



POTPOURRI

Memorial day is a time for remembering, and in particular for honoring those who died during service to their country. In the fashion of veteran groups all over the nation, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh White of Cave Junction spent a part of yesterday placing flags on the graves of veterans. The Whites are Memorial day chairmen for Glenn Morrison post, American Legion, and the auxiliary.

Fifty of the American flags were put on graves in Laurel cemetery. The 51st was placed on a lone grave located about a mile south of Selma and 300 feet east of Redwood highway.

Mrs. Ruth Rausch, reporter for the Mail Tribune in the Illinois valley, wrote that the inscription on the tombstone reads "L. Harrington, Company I, Second Michigan Cavalry." However, the inscription fails to mention what war L. Harrington might have helped to fight, nor does it give any dates.

For the past 10 years Mr. and Mrs. White have been marking graves on Memorial day. They are assisted by A. E. Sandell, who decorates the graves of veterans buried in the Selma cemetery.

Thursday was Mrs. Max Leischner's Big Day. Mrs. Leischner, known to almost everyone in Girl Scouting as Frances, had a dream come true with the successful staging of that night of the Girl Scout May festival. Mrs. L. says the idea came to her more than a year ago during a night when she was restless and couldn't sleep. About 1 a.m. she gave up the idea of trying to sleep, found a pencil and paper and began writing down ideas for the festival. She would use Girl Scouts of all ages and ranks from all over the entire Rogue area and northern California - there would be flags, colorful costumes, dances, music, food, a cloudless sky with maybe a moon and stars. Frances knew just what it should be.

She talked about her idea, sold it to the other adults in Girl Scouting and went to work. Everything went just as Frances L. dreamed it would. True, she was a bit panic-stricken at the thought of rain. "It just can't rain," she said. "It wouldn't dare." And it was fair, even if a bit cold, particularly for little girls with wispy costumes. Hundreds of Girl Scouts and leaders, colorful costumes, music and dancing - the grandstand filled with admiring friends and relatives. Just like Frances knew it would be.

By good fortune, Mrs. Donald Whalin and her daughter, Barbara, sat down in the stands next to Potpourri and soon were having a wonderful chat. Lois, who attended school in Medford as a young girl, said the Scout festival brought back old memories.

"We always had a festival on May day when I was a girl," she said. "All the kids from Washington, Jackson, Lincoln and Roosevelt would gather in the city park. I can still see the colors of each school. I remember one year the girls were dressed as fairies and the boys as string beans - I can't remember why, but we were. And one year it rained. I had on a crepe paper costume and I can still remember the feel of that wet paper against my bare skin."

The Whalin's younger daughter, Charlotte, was one of the little Brownies who danced the Hawaiian number. Trained by Mrs. Ed Milnes and her daughter, Vicki, who spent a vacation in the islands a few years ago and learned some of the dances, the little girls wore green hula skirts and leis. The Brownies did well on their dance, using their hands and arms to express the meaning of the song. But the hit of their number was a tiny little girl, Julie Blackhurst, too small to be a Brownie but not too small to be a mascot. Little Julie didn't dance, but she "wowed" the audience by swiveling her little body until her hula hoop practically sailed off into orbit.

Mrs. Whalin and Potpourri wondered why some Girl Scout or leader hadn't thought to wear a costume representing Alaska - the state of Hawaii was well represented. Since the wind had a decided edge to it, we decided that a skirt of skins and a fur-lined parka would have been just the costume for some of the girls down on the field.

Mrs. Leischner and all her many assistants were grateful that the huge festival had gone off smoothly - more smoothly than they had dared hope, since it had not been possible to arrange a rehearsal with everyone present. As it was, nothing worse than some minor trouble with the public address system happened to mar the evening.

When Mrs. Hugh Moulton of Grants Pass was giving her little speech of welcome, the microphone gave off a horrible scream and after a moment of dead silence Mrs. Moulton said plaintively, "I didn't do that."

If Bonnie Prudden had her way, the Girl Scouts and Camp Fire Girls would probably be drilled in setting up exercises and body building techniques. Miss Prudden, a member of the President's Citizens' Advisory Committee on Youth Fitness, was co-author of the Kraus-Prudden report, sometimes referred to as "the report that shocked the president." In 1955 a series of comparative tests were made and it was found that the physical fitness of European children was superior to that of American youngsters. Miss Prudden says the situation is getting worse, and not better.

When a New York Times reporter talked with Miss Prudden and asked her if she knew it was Youth Fitness week, she replied with a snort that "A greater stupidity there never was. For the last three years, we have held conferences at which nothing was accomplished but a deluge of words. Obscuring the real issue - that our children are in rotten physical shape - were great outpourings of rhetoric from ivory tower types and Little League thinkers."

Miss Prudden believes that the situation is squarely up

Ruegger Films To Be Shown For Arm Chair Club

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Ruegger, who spent three months in Switzerland last year, will show pictures of their trip to the Arm Chair Travel club at the Senior Activity center, 601 East Jackson street, Monday afternoon, June 1.

The Rueggers visited his friends and relatives at his former home in Switzerland. They also spent a week in Paris and took a trip up the Rhine.

Dr. Frank Roberts is in charge of the weekly program at the center. Plans for June include "trips" to Germany, Venezuela, Luzon and Leyte in the Philippines.

The meetings are open to all older adults. Dr. Roberts stressed that there are no fees or formal classes and beginners can enter any activity at any time.

Artists who wish to use the center as a workshop are welcome to pair with the art class each Tuesday afternoon. Woodcarving class meets each Wednesday afternoon.

A request has been made by the orchestra class for the use of old instruments of any kind, such as mandolins, guitars, violins and wind or percussion instruments. Persons who wish to donate instruments are asked to call the Senior Center or bring the Thursday between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. when the music groups meet.

Plans are underway to start a Spanish class on Monday or Tuesday morning at the center. Anyone interested is asked to call Mrs. Ena Foss, SPring 3-2346, or the center, SPring 2-4163.

to "Mrs. America," who belongs to the PTA and is on the school board and who should "insist on decent physical education and not play. Our children need rehabilitation, not recreation." She says only the good athletes get a chance to play games, and that the "elimination system" in sports favors those in trim and knocks out the poor athlete who really needs the training.

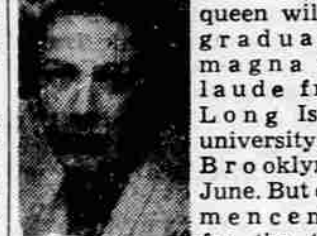
The Japanese are an inventive people, and recently came up with two good ideas. One of these should delight certain parents. A man invented a "silent pianola," a miniature piano with a regular-sized but muffled keyboard, and an earplug. Little sister can hear herself do the scales but won't disturb papa while he reads the evening paper.

A Japanese manufacturer being of a thrifty mind, wondered what to do with left-over hula hoops. He ended up by cutting them into seven and eight-inch lengths and attaching a metal hook to each piece. Presto-plastic dress hangers - O.S.

European Refugee Heads LIU Graduating Class

By GAY PAULEY
UPI Women's Editor

New York - (UPI) - Mira Reim deserves honors in courage as well as in the classroom. The 21-year-old campus queen will be graduated magna cum laude from Long Island university, in Brooklyn, in June. But commencement ceremonies will be for the tall, brunet beauty really began in April, 1945, when Russian troops marched into the little town of Bendzin, Poland, and liberated its residents from the Nazis.



Gay Pauley for the tall, brunet beauty really began in April, 1945, when Russian troops marched into the little town of Bendzin, Poland, and liberated its residents from the Nazis.

Now, Mira will be going back to study German literature next fall at the Rhenish Frederick William university in Bonn.

In a way, she said in an interview, hers is an Anne Frank story with a happy ending. She escaped death in the gas chamber "by a miracle." Her parents were separated and spent most of the war years in concentration camps - her father, Mark in the infamous Dachau; her mother, Dora, in the equally infamous Auschwitz.

Find Each Other

"By another miracle," she said, "we found each other after the war. But we are the only members of the family left. My grandparents died in the gas chamber. My uncles and aunts and their children died in concentration camps - some in the gas chamber, some of starvation and disease."

Mira tells her story simply, without dramatics.

Her father owned a wholesale hardware business in Sosnowiec, Poland, when the Nazis swept in and began the persecution and imprisonment of Jews. Mira was one-year-old at the time.

School Recitals Held on Monday

Gold Hill - Classroom piano recitals featuring pupils of the Sams Valley and Hanby Elementary schools were held May 25 in Gold Hill. The students were instructed during the past school year by Mrs. Ruth Brewster, vocal and piano teacher at the two schools. This was the first time that classroom piano lessons have been offered in the music department by either school.

Pupils appearing on the afternoon program included Jackie Dye, Linda Walker, Nancy Meister, Gayle Griggs, Gail and Carol Elrod, Judy Fisher, Pamela Freeman, Sharon Bailey, May Brown, Gail Lewis, Darlene Shoemaker, Jim Williams, Gail Ross, Betty Brown, and Joanne Hilkey of the Hanby school, and Linda Berkheimer from the Sams Valley school.

Youngsters appearing in the evening recital on that date were Susie Mitchell, Ellen Sollinger, Sydney Maplesden and Susan McAllister all from the Sams Valley school. Hanby school youngsters included Doris Caldwell, Jenny Lou Thompson, Carol Washburn, Susan Cornutt, Shirley Kell, Marie Jones, Patty Boye, Lorraine Hixson and Penny Flenner.

A duet was played by Lorraine Hixson and Penny Flenner in addition to their individual selections presented during the recital.

Also appearing on the evening portion of the program were several pupils from Central Point who have been taking private lessons. They were Shirley Roberts, Frank Roberts, Joyce Roberts and Carol Mundlin.

The program concluded with two selections played by Mrs. Brewster.

Parents and friends attending the recital expressed appreciation to Mrs. Brewster concerning the progress that the students had made.

"At first," she said, "it was move to a smaller house. Pretty soon, to just one room. Then to another town, and the ghetto. Then daddy was shipped out, mother didn't know where, and we were marked for the concentration camp."

Slips Note Out

"The Nazi rule was the gas chamber for old people and children because they could not work. My mother is a woman of tremendous will; she managed to slip a note

Council Plans Meeting Here

Plans for a coming meeting of Toastmistress Council 4 in this city were made at a meeting of Medford Toastmistress club May 27, at the Girls Community club.

During the business meeting Mrs. C. A. Thatcher read the revised by-laws and standing rules, which the club accepted. Mrs. Jack Cummings reported on a meeting of Welcome Wagon, which she attended as a representative from the club. This meeting was concerned with the matter of Prescott park. Mrs. O. H. Redmond reported on the meeting of the Juvenile Advisory committee, which was held at the courthouse.

The president, Mrs. Clarence Rolis, appointed several committees to make the necessary arrangements for the council meeting of June 14.

Lexicologist Mrs. Elmer Ness gave the definitions and meanings of two words and Mrs. Effie Kurtz, in the educational talk, gave information on how and what to prepare for various types of television programs. Topicmistress for the meeting was Mrs. Redmond.

Mrs. Jack Cummings as toastmistress presented Mrs. Tom Ball whose speech was entitled "The Call of the Wild." Mrs. James VanderSteen talked on the subject "Are You Afraid?"

Invocation and flag salute were led by Miss Irene Barclay. Mrs. Ellen Lynner evaluated the speeches and Miss Anna Streed was grammarian.

Two guests were introduced.

through the ghetto fence asking help for her only child.

One day Mira was smuggled over the wall and into the waiting arms of a woman. "She was Catholic," Mira said, "and had sons in the war and smaller children at home. She was not under suspicion but her husband was because the SS once caught him listening to a BBC broadcast."

"To hide him when troops made their rounds, the family had constructed a false closet, its door concealed behind a chest. Here they also hid me when there was a knock at the door."

Taught To Read

"The woman was a good woman... she taught me to read and write. She bleached my hair blonde to hide iden-

tity and when she could no longer get bleach, she shaved my head and I wore a hat at all times."

Mira never left the little house in Bendzin while she lived there. "I knew, even as small as I was, that to be found was to die."

Mira graduated with honors from Taft High school in the Bronx and "unless my weakness in math catches up with me" will be top coed in her graduating class of 280 at LIU. "A boy," she said, "topped me on the four-year average."

Does she feel any bitterness toward the Germans of the Hitler era?

"I don't," she said, "but my parents still have their bad moments. Mother often wakes up in terror... sometimes it seems as if she is going through all of it all over again."

MAIL TRIBUNE, Medford, Or., Sunday, May 31, 1959



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