

Potpourri

It was a heart-warming to hear Ken Wootton talk about the United States and Oregon when Potpourri interviewed him last Thursday. This Englishman, who has left a good position with the London Daily Express to try his luck in America, was so openly thrilled with his adopted country and particularly with Oregon that it gave us a reflected glow.

"I'll have to blindfold my wife for the first month," he said and when this mystified his listeners he added, "It's all these wonderful shops. She'll go in and just spend all my money."

Mr. Wootton flew from Portland to Medford during daylight and was much impressed with the scenery. "It's just like Switzerland," he exclaimed. The Englishman, his host, George Mazon, Potpourri and Photographer Bob Vroman talked politics, art, water and a lot of other things in the half hour we were at the Mazon's together. When we praised English movies, the Englishman made a face and said some were terrible—that only the best ones find their way to the United States. He said the worst ones were those which the British producers try to make like the Hollywood productions.

"The trouble with us," bemoaned Mr. Wootton, "is that we try to imitate Americans and we mutilate your ideas." At any rate, we were favorably impressed with Mr. Wootton, and hope that he is happy and successful in America.

The Chinese are grateful and friendly people, and because of this, Potpourri is invited every now and then to have dinner at Kim's restaurant. Those who share in this special event consider themselves honored, for when Lee Shet cooks a special dinner, it is something to remember.

Ten of us gathered around the table—Potpourri and pappy, Photographer Bob Vroman and his wife, Gene Cass and Mrs. C. State, Trooper Bob Wiewesik and the Misses, and the Ed Klimkos. And the amount of food we ate was something out of this world. There was duck cooked with orange, shrimp in sweet-sour sauce, Chinese vegetables cooked as only the Chinese do, big black mushrooms stuffed with ground chicken and ham, rice with bits of meat, chicken and a new crab dish prepared with an egg sauce with dillshies.

To begin with we had a vermicelli and chicken soup, and hors d'oeuvres which were bits of chicken gribets fried in a batter. Fragrant jasmine tea is always served, and the group drank several pots full during the meal.

Host Henry Fong knows just how to end an enormous dinner like this and instead of a conventional dessert we had a frosted mint and chocolate drink which goes by a dreadful name—grass-hopper.

After dinner Chef Lee Shet invited us to inspect the kitchen and this proved to be a revelation. It is like no other kitchen we ever saw before. The cooking tables—they could hardly be called stoves—were designed by the men and ordered from a firm in San Francisco and have to be seen to be understood. We saw other interesting devices—refrigerated drawers filled with vegetables and other food ready to be cooked, a special contraption for preparing barbecued meat, and we even inspected the sprouting room. Here the little green beans, which looked more like peas, are sprouted in water, the process requiring five days. Everything is scoured and scrupulously clean, else the sprouts will spoil.

The speed with which Chef Shet prepares an order astounded the womenfolk in the party. In fact, many cooks could have a lesson in efficiency by inspecting the Kim's kitchens and watching the deft Chinese.

Interesting statements were a dime-a-dozen when four men of as many different nationalities talked for Knife and Fork club Monday night. Here are a few: Arthur Webb, British correspondent, believes that Communism as we know it now will be a thing of the past in no more than 40 or 50 years; he also believes that the world is in no danger of a full scale war for the time being; Dr. Amolak Ram Mehta of India believes that Red China should be admitted to the United Nations because it represents a fourth of the world's population who should be represented and because, if the UN should work out a disarmament plan, then this vast nation would be outside the agreement; he also believes that Nationalist China will die with Chiang Kai Shek.

Two Thursday we heard statements about the low esteem in which Secretary of State Dulles is held in Europe. Ken Wootton, newly arrived from London, told Potpourri that the British admire and respect President Eisenhower, but that Dulles' stock is falling week by week and hit a new low in recent weeks.

That evening Mrs. Joseph Crick, Grants Pass, who toured several European countries last summer and who visited the "ordinary people" in their homes, said that President Eisenhower is well liked and trusted everywhere but that Secretary Dulles is disliked and distrusted.

Tickets: The Phil Brainerds tried for weeks to teach the family parakeet to talk, with no luck. He made nothing but bird noises. Then they added a cat to the family and now the parakeet is trying out a new sound. He meows. The George Rodes came home from a Christmas cutting and greenery gathering trip Saturday to find a Christmas box delivered by the mailman—a little box of Oregon greenery shipped from Gladstone as a Christmas present from relatives in Massachusetts.—O.S.

Designer Takes Lead In Price Cut

By BARBARA MILLER, United Press Correspondent Paris (U.P.)—Mrs. Jacques Fath, in a move revolutionary in the French couturier fashion industry, has slashed the prices of her high-style creations and announced that American buyers no longer must pay the \$1,000 entry fee to see her collections. Genevieve Fath, who won admiration for the way she took over her designer-husband's business at his death, announced that from now on her "haute couture" clothes would start at a new low price of \$140 per garment.

"The high prices of the Paris couture no longer are possible today," she said. "Even my richest friends are buying less expensive and more practical clothes."

Mrs. Fath hopes to attract more wholesale and store buyers as well, by not demanding the \$1,000 entry fee which she feels frightens the smaller businesses.

Couturiers demand this fee or "caution" to protect themselves from the buyers who come to the shows only to get ideas. But for this price, they also have the purchase right to any dress in a collection.

Mrs. Fath said the new low price range may guarantee more income than the "caution" and make for better relations between the Paris dressmakers and the American wholesalers.

"The present system... is out of step with the times. I hope others will adopt my system if this experiment proves successful," she said. She admitted she would be forced to cut drastically her personal in order to produce lower priced clothes.

"But," she said, "the overhead of the big dressmaking houses is ridiculous. So I shall economize by having four telephone operators instead of six, and by cutting down on the workroom staff."

Man Runs Unofficial Book Club

By GAY PAULEY, United Press Correspondent New York (U.P.)—This week in Manhattan:

Larry Aldrich, who designs clothes to help make women beautiful, runs a side project to help make them brain.

Aldrich operates his own unofficial book club, sending books before publication as gifts to friends in the fashion world.

He said the project began quite by accident in 1953, when he read a novel which so impressed him he decided some friends should not miss it. Through the cooperation of a book store near his Seventh avenue manufacturing company, he mailed 25 copies.

Now, 219 persons scattered over the nation receive this literary largesse. Most of the recipients are women.

Aldrich, a prodigious reader, said he is having trouble "maintaining my amateur standing as a critic... some publishers have tried to influence my selections." Several Aldrich choices later have become best-sellers.

Flowers instead of bells are scheduled for feminine toes this spring. One New York department store, Bonwit Teller, this week introduced floral footwear—flowers on shoe pumps, sewn on the throat line, or even flowered fabrics as linings.

Most fragile of the collection was a mule made of artificial violet petals. Also show: a white satin opera pump decorated with rose petals, and a pink kid pump with a single red rose and stem worked into the leather.

Now, it's the costume to match milady's car. The leather, automotive and fashion industries combined their talents during the New York auto show to show everything from ski to



Gay Pauley

Women Demonstrate Holiday Decorations For Mistletoe Club

A demonstration on Christmas decorations was given by Mrs. W. Arnold and Mrs. Tom Mee at the last meeting of the Mistletoe club. The traditional Christmas dinner was given at the home of Mrs. Harvey Rowden and the election of officers was held during the business meeting.

Gifts were exchanged. The committee in charge of the meeting included Mrs. Floyd Bewly, Ashland; Mrs. Delbert Ross and Mrs. Arthur Johnson, Mrs. L. D. Hodgkins was a visitor.

The next meeting will be held January 9 at the home of Mrs. Arthur Johnson when installation of new officers will be held.

Palestine Pictures To Be Shown for Crater Gardeners

Dr. and Mrs. B. R. Elliott will show slides taken in Palestine at a meeting of Crater Garden club Tuesday, December 18. It will be held at the home of Mrs. Charles Taylor, Old Stage road, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

A prize will be awarded at 7:45 p.m. and roll call will be answered with ideas for Christmas decorating.

evening clothes in the same colors as car interiors.

Scottish Rite Women's Club Holds Annual Party on Monday

Scottish Rite Women's club entertained men of the Scottish Rite order at the annual Christmas dinner last Monday night. The party was held at the Masonic temple, with about 115 attending.

The dining room was decorated in traditional Christmas style with bells, holly, fir and mistletoe. Pine cones and evergreen tips arranged with figurines decorated the dining tables, and a sugar plum house was featured.

Dinner was served buffet style, and opened with an invocation by the Rev. N. K. Tully, Jacksonville.

During dinner Christmas carols were led by R. A. Brewer, and Dr. John P. Dickson accompanied at the piano. Cherie Aldrich and Nancy Lewis of Miss Pat's School of Dance presented "Jinglebells." Mrs. Clay M. Lee, chairman, and her committee, Mrs. Edward Root, Mrs. Veri G. Walker, Mrs. L. C. Scott, Mrs. Robert Simpson, Mrs. Charles Hoppe, Mrs. E. W. Pease, Mrs. Fred Purdin and Mrs. James Grigsby were introduced and thanked.

The men retired to their hall and the women enjoyed a Christmas tree with gift exchange, with Santa Claus in charge. Visitors included Mesdames John P. Dixon, Knute Lingren, Paul B. Rynning, Vern

Chapters To Hold Christmas Parties; Supper Announced

Three PEO chapters will meet this week, and two plan Christmas parties.

Chapter BE will hold its Christmas meeting at 8 p.m. Tuesday, December 18, at the home of Mrs. A. A. Lausman, 200 Medford heights. Mrs. E. R. Kennedy Jr. will be assistant hostess. The program will be in charge of Miss Annette Gray.

Chapter C. G. of the sisterhood will meet Wednesday, December 19, at the home of Mrs. K. S. Campbell, 21 South Grove-land avenue, for a 7 o'clock supper.

Mrs. J. D. Monteith will be in charge of the program. Chapter C. P. will meet at 12:30 p.m., Wednesday, December 19, at the home of Mrs. John Graff, 31 Geneva avenue. Mrs. Stuart McQueen is assistant hostess. Christmas gifts will be exchanged.

Royal Neighbors Announce Supper

Royal Neighbors of America will hold their Christmas party Thursday, December 20, at 6 p.m. with a potluck dinner at the Pythian hall.

Those planning to attend are asked to take a gift for the grab bag. Treats will be available for the children.

A table eats about 10,000 insects during a summer.

Brides

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