

Potpourri

New York, July 9—Potpourri has been in this big city for three days now, and it still doesn't seem real. To walk along the street, one might be anywhere—Portland, Seattle or San Francisco. But when we look out of a window, or up and across the city at the towering buildings, it just seems like a painted backdrop for a play.

We know that millions of people live, work and play in those buildings, but somehow it seems artificial and unnatural. Reduced to statistics from the guide book, one learns that New York is a "complex metropolis made up of some 14 million people, 8 million residents, 6 million suburban neighbors (a million commute every working day) and a million visitors every year."

New Yorkers call those who come from some place else "outlanders"—and Potpourri feels just that "outlandish."

Looking back on the past few days we've decided that we felt more at home in the United Nations building than anywhere else. Perhaps it was because it was filled with tourists—people from somewhere else. The guide book says that the native New Yorker—the one born and raised here—doesn't know the city as a whole, never "sees the sights" and is provincial in outlook; like the United Press writer in Philadelphia who has lived there for 31 years and confessed that he had never been in Independence hall and had never seen the Liberty Bell.

Monday when we visited the UN building it was filled not only with just ordinary tourists, but with hundreds—and that is literally true—of Boy Scouts. Probably they were en route to Valley Forge for the big jamboree—when we visited Valley Forge last week the Boy Scout tents were already up by the hundred, and workers were still busy erecting more.

The two of us—Potpourri and daughter—took the guided tour, our guide turning out to be a most attractive Swedish girl with only the slightest accent. People of all nationalities work in the United Nations headquarters—we saw an East Indian wearing a western suit but with his head wrapped in a bright yellow turban, and a beautiful girl wearing a colorful sari hurried across the hall ahead of us. (The sari and sarong look more graceful and practical than western dress. However, the Hawaiian mums which some delegates wore at the NEA convention look like shapeless sacks.)

The rooms of the UN headquarters are dignified and beautiful, which is as it should be. The walls of the room where meetings of the Security Council are held are lined with blue and gold, the UN colors and a large mural, the work of the famous Norwegian artist, Pehr Krogh, dominates the room. The guide explained about the simultaneous translations which are made over the inter-communication system during meetings, and we examined the ear-phones with which each seat is equipped.

The guide said each translator must be able to use English, French and at least one other of the five official languages, and that most are proficient in four. Since the simultaneous translation is extremely difficult, she said that only about 150 persons in the entire world are qualified for this work.

As the tour progressed, we were impressed again and again with the fine artistic sense of the Scandinavian peoples. Their work is clean and uncluttered, yet beautiful and meaningful. In the room where the Economic and Social Council meets, one end of the huge room is hung with a drapery so unusual and handsome as to beggar description. It looks gossamer—but weighs 770 pounds. The room was designed by Sven Markelius.

Here it was, while the group sat in the midst of peace and beauty—in a city where almost as much food is wasted as is consumed—that the guide reminded us that three-fourths of the population of the world lives in the underprivileged countries, that one-half of the world's population is illiterate and that millions live on a diet which barely keeps them alive.

In the General Assembly room hangs a tapestry made in Belgium, the largest tapestry in the world. A special loom was made for the weaving of this piece of art work.

Visitors to the building average between 3,000 and 6,000 daily, the guide said. We wonder how many of them ever give any serious thought to world peace, or how it can be achieved.—O.S.

New York, July 10—We're beginning to understand about New York. We've been to see a play and gaudy Times Square at night, we spent some time in the wonderful Metropolitan Art museum, we strolled in Greenwich Village, walked around Washington Square and rode in the subway; yesterday and this noon we attended the fall fashion shows staged by the designers for fashion editors from all over the United States and this afternoon we shopped in Fifth Avenue stores. We didn't buy much, and the editorial feet will never be the same again, but this afternoon we began to sense the excitement which makes a lot of individuals love this monstrous city.

At store closing time the shopping area was one huge mass of people hurrying, ducking and dodging on the sidewalks while in the streets moved a solid flow of cars and taxis. Two different cab drivers assured Potpourri that "this is nothing—just wait until vacation time is over" but we'd rather not. Twice daughter snatched us from under the wheels of a cab—New York cab drivers just pretend pedestrians aren't there. To be a taxi patron is one thing—the minute you step out on the streets you're fair prey.

The play we saw, "Visit to a Small Planet," is billed as a comedy and gets some of its biggest laughs from making fun of the U.S. Army, with flying saucers and a little torrid love-making thrown in for good measure. It stars the British actor Cyril Ritchard.

Gay Pauley, women's editor for the New York office of United Press, took us along for the fashion show Tuesday afternoon in the Grand Ballroom of the Pierre hotel. Gay assured me that she would have no trouble in taking the women's editor of a small western newspaper and her daughter to the show. "I'll just tell them that I want to bring a couple of outlanders," she said briskly.

Tuesday we saw the Triguere and Cell Chapman collections. Wednesday noon the Pattullo-Jo Copeland collection. Pauline Triguere, who came from Paris to New York in 1942, has won a number of awards and according to Miss Pauley is a "nice girl—we all like her." Her collection of suits featured long, slim coats with enormous buttons and a color which she called "blue fox" but which looked brown under the bright lights. One wool coat had shirred sleeves pushed above the elbow.

In the Triguere, and also the other collections, there is more than a hint of the "flapper look" of the '20s and '30s. Some of the evening gowns are slim sheaths with simple round necks and armholes with the entire dress covered in either sequins or paillettes that flash and glitter. Pauline announced part of the show and once said "I have to watch myself or I make everything in my favorite black and white."

She also showed a number of long, slim evening gowns with bodices topped with a band of long-haired fur; another favorite color in this collection was purple.

Cell Chapman, who designs clothes which appeal to women



Nurse Plays Pool In Rehabilitation Work at Boston

Boston—The modern Florence Nightingale is more than just a "lady with a lamp." Now she has to know how to grip a pool cue.

Officials at the Boston Rehabilitation Center decided last year that pool playing would help patients regain use of damaged arms and legs.

They selected a 25-year-old occupational therapist, Debbie Phillips of Boston, to work with the patients although she admits that at the outset she didn't know a pool cue from a TV antenna.

Miss Phillips said the value of pool in medicine lies in the bending, stretching and reaching the game entails.

"It gets the patients' shoulder, leg and arm muscles into action and gives them something to concentrate on," she said.

Miss Phillips said she became an occupational therapist after a brief fling at art while at Skidmore College. An interest in medicine and people decided her on rehabilitation work.

The attractive, dark-haired girl is one of five occupational therapists working at the center. But Debbie is the only one who plays pool.

"Most of the time I let the patients win," she said. "It helps their morale."



It's a major style trend for 1957, exemplified in this one-piece fitted swimsuit by Cole of California in flowered cotton satin and named "My Fair Lady."

MOIST BREAD
Quick breads, yeast breads and cakes keep moist longer when milk is used as the liquid.

Disguise 'Bought' Cake With Home Frosting

New York—To give a bought cake a home-made touch serve it with vanilla-chocolate frosting.

Melt 1 package semi-sweet chocolate pieces and 1 square unsweetened chocolate over hot water. Stir in a 15-ounce can of sweetened condensed milk and 1½ teaspoons of pure vanilla

Cooking utensils soaked immediately after use are easier to wash later. Use cold water for those that held milk, eggs, cheese mixtures or dough; hot water for ones that held sweet or greasy mixtures.

extract. Cook over low heat 5 minutes, and cool. Spread between layers and on top and sides of the cake.

VEGETABLE COOKING TIPS
New York—Add a little fresh lemon juice or vinegar to beets and cabbage to help them retain the red color. A little milk added to the cooking water will help retain the whiteness of cauliflower. Don't use baking soda with green vegetables. It destroys the nutrients, reports the United Fresh Fruit and Vegetable association.

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Flat, Woven Floor Covering Durable

Urbana, Ill.—A University of Illinois textile and clothing specialist says a flat, woven floor covering may prove the most durable in a home with children and pets.

"This type of rug is the best buy if you have pets, young children and a considerable amount of traffic in a room," Jane Werden said.

She said this type of covering doesn't last as long as expensive rugs, but that "most people are ready to replace floor coverings when their children are older anyway."

A number of fibers are available but Miss Werden suggested rayon as the "best dollar-for-dollar buy."

Other fibers which also are acceptable:

Cotton—wears well, but hard to keep clean.

Nylon—has been too expensive, but is gradually coming down in price.

Combinations of rayon and nylon and rayon and wool.

"Forty to 50 per cent of wool in combination with rayon makes a satisfactory floor covering," Miss Werden said.



Here's a smart seafaring outfit for the miss who loves the water. This winning combination by Phil Rose of California features lined cotton knit shorts in bold red and white stripes. Overblouse of white cotton sailcloth is trimmed with matching knit.

with slightly less than a fortune to spend on clothes, also showed much purple and a new Electrica blue. Many of the skirts dipped in back and necklines were daring, plunging low in both back and front and some laced to the waist with "only you underneath." Others had bodices which are mere scraps and straps in strategic places, and were cut out under the arms as well as back and front. She introduced and still sponsors the "demi-length skirt" which is neither long nor short.

The Copeland collection was the most lavish of the three, with prices running from around \$200 to more than \$1200 for an ensemble of satin evening gown in argent gray topped with a pink velvet wrap trimmed in chinchilla. This collection also featured uneven hemlines, harem skirts which were gathered in at the bottom and slim skirts topped with apron overskirts which belled out.

When the models wore hats they were close-fitting turbans and cloches of fur or feathers. All of the models were slim, of course, and a few walked with the droopy slouch and indifferent air which we find repelling. Some of the Chapman models had an all-American girl look which Potpourri finds much more appealing.

Watching the parade of models, we decided that several of the Junior Service League members in Medford were every bit as good. Betty Graff, Fran Wimberly, Ruth Halboth, Ellie Hopewell, Susan Holmes—or several others could have worn the same cloths and the girls in the audience wouldn't have known the amateurs from the professionals.—O.S.



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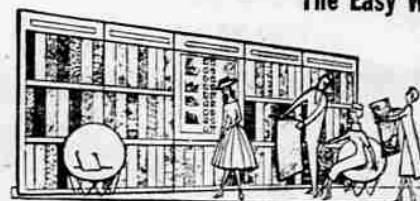
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