

Potpourri

The Catholic church in America is prepared to take strong action against the practice of teenagers "going steady" according to the March issue of "Information," a Catholic magazine published by the Paulist Fathers.

"For the past 40 years," the article states, "the practice of going steady among teenagers has been increasing, first into a definite trend, then into an accepted pattern of teen-age conduct." The article then goes on to state that during the same 10 years, there has been a 400 per cent increase in the number of unwed mothers between the ages of 15 and 17 years.

"Information" defines "going steady" as a going together of one boy and one girl to the exclusion of all others. "In the moral order, if there is no prospect of marriage in the very near future, going steady is a serious violation of sin; in the social order, going steady can go life-long harm in robbing a child of the widespread companionship which he learns and grows in stunting his emotional development as surely as it stunts his physical and spiritual growth, in paving the way for hasty, immature or ill-adviced marriage and consequent broken homes," the article states.

"Aside from the breakdown of homes, the church has seen a break-down of faith among the going steady pattern," the article continues. The writer lists various archbishops who have given "strong warnings" on the matter, and schools which have announced that going steady students would be expelled.

At one point the article reads: "The pressure we—all of us—put on a single girl today to get herself a man at all costs, is driving her directly to the exploitation of sex, via too revealing fashions, too much dancing, too loose conduct. When she gets herself into serious trouble, either within or outside of marriage, we all share the responsibility because we drove her to it."

"Information" says that the church may well have to inaugurate disciplinary legislation if the situation continues according to its present alarming pattern.

One of the "pressures" noted by the writer in the Paulist magazine is the fact that the number of women is steadily increasing over the number of men, thus putting down a girl's chance to marry. Women are in excess in all but four countries in the world, and in the United States women outnumber the men by about two million.

Believe it or not, polygamy is taken seriously by some as a means of correcting this situation. Senator Harlan Dodson of Tennessee has offered a bill in that state which would legalize the taking of more than one wife. He said "Every woman has the inherent right of the joys and comforts of matrimony." There might be some Americans who would doubt that two or more wives in the same household would lead to either "joy or comfort."

The news about Senator Dodson's bill was contained in a story this week written by Gay Pauley, J.P.'s New York correspondent. Miss Pauley quoted Dr. Marion Langer, sociologist, as saying that women should marry men younger than themselves in order to lessen the number of years of widowhood (it averages eight years in this country) since on the average men die younger than women.

Dr. Langer urged women to look ahead and prepare for widowhood and concluded with a saying from Spain to the effect that "A buxom widow should either be remarried immediately or else killed!"

For years we've been hearing how everything in Texas is bigger and more lavish than anywhere else. After looking at two colored post cards sent by Roger Wolf from that state, we're inclined to agree.

Roger, a talented pianist, is now playing in the main dining room of the terminal building at Amon Carter field, international airport located between Fort Worth and Dallas. The cards which he sent to his parents the J. A. Wolfe of Medford, tell how an acre of 18-karat gold leaf was used in covering two huge murals which decorate the lobby. The murals, which surround the entrance to the main dining room, depict early Texas history.

Above the door is a work portraying the Goddess of Flight, and on the tip of her wand is a six-inch star made of diamonds and emeralds denoting the location of Amon Carter field.

Roger, who lives in Dallas, says the cities of Fort Worth and Dallas provide an interesting contrast. Dallas has the reputation of being very cosmopolitan and worldly—an "eastern" city. Fort Worth on the other hand is unsophisticated and considered by many to be "small townish"—a "western" type city.

Airport terminals are now decorated with gold leaf murals, super markets are built with lavish patios and art galleries, as well as elaborate playgrounds for the small fry, and hotels, particularly the resort establishments, are building bigger swimming pools, hiring more expensive entertainers and serving bigger and juicier steaks.

But one now boasts of something that no other hotel has—for a time, anyhow. A Denver Post columnist describes a new hotel at Marbella, on the southern coast of Spain 40 miles from Gibraltar, which offers its guests "Go it yourself" bullfighting facilities. The hotel's terrace restaurant circles an 80-foot bull ring where professional matadors give demonstrations and guests are "invited to test their capework between courses." In case this sounds a bit dangerous, let us hasten to add that the bulls are "juvenile Ferdinands" said to be "young, hornless and polite."

Last week was a swell week. It brought a pleasant tea, with a chance to meet friends and enjoy delicious party fare; a concert by Claramae Turner which we enjoyed in spite of the shock which her changed appearance brought; the thrill of two unexpected gifts, one of which is three fine lilac bushes; another thrill when we found that the violets by the back steps were starting to bloom and last, but not least, the week brought that final proof of spring—the sweet music of the frogs croaking at nightfall.—O.S.

Winners Named In Contest Series Of Toastmistress

Mrs. John Schroeder was awarded first place in the third of the contest series for Toastmistress club held Tuesday evening at station KBOY. Her subject was "Individuality."

Mrs. James Welch and Mrs. E. J. Klimko spoke on "Flight" and "The Citizens of Tomorrow." Judges were Mrs. Ina Freeman of the Talent schools aided by a point system by the membership.

Mrs. James Vandersteen presided over the business meeting. Miss Anna Streed was toastmistress and the educational talk was given by Mrs. Jo Williams. "Timely February Birthdays" was the theme of the topics presented by Mrs. Earl Sands.

Mrs. William Barnheisel was hostess.

Plans were formed for the council meeting for which the Medford club will be hostess to Grants, Pass, Klamath, Falls, Chemult and Yreka April 7 at Roxy Anne Grange hall.

Guests of the evening were Miss Mary Pat Lucy, Mrs. Elvina Pesenti, Mrs. Roberta Daniels and Mrs. Maxine Miers. The final contest of the series will be held at KBOY March 12 and speakers will be Mrs. Vandersteen, Mrs. Charles Thatcher, Mrs. Wallace Hasline and Irene Wheeler.

Episcopal Guild To Hold Meeting

Shady Cove—St. Martin's Episcopal guild will meet Wednesday March 6 at 8 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Frank Dolanshek.

Mrs. Ronald Agell and Mrs. Allen Rodgers will present the program and future activities of the guild will be discussed. Guests are welcome.

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Mrs. Earl Lindquist, Myrtle Creek, (at right), state president of FL clubs, recently visited Medford and was entertained at a dinner meeting of the Medford and Central Point clubs. She was welcomed by Mrs. Ralph Merion, (at left) president of the Medford club, and Mrs. Roy Bratten, head of Central Point FL club. The organization is made up of younger members of the Rebekah lodge.

Vegetable Garden To Be Topic for Meeting of Club

Vegetables will be the topic of Medford Garden club's monthly meeting Thursday, March 7, at the courthouse auditorium. The social hour will begin at 1 p.m., followed by the business meeting at 2 p.m.

The program will be "The Glory of the Vegetable Garden," with Mrs. B. R. Elliott as chairman.

New horticulture selections will be presented by Mrs. R. T.

Insurance Women Announce Speaker

Fred R. Brennan, president of the Jackson County Insurance Agents' association, will be guest speaker at a luncheon meeting of the Insurance Women of Jackson County, Tuesday, March 5 at 12 o'clock in the Jackson hotel.

All insurance women are invited.

Reservations may be made with the Jackson hotel.

Nichel, chairman. The arrangement-of-the-month will be displayed by Mrs. J. Edwin Harper.

World Prayer Day Services To Be Held Friday Afternoon

Using the theme, "Who Shall Separate Us?" the annual World Day of Prayer service for Medford will be led by Mrs. William Ricken with other members of the Council of Church Women participating. Speaker for the afternoon will be Brigadier James Fooker of Portland Salvation Army headquarters.

The service is to be held in the Church of the Nazarens Friday, March 8 beginning at 1:30 o'clock.

It is explained by officers of the council that all interested men and women are asked to participate in the service which was written this year by Mrs. Serene Vasovsky, formerly of Hungary. "The sixth spiritual message throughout the service was born of a heart wrung with love and sorrow for her countrymen," it is stated.

Several ministers of the valley will assist in the devotional periods of the day's program. A robed choir will also assist in congregational singing and a special trio number will be presented.

All churches not affiliated with the council are given a special invitation to join in the service of prayer for brotherhood. The preceding day will be devoted to the annual chain of prayer with the several affiliated churches responsible for the various hours. Other churches are also invited to participate in any convenient hour. Prayer slips will be available and are to be left in the seat for the various groups attending. As in past years, the chain of prayer will be held in the small chapel of St. Mark's Episcopal church. The schedule for churches is as follows:

- First church of the Nazarens, 8:30 a.m.; Seventh-day Adventist, 9:30 a.m.; First Presbyterian, Medford, 9:30 a.m.; Baptist, 10:30 a.m.; St. Mark's Episcopal, 10-11 a.m.; Salvation Army, 11-12 noon; First Presbyterian, Jacksonville, 12-12:30 p.m.; First Presbyterians, Central Point, 12:40-1 p.m.; First Methodist, 1-2 p.m.; Zion Lutheran, 2-3 p.m.; First Christian, 3-4 p.m.; First Presbyterian, Medford, 4-4:20 p.m.; Congregational, 4:30-5 p.m.; Church of the Brethren, 5-5:30 p.m.; and Friends, 5:30-6 p.m.

It was announced that those finding it more convenient to participate at an hour scheduled for church other than their own are invited to worship at the more convenient time. In order to keep the prayer chain unbroken the chapel will be occupied at all times during the day.

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Dinner Precedes Bethel Meeting; Delegates Named

A potluck dinner for parents preceded a meeting of Bethel 55, Job's Daughters, held Tuesday evening at the K.P. hall.

It was also junior bath night, and Senior Princess Marcia Spence presided as queen.

Miss Spence and Miss Percy Sampert were elected representatives to the grand session of the Grand Guardian council to be held in April in Portland. Plans for grand session were discussed. There will be a special practice March 10 for all members of Bethel 55 in preparation for initiation and inspection at their regular meeting March 12.

The tables were decorated with forsythia, ivy and pussy-willows.

Session Planned

A sweet luncheon will be held for Lady Elks Tuesday, March 5 at 1 p.m. in the club lounge. All wives of Elks are invited to attend the event and cards will be played. Members are asked to take guests for the meeting.

Reservations may be made before Monday noon by calling Mrs. Frank Little at 2-4225, or Mrs. Burg Marten, 3-5200.

Ritchey Attends Camp Conference

Mr. and Mrs. Maxine Ritchey attended the 31st Annual Conference of the Pacific Camping Federation of the American Camping Association held at the Camp Low Vista.

More than 300 camp leaders, counselors, and camp owners and members of agency and private camps in California, Oregon, and attended.

The conference program included work groups on the spiritual and educational aspects of camping, staff training and camp programming.

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