

Traveler Tells of Spanish Customs

(The following article is another in a series being written for The Medford Mail Tribune by Mrs. Almus Pruitt while she is abroad. Mrs. Pruitt and her husband are touring Europe in the company of Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Allen Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Miller, Medford, and Mr. and Mrs. Angus L. Bower, Ashland. The group will return to their homes before Christmas.)

Some customs in Spain require a bit of adjusting on the part of the visitor. Shops and banks close each afternoon from about 1:30 until four—the siesta interval, established because of the extreme heat in summer. Hotel dining rooms do not open for dinner until 8:30 or 9 o'clock at night, and with meals served with Latin leisure, one doesn't finish dining until around 11. Only one real flaw marred our visit in Madrid—the beggars operating on the streets. Besides ordinary beggars who brazenly extend palms and whine, "Pesceta, pesceta..." there are petty racketeers who sometimes trail tourists for several blocks. One young man—what a professional he was!—approached us and flashed a "diamond" ring, mumbled enticingly and going so far as to scrape the stone surreptitiously on a shop window to prove it was a "real diamond." He wouldn't take no for an answer and tagged us for blocks.

Another street urchin with a handful of withered flower petals rushed up and tossed one into my beret which I was carrying, then demanded, "Pesceta, pesceta..." When Almus reluctantly gave him a coin the boy cried, "No, no—more—cinco" which means five! So Almus tossed back the flower and let him keep the coin. It is saddening to see what tough little beggars young children can be. Many cripples beg, and a pregnant woman extended a palm, whimpering, "pesceta por nino..." Another who looked almost like a country gentleman begged, "pesceta por ninos." It isn't always easy to say no to these unfortunates; still, one never knows which is or isn't deserving. Then, too, if you give to one you are immediately spotted as an easy-mark and descended upon by dozens. Begging, we are told, is usually done by the gypsy, not the true Spaniard, who, however poor, remains proud.

Season Is Rainy
Until Gibraltar we had suffered from excessive rain everywhere in Europe. Rain this year, in fact, has been the constant complaint of all tourists we have talked with. But in Gibraltar, dazzling sunshine met our eyes—along with our first glimpse of the Mediterranean and Africa as plain as day just across the strait. Gibraltar is a mixture of British, Spanish, and Moslem atmosphere, with shops, or bazaars, operated largely by Indians (from India).

At Cordoba we saw the first striking Moorish influence in architecture, with heavy gridded gates and blue tile, and an impressive Moorish cathedral, which was taken over by the Christians and partially destroyed in order to build their own cathedral in the middle. The Iberian coast from Gibraltar to France has been fought over since before the time of Christ by Romans, Carthaginians and Moors, and fortresses and watch towers are situated every few miles atop Spanish hills along the entire coast. The Mediterranean, a placid sea, has little surf, and the blue water tosses lightly upon the sand. Southern Spain is quite lush in spots, with banana and orange trees, sugar cane, dates, rice, sweet potato and tomato fields. Tall pampas-like grass is planted as windbreaks at the edge of fields. Much of Spain reminded us of southern California.

At Torremolinos, near Malaga, we spent several days for rest and sunning. Our hotel—a huge, airy, plush, sprawling resort-type (but inexpensive, it being the off-season)—was patronized by wealthy Spaniards, Scandinavians, Germans, English and Americans, who come to spend the winter months. Much building was underway in Torremolinos, and we saw more of the cute burros hauling heavy loads of sand from the beach for concrete-making.

Nearby Malaga—a kind of Palm Beach of Spain—has spacious hotels, palm-lined streets, and brilliant flower gardens of red poinsettias, white cactus, pepper trees, mimos.

Team bells—both horse and burro—resound continuously along the Spanish roads. Bullock teams, wearing red fringe blinders and what look to be false eyelashes, pull plows in the clay-earth fields. In country villages, the goat-milkman wears a street suit with shirt and tie—being a "business man"—as he drives his herd from door to door. And as he milks, his customers stand around with crock in hand to buy their supply—milk on the hoof, so to speak.

Many Priests
Everywhere one sees the robed priest, resentfully referred to by a young athletic lawyer with whom we talked, as the "real power of Spain." And everywhere one also sees the Franco man—a cape-garbed officer wearing an odd flat black patent-leather hat. We failed to learn his exact duty but obviously he is no traffic officer, but wears a rifle and seems to serve as a kind of symbol of Franco's power. (Big brother is watching?)

As primitive carts wheel along the country roads their huge lurching wheels seem on the point of collapse with every revolution, yet they bear up under astounding weights.

In central Spain, cactus sprigs the rocky hills like a pin cushion. Where cultivation is possible, hillside have thickly terraced rows of olive trees and grapevines, both making use of the land and preventing soil erosion. In the flat, arid part of Spain, mules draw wooden plows through the stony soil, and only artichokes seem to thrive Visit Alhambra

Granada sprawls on barren hills, a sizable city. Nearby are the snow-covered Sierra Nevada. Late one sunny afternoon we visited the Alhambra—the old fortress, and the Palace, with its exquisite alabaster carvings, Moorish woodwork, enchanting courts, gardens and fountains. The poetic Moor, it is told, loved above all else the sound of running water, the song of the nightingale and the voice of the woman he loved. After seeing the romantic Alhambra we could well believe the truth of this. That night we visited a gypsy cave, where we enjoyed gypsy dancing, and guitar music.

Leaving Granada we passed hills heavily honeycombed with gypsy caves. With their thatched doorways and white-washed facades, we decided they belonged to the more prosperous gypsies.

Alecanite, on the coast, is said to have the best climate in Spain. Its villas are draped with purple bougainvillea and blue morning glory climbs the stone walls. There are orange and pomegranate groves and date palms hang with golden fruit. Carmenas (small villas) face the sea for countless miles.

Barcelona is rated as Spain's most important commercial city. It is brisk, cosmopolitan, colorful. We enjoyed famous Rambla de Catalunya, its fine shops and at night its spectacular fountain playing in the square. Our hotel was sumptuous.

Back in France again—at Avignon—we celebrated Dort's birthday. Since we are so far from home, our birthdays have assumed a special importance. First, my own—which occurred the day the Pruitts and Bowers landed in England, was observed by the Bowers on the Liberte with champagne (inviting the Mar-

shalls of Salem, also European-bound). Late that night our room steward knocked on our door bringing a birthday telegram from my "4 sisters," a heart-warming surprise. On our first night in London, Almus treated our foursome to another birthday dinner in my honor.

The second birthday was Almus', which our eightosome celebrated at In-ter-laken, with a cake and candles following dinner. Angus' birthday—at Garmisch-Parkentirchen—had a variation. Having heard of a custom that we all thought appealing, Angus decided to try it. From the remainder of his birthday cake (more than even our ravenous eightosome could consume) Angus asked the waiter to serve a portion at each occupied table in the dining room. The request carried out, a gentleman from each table came to shake hands with Angus and offer congratulations in his best-phrased English—which some had obviously been rehearsing beforehand—making for a highly pleasant experience for all, but especially for Angus. The next birthday is Gertrude's, which we plan to celebrate in Naples.

Bethel 69 Announces Queens' Ball

The Queen's Ball, social highlight of the year for Job's Daughters and their friends, has been planned by Bethel 69. International Order of Job's Daughters, for January 13 in the Starlight room of Rogue Valley Country club. The ball, a traditional event with valley betheles, honors the new and retiring queen.

The next regular meeting of Bethel 69 will be December 15 at 8 p.m. and new officers will be elected.

Bethel daughters and parents hosted a pot-luck dinner for Scottish Rite Masons December 1 at the Masonic temple in Medford.

Honored guests were John Eddy, master of Medford Blue Lodge, Wyles Berry, Ira Canfield, Jack Kennedy, Ralph Lue, Fred Purdin, John C. Smith and Merritt Swing.

Passing their proficiency tests during the business meeting were the Misses Sharon Hale, Linda Nelson, Connie Patterson and Virginia Radke.

The baked foods sale was set for 10 a.m. December 17 at the grand opening of Medford's new Hotpoint Appliance store, 132 South Central avenue.

It will be the first standard Christmas show in this area, and will be open to the public from 2 to 8 p.m. Friday, December 9, and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, December 10.

A sale of Christmas items in conjunction with the show will include wreaths, swags, corsages and lavender sachets. Persons wishing further information may call Mrs. William H. Naylor, Normandy 4-1827, or Mrs. Ira Fitzgerald, TAibot 6-9461.

Club, Auxiliary Announce Events

The Medford Townsend club will hold a Christmas party and program Wednesday, December 14, at Walker's Dreamland, 415 East Main street.

The Townsend auxiliary has planned a meeting for Wednesday, December 7, at 11 a.m., with a potluck luncheon at noon. Mrs. C. E. Naffziger is auxiliary chairman.

Leon Rusko assumed office as second vice-president at last week's Townsend meeting. Mrs. Mattie Clause, Mrs. Laura Webber and Mrs. Zora Humphrey were honored for their November birthday anniversaries.

Mrs. Clara Sullivan was a visitor. Mrs. Ellen Townsend, Ashland, and J. P. Graham were musicians. A dance followed the business session. Visitors are always welcome at the meetings.

Assistants Plan Christmas Party

The annual Christmas party of Jackson County Medical Assistants society will be held Tuesday, December 6, at the Tower Broiler. A no-host cocktail hour at 7 p.m. will be followed by dinner at 7:30 p.m.

Entertainment, prizes and dancing are planned. Mrs. Cecilie Hammill, Normandy 4-1870, or Mrs. Margery Bates, SPring 2-9363, are taking reservations.

Social Events Women's News

Christmas Fair Slated; Nine Units Set Meetings

A "Christmas Fair" will be sponsored by the Jackson County Home Extension units Friday, December 16 from 10:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Army Reserve center on Columbus avenue.

Article to be displayed and for sale will include a wide assortment of gift items, Christmas novelties, Christmas decorations, and baked goods. Cookies and coffee will be served throughout the day.

It is planned to make this Christmas Fair an annual project. The public is invited to attend.

Nine home extension units have scheduled meetings this week.

Applegate Valley
Winter corsage making will be the subject demonstration at the meeting of Upper Applegate unit at the Grange hall Tuesday, December 6, at 10:30 a.m. Mrs. I. D. Fitzgerald and Mrs. W. H. Dyer of Medford will give the demonstration.

The annual Christmas dinner will be served, and members are assigned foods to take and their table service. They also are to take an unwrapped gift to be sent to the state mental hospital.

Child care will be provided and everyone interested is welcome.

Foots Creek
Also making Christmas wreaths at their meeting Tuesday, December 6, will be members of the Foots Creek group. They will meet at the Community hall at 10:30 a.m.

Members are to take a wire coat hanger, nylon stocking, fine wires or colored string and clippers. Unusual Christmas ideas will be displayed.

Those attending are to take a sack lunch. Coffee will be served.

Medford Parents
Miss Mary Ellen Bell, former public health nurse, will speak on her recent European trip and show colored slides at the Tuesday, December 6, meeting of the Medford Parents Home unit.

The meeting, which begins at 7:30 p.m., will be at the home of Mrs. William K. Jensen, 53 Rose avenue.

The annual Christmas gift exchange will be held and members are reminded to take their homemade gift and their own table service.

Mrs. Melvin Weaver, chairman, has asked members to have a project idea for roll call.

Lake Creek
Mrs. Carl Vickoren will give a lesson for the day on safety at the meeting of the Lake Creek group Wednesday, December 7, at the home of Mrs. Jim Edge, Eagle Point. The meeting starts at 10:30 a.m.

Mrs. Vickoren recently attended a meeting on this topic given by Medford Police Capt. Clyde Fichtner.

The Christmas gift exchange will be held and a holiday meal given at noon. For menu information members are to call Mrs. Henry Meyer.

Members are to take three suggestions for projects for next year's lessons.

Winchester
The Winchester Home extension unit will hold their annual Christmas party Thursday, December 8, at the home of Mrs. William Tyer, 1100 Mt. Pitt avenue.

Mrs. Tyer will give a demonstration on methods of making holiday decorations for the home.

Members will take part in a gift exchange game.

Phoenix
An exchange of Christmas ideas and demonstrations will also be held at the Thursday, December 8, meeting of the Phoenix Home Extension unit at the Phoenix First Presbyterian church at 10 a.m.

Members will also show their tailoring and sewing.

For information regarding the lunch contact Mrs. J. O. N. Poling, SPring 3-1235 as to what to take. Those attending are to take their own table service.

Eagle Point
Making swags and wreaths is the topic selected by the Eagle Point Home Extension unit for their December 8 meeting. Mrs. Clarence Davies and Mrs. C. C. Hoover are the leaders.

The meeting will start at 10:30 a.m. at the home of Mrs. James A. Edge on Brophy road and those attending are to take a wrapped gift so they may participate in the gift exchange during the meeting.

Everyone interested in making a swag or wreath at the meeting will need to take a

wire clothes hanger, evergreen branches, pruning clippers, wire and berries, or cones.

Each member is to take an item for the Jackson County Home Extension bazaar.

Baby sitting will be at the home of Mrs. Don Pulley, the first house past the railroad tracks on West Main street and a sack lunch will be needed for each child.

Howard
Miss DeAnne Taylor will talk on her stay in Europe last summer as a American Field Service Exchange student at the Thursday, December 8, meeting of the Howard unit.

The meeting will be at the home of Mrs. V.V. Hastings, 3095 Crater Lake avenue at 10:30 a.m.

Those attending are to take an article made for Christmas to be displayed and something for the Christmas basket for a needy family.

Lunch will be provided by the luncheon committee but members are to take their own table service. Child care will be at the home of Mrs. Clifford Frelsen, 2541 Table Rock road, SPring 2-4257.

Agate
The Agate Home Extension unit will meet Thursday, December 8, at the home of Mrs. Duane Bever, 5342 Gebhard road.

The meeting will be open and anyone having ideas for Christmas decorations or a favorite recipe for Christmas dinner may tell the group about them. Gifts will also be exchanged at the meeting.

Lunch will be served at noon and child care will be provided.

Mt. Pitt Lodge
Plans Ceremony
Central Point—Mt. Pitt Rebekah lodge will hold initiation Wednesday, December 7, at 8 p.m. at the Central Point Odd Fellow hall. Mrs. Cora Card and John Holgate are the candidates.

Hostesses will be Mrs. Billy Flannery, Mrs. Frank Glenn and Miss Lillian Anderson.

Meeting Slated By Navy Mothers
Rogue Valley Navy Mothers club will hold a luncheon and business meeting Tuesday, December 6. The meeting will begin with a sewing session at 10:30 a.m. and the noon luncheon will be a covered dish meal.

Members are asked to take sewing equipment.

The meeting is open to the public.

Guild Party
Women's Guild of Zion Lutheran church will hold a Christmas luncheon Tuesday, December 6, at 12 noon. There will be a nursery for children.

A junior vice-president will be elected at a meeting of the auxiliary to Crater Lake post, Veterans of Foreign Wars, at 8 p.m. December 6 at the VFW hall. The post and auxiliary will also make plans for the Christmas program and other coming activities.

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Presentation of 'Messiah' Draws Capacity Audience

Ashland—For the third successive Christmas season, Handel's oratorio, "The Messiah," drew a capacity audience of almost 2,000 to the Southern Oregon college gymnasium.

The 1960 production, Sunday afternoon by vocal soloists, chorus and orchestra, was again directed by Dr. Herbert Cecil of the college music department. There was no admission charge but voluntary contributions were accepted for the music scholarship fund.

Reverent in both presentation and acceptance, the two-hour concert claimed close attention from a quiet crowd. Each participant seemed deeply conscious of the religious theme and its Christmas-time significance.

Heard for the third year were Maynard Hadley of Central Point, who sang the bass solo part, and Mrs. Virginia Cecil, Ashland, the soprano soloist. This was the second year the Rev. G. Robert Jacks, Medford, had been heard in the tenor role and Mrs. Adelaide Spencer, Ashland, who sang the contralto solos, is new to Southern Oregon. Mrs. Spencer teaches music in Ashland Junior High school.

Yester's presentation was a rare coordination of musical talents, non-professional but dedicated. The mixed chorus of 109 voices was well supported by the 45-piece Southern Oregon Little Symphony orchestra, and Miss Helene Robinson of the college music department at the organ.

Mrs. Cecil's lyric soprano, with its flute-like quality, was poignantly beautiful in the aria "Rejoice Greatly, Oh Daughter of Zion." The stringed accompaniment was an impressive feature. Her final solo, the familiar "I Know That My Redeemer Liveth"—soaring song of faith, was an impressive introduction to the final chorus of confidence and the triumphant and thrilling "Hallelujah."

Mrs. Spencer sings with great depth of feeling and possesses a resonant contralto voice that was especially effective with organ accompaniment in the recitative "Behold a Virgin."

Mr. Jacks' delightful tenor voice was equalled by his poise and excellent enunciation. The singing Medford minister proved conclusively his right to the important role.

Maynard Hadley gave another of his fine performances with customary tonal perfection and sensitivity. His solo with trumpet obbligato was extremely beautiful.

True to tradition the audience remained silent during the entire oratorio, rising at the first notes of the Hallelujah chorus and at its conclusion bursting into prolonged applause, tribute to a Christmas concert of great beauty and inspiration.—F.M.

Meeting Planned By Chapter BE
Chapter BE of the PEO sisterhood will meet at the home of Mrs. Victor Sether Tuesday, December 6, at 7:30 p.m. Mrs. DeVere Taylor will be co-hostess and Mrs. W. E. Holmes is program chairman.

Meeting Canceled By Knitting Club
Applegate Valley—The December meeting of the Little Applegate Knitting club has been cancelled, according to Mrs. Otis Buck. Members will re-convene the second Tuesday in January.

Yuba City Couple Medford Visitors
Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Bowers, Yuba City, Calif., were recent guests in Medford of Mr. Bowers' parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Bowers, 48 Rose avenue, and his brothers, E. S. Bowers, Beatty street, and Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Bowers, Central Point.

The Californians also spent some time with Mr. Bowers' brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Wood, Murphy.

Travelers Return To Illinois Valley
Illinois Valley—Mr. and Mrs. Edward Hare and daughter, Evelyn, have returned from California, where they visited with relatives. In Sacramento they met a number of daughter, Sandra, and Mrs. Laura M. Hare, who traveled from Los Angeles. The group continued to Rancho Cordova to visit with the Russell Hare family.

They toured an Aerojet General plant, where Russell Hare is employed.

Housemother Visits Gold Hill Family
Gold Hill—Mrs. Leroy Collins, Corvallis, was a recent guest of her brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Whitney, Sardine creek road. Mrs. Collins is a house mother at Chi Omega Sorority house at Corvallis.

Birthday Party Held
Eagle Point—Glen Foster was guest of honor at a recent party which celebrated his birthday. It was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Holman, Eagle Point, and games and cards were played.

Present were the Fosters, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Clark and daughter, Judy, Darla Pulley, Mr. and Mrs. David Kahl, Mr. and Mrs. David Harbison, the Holmans and their children, David, Dennis, Danny and Linda.

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