

Potpourri

Do you know what a speech squeezer is? Ever heard of a folded diaper antenna? Or a phone patch? A QSL card? Do you know how to fish with dials and wires instead of a pole and line in the water?

Thursday night Potpourri joined the Earl Casebolts, and Kenn and Betty Knackstedt in a "rag chewer's" session at the Casebolt home and learned a little — a very little — about ham radio. Mr. C. sat in front of five or six pieces of amateur radio equipment set up in the corner of the family dining room, twiddled a bunch of dials and flicked switches. In between the screeches, squeals and shrieks we listened to him talk to other hams in Medford, to one in Everett, Wash., one in Los Gatos, Calif., another in Birmingham, Ala., and briefly to one somewhere in Canada or Alaska. The Everett man was Robert E. Miller, son of the late Ralph Miller of Medford, who said that his mother now lives in the Washington city.

A lot of the time Potpourri didn't have the foggiest notion what the conversation meant. At one time Mr. Casebolt informed the Everett man that "the sun spots are good now and we should get some rare dx this year" — at least, that is what we thought we heard. Kenny K., who makes expressive gestures with his hands even while talking to some one several hundred miles away, explained a couple of times that "we are band hopping" and "Earl and I will go up to 40 and see if we can raise somebody in California." We raised Frank W. Glass, W6MVL in Los Gatos.

In between times Mr. C. and Kenny explained about QSL cards — cards sometimes elaborately designed and printed, which hams send out to other operators they have contacted by air. We took part in a "phone patch" which is part telephone and part radio, but never did find out why it is called a "patch." We learned that operators talk about their wives, families, food, the weather and even play chess over the air waves. They sharpen their radio wits with hidden transmitter hunts and just generally have a wonderfully relaxing time.

Of course, a lot of it is serious, too. Hams belong to carefully organized and efficiently instructed groups and in time of fires, floods or hurricanes which blank out ordinary communication perform important communication services. They cooperate with the armed forces and civil defense officials. Mr. Casebolt, as president of the Rogue Valley Amateur radio league, has certificates and letters praising the local hams for their service in time of need.

The hams have fun with their call letters, too. Sometimes to make sure the one across the air waves understands, they use names matching their call letters. Bud Larson's LNC he calls Lovely Native Girl; Herb Grey Jr., says Many Many Indians for MMI; Dwight Albright's HLF becomes Happy Little Foxes and Kenny K. has turned CVO into Ocean Victor Ocean.

The Wall Street Journal records something other than cold statistics and studies on economics. PH, perusing a copy yesterday morning, clipped this tid-bit: "Southwest abounds in oddities such as covered, air-conditioned sidewalks. They're a feature of a new \$125 million Dallas commercial center now a-building. Drive-in grocery—Houston housewives, baskets attached to their cars, drive through wide, wide lanes in a new supermarket. Walking attendants fill baskets with items ordered.

"Drive-ins spread to banking, weddings. A Texas bank will lure auto patrons with pretty hostesses on roller skates. In Lovelady, Tex., a service station operator doubles as justice of the peace, marries couples as they sit in their cars."

Mingling with the Shakespearean festival company at the A. S. V. Carpenter's Tuesday we found that the actors, technicians and their guests have interesting names, as well as faces. There was Rod Sulit, technician from San Francisco, George and Margaret Vafiadis, Jerry Mickey, who says his last name is a corruption of a German name which may originally have been spelled with a "u", and William L. Kinsolving.

Mr. Kinsolving, Stanford drama student from Phoenix, Ariz., who came to the party as a guest of David O'Brien, festival actor, was a trifle perturbed when the society editor stumbled over his name, and rightly so. One who has worked with names for so many years should not bat an eye or show surprise, no matter how different the name. But when "Kinsolving" was first pronounced, we thought it was both first and last names and was prepared to write down "Ken Solven" or something similar.

Potpourri still believes, however, that an interesting, exotic or strange name is not a handicap, but an asset. We've been called Fletcher, Thrasher, Stretcher and several other versions of Starcher but we don't mind.

Even the garden statues at the Carpenters have names—the big blue creature at the end of the pool which looks like a cross between a dog and a lion has been known for years as "Mr. Topsides."

Whenever this amateur star gazer attempts to contemplate the vastness of the heavens, we become distracted and bemused. Friday night while looking at the comet Mrkos which has been appearing in the evening sky, we wondered aloud how many miles long the tail actually was. Saturday we found out. It's 15 million miles.—O.S.

Chapters Honored at Convention

Oregon Epsilon Sigma Alpha sorority chapters received numerous honors at the recent international convention held in Memphis, Tenn.

Mrs. I. J. Bean of Beta Gamma chapter, Roseburg, in addition to being elected international parliamentarian, was also accorded the honor of being chosen the first ESA Outstanding Girl, internationally.

Oregon chapters won a all three rushing awards. Several other awards won by chapters in Oregon were for philanthropic work, yearbook and an honorable mention in an essay contest.

Epsilon Sigma Alpha International donated more than \$800,000 to various charities last year, plus many hours of volunteer work, it was announced at the convention.

Among activities of Alpha Lambda chapter in Medford was co-sponsoring a campership to Camp Easter Seal.

Camp Easter Seal, located at Lakeside, Ore., is a summer camp for crippled children and young people of Oregon. Age limits are six years to young adults.

This is a well established permanent camp, staffed by a director, therapists, counselors, registered nurse, practical nurses and volunteers, also a cook, caretaker and general assistants.

Campers must apply for admittance through the Oregon Society for Crippled Children and Adults, Inc., in Portland. A medical clearance from the applicant's physician is necessary.

The society's objective is to provide a well planned camp program with emphasis on recreation.

Wins Membership

Alpha Lambda chapter and Alpha Kappa chapter of Ashland presented a campership to fifteen year old William Hedrick, son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Gould, Medford, entitling him to attend the third session of the camp, from July 22 to 31. In addition, the Medford chapter paid his round trip bus fare.

At a special summer meeting held Monday, August 12, Mrs. Gould was present, and gave the group a report. She stated her son was enthusiastic about the camp program and especially enjoyed the fishing and swimming. He is looking forward to camp again next summer. Mrs. Gould expressed her appreciation and thanked the members for making it possible for William to attend and enjoy the ten-day session.

Chapter plans for the future include a rummage sale to be held August 27th at the Fehi Building.

Rushing activities begin the first week in September. Also included during the month of Oregon District council meeting, to be held at Tally-Ho with the Ashland chapter as hosts. Sunday, September 15, and the state council meeting, September 28 and 29 in Salem.

Traveler Visits Factory; Tells of Wandering Choir

Miss Shirley Lynch, Medford student traveling this summer in Europe, in her last letter home, described a visit to a factory where crystal is produced. Last week in a letter to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John B. Lynch, 139 Kenwood avenue, Miss Lynch told of a bicycle tour through Denmark.

Miss Lynch plans to leave Germany the latter part of this month for the United States. She will make stops in New York and Boston before returning to enter Lewis and Clark college in Portland in September for her senior year.

She wrote of her latest travels:

I went with friends to several crystal factories yesterday. We saw all kinds of crystal being cut, colored, painted, et cetera. I had been looking idly at amethyst overlay cutwork and decided it wasn't very interesting. I asked the woman who was standing around if they had any plain amethyst glassware. Plain colored, that is, not the other stuff that was a pale purple on top and the design cut down through to the clear white crystal. She disappeared and presently reappeared with a vase about eight or nine inches high of gorgeous deep amethyst. I think it almost exactly the color of my crystal goblets. It's lead crystal and is beautifully cut. At another place I got some ceramic cups and some crystal items.

Visits Limburg

We went through Limburg on the way back and visited the famous Limburg cathedral. As we walked in, a wandering choir was singing. There were about 30 young men and women in the group. They were dressed in what were probably German costumes but were a little different from any I've seen so far. The fellows wore knicker-length leather pants rather than the leather shorts. The bottoms of

the trousers were fastened with silver buckles. Apparently there are many choirs which simply wander around singing in cathedrals mostly for their own enjoyment. Musically, they did a magnificent job. Good pitch, blend and precision. We heard only a couple of numbers, unfortunately.

The altar was a cubical thing with silver all over it and topped by six beautiful silver candlesticks and a silver crucifix. The transepts contained more of the usual statues and confessionals.

I went with a friend to the Kurpark (sort of a city recreational center—the Kurhaus is a city auditorium and restaurant and gambling casino, dance hall and showplace all rolled into one). We watched the fireworks, heard a band concert (they played some of the things we played in Ashland) and danced afterwards. The fireworks were fantastic! I've never seen anything like them. There were two dance pavilions going that night.

Attends Festival

The next afternoon and evening several of us piled into a car and went to a wine festival in Kiedrich. The particular festival turned out to be a Burgfest. The Burg (a sort of watchtower which looks like a silo) was on top of what was probably the only pointed hill in the area. We had to hike up. And it was really a hike. On the small level place at the top there were a couple of hot dog stands, several carnival type concessions and 50 eight-person tables. The local white wine was served and also many kinds of soft drinks. At one end of the area right under the tower was a bandstand and a rather precarious dance floor. The condition of the floor was not aided by the fact that the band played polkas and fast waltzes (not much difference) almost exclusively. It was a beautiful night. Kiedrich is about two kilometers inland from the Rhine. The hill was high enough that we could see the moon on the Rhine from there.

I'm going to Bad Kreutznach Wednesday. Thursday I leave for Paris.

Butte Falls Club To Meet Tuesday

Butte Falls—Butte Falls Garden club will meet Tuesday, August 20, at 1:30 p.m., at the home of Mrs. Clay Conley.

A tour of gardens will be made and the group will visit the seedling trees planted by Forestry club. All interested persons are invited to attend.

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Store Announces Show Wednesday

Miss Sheila Sevoy, Kansas City, Mo., of the Nelly Don Firm, will be in Medford Wednesday. Miss Sevoy will show the Nelly Don fall line at Hadley's modeling throughout the day, and a special show is set for 2 p.m.

The firm's fall collection shows crepes, two-ply cotton suiting that resembles wool flannel, new triacetate blends and rayon and acetate blends with a brushed surface. Also shown will be pure worsted wool jersey in bright colors.

Some frocks are said to be in the "gentle mood to make a woman look pretty" and slim coat-dresses are called "walking dresses."

Nelly Don, with other designers and firms, is also specializing this fall in "the little crepe dress" a wardrobe pet with man women. The slim silhouette predominates in the line.

Meeting Announced For Relief Corps

Central Point—Central Point Woman's Relief Corps will meet Tuesday, August 20, at the city park for a noon potluck picnic. A short business session will be held followed by a social hour.

Cooking experts advise that fresh pork be roasted, fried or stewed. Never broil, since pork requires long, slow cooking.

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