom as Cordelia, "an experience I'll never forget. The company was the Shakespeare Memorial company of Stratford-on-Avon, which performs in both places."
"Saturday we visited parliament and walked through the long halls housing the House of Lords and the House of Commons. That evening we saw a performance of the Sadler Wells ballet, which was excellent, at Covent gardens and from there visited the South Kensington section and Royal Albert Hall. We took the tube (subway) home

and were so amazed at its speed and efficiency that we've been traveling that way exclusively ever since.

"Sunday after church we visited the Tower of London and took a boat ride down the Thames—a lovely trip. In the evening we visited Chelsea, the Greenwich Village of London, and carried away with the madness of the moment, went into a pub where we were served a drink called bitters—didn't think much of it. I'm glad we got to see the inside of a pub at least. It was fun, although we didn't stay long."

Visit Germany
In Germany the young women picked up a Volkswagen in which they toured the continent. Acting on the advice of a girl they had met earlier at a hostel, the two registered at "a large homey hostel where Cathy and I were able to get a room all to ourselves and to have access to a warm bath, as well as excellent cooking facilities, all for 40 pfennings (10 cents) a night!" The two met a student whom Miss Kelly had known at the University of Oregon, a journalist who took the visitors on a tour of the city in his car.

Both young women wrote home of the marked difference between West and East Berlin. Miss Clabby wrote "Yesterday we took a tour conducted by the U. S. Army into the Eastern zone—it is possible to go on your own, but a little risky not speaking German. The contrast between the two sections is amazing and if what we saw was a sample of the Communist system, it is indeed frightening. There is almost no rebuilding—blocks and blocks of ruins—museums, churches, statues—only a skeleton of the city remains. The only rebuilding has been Communist state buildings and a few blocks of massive, grotesque buildings on Stalin alea — this they point to with pride as the only socialistic street in Europe, cold and impersonal, huge apartment buildings available only to Communist members and in the background of this extravagant display, horrible ruins.

"Another place we stopped was the Garden of Remembrance—built by forced German labor—as a memorial to the Russians who died in the capture of Berlin—Stalin's sacred word inscribed on the tombs. The people are very poor—their standard of living is one-fourth that in the Western zone. All this in contrast to the Western zone where there are sidewalk cafes, beautiful shops, people well dressed, beautiful new modern buildings designed by Germans—parks and a happier spirit.

"The German people have been very good to us—maybe 10 years doesn't erase the deep scars of war, but at least they remember the Berlin blockade and I'm happy to see that the U. S. has been humanitarian in their aid to a defeated people. Defeat in any country is not a pretty picture."

Week in Vienna
Miss Clabby and Miss Kelly spent a week traveling in Bavaria and Austria after leaving Germany and wrote that in some of the oldest villages and cities the streets were too narrow to permit passage for even the tiny Volkswagen they drove. They stopped in Vienna for a time, attended a performance of "Die Fledermaus" at the People's Opera house and visited the World's Fair Trade. They found the youth hostels in that city excellent, and were shown around by a young man from Washington, D. C., who was studying in Europe.

Of Vienna Miss Kelly wrote: "We stayed almost a week in order to take in the variety of art, music and to absorb as much of the wonderful life and atmosphere as possible in so short a time. We visited the gorgeous but cold palaces of the Hapsburgs, visited the art museums, displaying some of the finest works of Rembrandt, Rubens, Titian, etc., took in some of the gay night life, including an evening at Grinzing, a section of the city where there are many outdoor cafes and night spots with gypsy and Austrian music played on violins, accordions and zithers. We inspected many beautiful old churches done in high gothic or lavish baroque style."

Going on to Switzerland, they wrote of the beauty and prosperity of this nation and said it was "geared to the tourist." Miss Kelly wrote particularly of Geneva saying "we could not help but be impressed by the tremendous cultural influences centered in Geneva" but added that she found the city "a little cold—perhaps because of the great emphasis on intelligence and material prosperity and the comparative lack of spiritual and human elements."

Past Matrons' Plan Party for Monday

Jacksonville — Adarel Post Matrons' club will hold a Christmas party at the home of Mrs. Edward Pease, 130 Vernada avenue, Monday, December 12 at 12:30 p.m.

Election of officers will be followed by exchange of gifts. A potluck luncheon is planned.

Recent Bride To Join Husband At USAF Base

Mrs. Donald F. Wilcox, the former Miss Dorothy Jean Randall, plans to leave soon for Spokane, Wash., to join her husband who is stationed there with the Air Force. The couple was married September 11 at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

The bride is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Randall, 927 Brookdale road.

The bridegroom's parents are Mrs. Pauline Dailey of San Bernardino, Calif., and Donald Wilcox, 622 West Fourth street, Medford.

Bishop Douglas Shepherd performed the wedding rites.

Miss Nadine Cook attended the bride and Richard D. Randall, a brother of the bride was best man.

Mr. Randall gave his daughter in marriage. She wore a nylon ballerina length dress with full skirt and her bouquet was of white rosebuds with pink carnations.

Miss Cook wore a pale pink suit with white accessories and her corsage matched that of the bride.

Baskets of pale pink gladiolus decorated the altar.

The wedding reception was given at the home of the bride's parents.

The couple made a wedding trip to Crater Lake and the bridegroom then left for his station with the Air Force. He does electronic and radar work.

The bride attended Medford Junior and Senior high school and was a clerk at the F. W. Woolworth company store. The bridegroom attended Ashland high school.

Baptist Women To Close Year; Officers Named

In observance of Christmas and as the closing meeting of the year, Women's Fellowship of First Baptist church will serve a complete noon luncheon Tuesday, December 13, at 1 p.m., rather than their usual dessert luncheon. The meeting will be held in the annex of the church.

On the social committee for the affair will be Mesdames Lester Wilcox, Minnie Bryant, Ben Nelson, Ralph Wilder and Verlan Jacoby. Retiring officers of the group will serve with the social committee. They are Mrs. W. D. Roberts, president; Mrs. Joe Hibbard, vice-president; Mrs. Seth Caldwell, secretary; Mrs. Angus Lindstrom, treasurer, and Mrs. Gertrude Neff, musician.

Mrs. Vern Chapman will give the devotions for the meeting, and a short business meeting will be held.

Newly-elected officers, who will serve during 1956, are Mrs. Dora Brantley, president; Mrs. Angus Lindstrom, vice-president; Mrs. Ralph Wilder, secretary; Mrs. Lynn Ruth, treasurer, and Mrs. J. W. Neely, musician.

Circle 4 of First Christian church will meet Tuesday, December 13 in the home of Mrs. W. H. Holt, 18 Summit avenue. This will be in form of a Christmas party with a gift exchange at 1 o'clock.

Elk-Trail School Staff and Board Honored Guests

Elk-Trail—The teaching staff personnel and board members of the Elk-Trail school were honored at a dinner last week preceding a meeting of the Elk-Trail Parent Teacher association.

Guests were introduced by Mrs. William Wilson, hospitality chairman, who presented each a gift.

Introduced were Mrs. Mildred Wild, teacher of the first grade; Mrs. Thomas Greenley, second grade; Mrs. James Sawyer, third and fourth grades; Mrs. Arthur Moore, fifth and sixth grades; Mrs. Lee Merriman, seventh grade, and Mr. Merriman, eighth grade; William Miller, clerk; Mrs. Wilmer Ragsdahl, cook, and Mrs. Grant Hubbel, her assistant; Mr. Ragsdahl, custodian; Mrs. Morris Bush, Robert Darrohn, Thomas McElrath, bus drivers; Mrs. Oscar Hanson, board chairman, Lewis Dusenberry, Thomas McCready, Wayne Ash and Tony Miller, board members.

Mrs. Leroy Draper reported

Sunday December 11, 1955

MEDFORD (OREGON) MAIL TRIBUNE—SEVEN

British Daughters Plan Program on Christmas For Meeting Tuesday

Bow Bells chapter, Daughters of the British Empire, plans a program of Christmas carols for their holiday party to be held Tuesday, December 13 at 8 p.m.

In the Girls Community club. A gift exchange will be held and refreshments will be served in the holiday theme.

All members are asked to take a small gift for exchange. Those who want further information may telephone Mrs. Darroll Davis, telephone 2-5672.

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