

India All Confusion, Says Traveler

"There is a saying in India I'm beginning to understand," wrote Mrs. Eve Prentice, Medford, from Landour, India, where she has been spending several weeks. "It is 'Unless you are thoroughly confused, you don't understand the whole situation.'"

"There's more confusion, chatter, head-bobbing, hand-waving—you'd think something really serious—but Nothing Happens."

Mrs. Prentice and Mrs. Sam Redding, 191 Clover lane, are on a world tour and recently completed a 3,500-mile tour through India. Letters from the two women describe exciting moments and interesting people which they encountered throughout their trip. Mrs. Redding's son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Elcho Redding and family also made the tour. Excerpts from Mrs. Prentice's letter follow:

"All seven of us in the jeep station wagon with bedding and supplies for the month's trip, and I'll confess I thought they were taking too much, but changed my mind in short order when we had to stop at Dak bungalows (equivalent to our auto courts). We had to have our own blankets, and for food? We lived on fresh bananas and tangerines, delicious, and only about 10 cents for four dozen. We tried to keep boiled water on hand all the time. When I get home, main project will be to keep Elco and Millie and all the good friends here supplied with instant coffee. Costs \$3 for small jar here.

Hospitality Wonderful

"The hospitality of these friends, both Indian and American, is just wonderful. Many places they took care of us all for a complete overhaul. Our four days in Bombay were so exciting. Indian friends took us to the beach at the Arabian sea. Beautiful clear

sunshine and water perfect for a good swim.

"While we were enjoying fresh coconut milk, we were entertained. Trapeze act, plenty good, a monkey act, even a snake charmer, a big black bear well-trained, and an Arabian horse act that was good too. What surprised me was the lack of attention from that crowd of picnicers. Yet those performers seemed so grateful for the few rupees they got. (One rupee equals about 21 cents.)"

"The Indian women are very graceful and beautiful in saris. They wouldn't think of appearing in any other type of dress. Some are very expensive, cost as much as \$800. You'll see beautiful colors, even out on the fields. I'll always remember one sight from the highway. About a dozen women walking single file along a narrow path, just about a sun down. All were dressed in royal purple saris. Each woman had a bright shiny copper pot on her head with her husband's supper in it."

"The men were working on the road... And speaking of roads, the Delhi-Agra-Bombay highway, supposed to be the best in India, would shock our highway department. One-way pavement, dusty, rough shoulders. Some places they were working on sides, all by pick and shovel. Groups of both men and women, squatting, breaking up rocks by hand into neat piles in exact sizes."

Road Work By Hand

"One long stretch had each side dug out about two feet deep to fill with the hand picked rock (about 100 miles of that). Very dangerous. There is much truck and bus travel and very few passenger cars. They drive like crazy with accidents and wrecks all over the place. The French ambassador and wife passed us in a fancy large station wagon, much too much speed. Sure enough, we found them with an accident. They had hit a workman. He had gone through that windshield and there wasn't one speck of glass left in it."

"The perfect care given the fine large shade trees lining the highway is a surprise. Each is numbered, and trunks are painted in three colors. There are several hundred miles of them. Until they do something about ox carts on their roads they are bound to have accidents. As many as 30 in one row, and they travel at night with no lights."

"Another sight I'll never forget was the pilgrims on the highway, carrying orange colored flags. Some do penance by lying full length, kiss the ground, then stand and repeat. Imagine such a thing with one-way traffic. Just read in last night's India Times that 400,000 pilgrims had gathered in one place, not too far from where we were, for bathing on Solar Eclipse day."

"We took all side trips, and friends in different towns and villages saw to it that we didn't miss a thing. There's a story going round here that when President Eisenhower visited India he asked to visit a native village. One was thoroughly whitewashed and all natives were given new clothes. Not so in our case. Those villages are something you could never imagine. They

are all you've ever heard and read about and much more.

Miles of Huts

"One town near Bombay has miles of huts made out of old tin, cardboard, straw, etc. Elcho told me over 100,000 live there. Poverty that is appalling, TB is the number one killer and is on the increase, according to local papers. Leprosy is also common, but the shocking thing to me is blindness, even among children. Surely something could be done about that. There is much pneumonia, smallpox, typhoid and other contagious diseases. Surely, the land of contrasts."

"The next day after we returned up here to Landour, a terrific thunder storm came up and dumped seven feet of snow. Never heard tell of a combination of the two kinds of storms at once. One night I heard ten roofs cave in from snow. Horrible sound in the night. There was even a slight earthquake. I will admit I was scared right out of bed!"

"We expect to leave for Delhi, then by air to Cairo, on to Athens and then Italy, where I will stay for a few weeks with friends. Mrs. Redding is planning on returning direct to the States from there. "Every bit of this is worth all the thrills and hazards. I've kept a note book so will have many a pleasant time recalling adventures."

Firearms Safety Is Topic

Eagle Point — "Safety in Firearms," a course by Theodore Hoffman, offered to boys between 12 and 18 years of age, was demonstrated for the Eagle Point Elementary Parent-Teacher association at the last meeting. Two boys who had completed the course, Richard Chamberlain and John Linder, showed the safe way to cross a fence while carrying a gun.

Mr. Hoffman explained that the boys are taught safety, not marksmanship, with guns. They are taught how to completely dismantle and clean guns. Part of the course includes learning about old guns from flintlocks and old pistols to modern firearms. As Mr. Hoffman stated, a grandfather or older relative may own such a weapon, and the greatest preventative of accident through curiosity, was knowledge beforehand. The course of always asking permission before hunting on any property was also stressed.

Upon completion of the course, boys receive a certificate and a cloth patch, which Mr. Hoffman said was quite helpful in obtaining a license. A table of firearms was on display, including some antique owned by Kenneth McHugh.

The course is sponsored by the Oregon State Game commission in cooperation with the National Rifleman's association, and is financially sponsored by Eagle Point merchants. Any interested boy in that age group was invited to contact him. He also stated he would be willing to start a class for girls if there was enough interest shown.

Richard Wolgamott, physical education instructor, presented students from the third grade in a marching routine. The marchers displayed rhythms and timing learned to music.

Mrs. Oscar Frei gave a brief resume of PTA history in Eagle Point, and a silver tea was held during the evening to commemorate Founder's day. Tea services were loaned by Mrs. J. W. Love and Mrs. Lester Bradshaw. Past presidents from the unit who poured were Mrs. Joseph Shelton, Mrs. Bradshaw, Mrs. Dale Ackerman and Mrs. John Huffman. Mrs. Frei explained that proceeds from the tea go to support the activities of the state and national organizations.

Ways and means committee stated that requirements for this year's budget had not been fulfilled, so it was voted to have a cake sale every Friday during March, for the school children, to make up the deficit. Donations for cakes will be accepted by Mrs. Raymond Palm, chairman.

Elected to the nominating committee were Mrs. Lester McFall, Donald Pulley and James Trimble.

Robert Work, principal, and legislative chairman spoke about current bills in the legislature pertinent to education.

Invocation was given by Rev. Raymond Nelson; flag salute by Girl Scouts of Troop No. 185; room count was won by Miss Gladys Bigham's third grade, and mothers of students in the fourth grade were responsible for refreshments.

Roxy Ann HEC To Hold Session

Roxy Ann Home Economics club will hold a meeting Wednesday, March 15, at 8 p.m. at the Grange hall. Hostesses will be Mrs. R. J. Ritchey and Mrs. Clarence Pfister.

Miss Christensen Is Speech Winner



Miss Karen Elle, Southern Oregon college coed named "Woman of the Term" by the popular vote of women students enrolled for the current winter term. Miss Elle, representing the Associated Women Students, won out over Miss Maureen McCurdy, Medford, representing Robes, a women's service organization; Miss Janet Snodgrass, Medford, entered by Sigma Epsilon Pi, women's scholastic society; and Miss Linda Moore, Gilead, candidate for Susanne Homes hall. Miss Elle's selection was based on her outstanding services to the college, which included: AWS historian; representative at large for the Student Council; and a member of the Populaires; a singing group; Robes; the Student Oregon Education association; Sigma Epsilon Pi; and Sigma Tau Sigma, women's speech organization.

Sorority Chapters Honor Five Outstanding Members

Southern Oregon District council, Epsilon Sigma Alpha, recently honored five outstanding members at a formal dinner-dance. This event, which the group hopes to make annual, was attended by Epsilon Sigma Alpha members and their husbands from Grants Pass, Medford and Ashland. Over one hundred persons were present for dinner at Mon Desir Dining Inn in Central Point.

Outstanding members representing their chapters as Nitelights Unit To Hold Meeting

Nitelights Extension unit will meet at the home of Mrs. C. L. Walter, 855 Beal lane, Tuesday, March 14, at 7:30 p.m. Mrs. W. W. Herzberg and Mrs. S. Snook will give the lesson "Selection of Children's Clothing." Mrs. E. Doran and Mrs. G. L. Layton will serve refreshments.

When placing a zipper jacket, place it on a thick towel or other padding to prevent zipper teeth from leaving marks.

If you want chintz to keep its glaze after cleaning, be sure to buy material with a durable finish. Not all chintz on the market has this finish. If washing and wearing qualities are important to you, double-check before you buy.

Chapter CP

Chapter CP of the PEO sisterhood will meet for luncheon Wednesday, March 15, at 12:30 p.m. at the home of Mrs. I. A. Mirick, 4 Lucky lane. She will be assisted by Mrs. George Polski and Mrs. Raymond G. Smith.

A program on "The Lenten Satellite" will be presented by Mrs. George Roseberry.

Grand Advisors To Visit Assembly

Jacksonville—Plans for the visit here of the grand worthy advisor and deputy grand advisor of the Order of Rainbow for Girls are being made by Warren assembly, Jacksonville. The two women will be here Sunday, March 19, for a meeting set for 1:30 p.m. in Jacksonville Masonic temple.

At this time the charter of the new assembly will be presented.

At the last meeting of Warren assembly, plans were also made for a dance Saturday, March 25, in the club room of the temple.

Miss Joyce Staats has been recommended for membership in the grand choir for the grand assembly to be held in Klamath Falls June 11-13. Initiation is planned for a meeting March 20.

FOE Auxiliary To Hold Party

The auxiliary to Crater Lake aerie, Fraternal Order of Eagles, will sponsor a public pinocle party at the Eagles hall Wednesday, March 15. Luncheon will be served at 12:30 p.m. with Mrs. Roy Heath as chairman.

The next meeting of the auxiliary will be Thursday, March 16, at 8 p.m. Members whose birthdays occur in March will be honored at a party following the meeting. Hostess is Mrs. La Rue Smith.

Girl of the Year

'Girl of the Year' were Mrs. Willie Fischer, Alpha Lambda chapter, Medford; Mrs. William Wrightson, Alpha Iota chapter, Grants Pass; Mrs. Albert Carpenter, Delta Omega chapter, Medford; Mrs. James Wilford, Gamma Rho chapter, Grants Pass; and Mrs. Gerald Martin, Alpha Kappa chapter, Ashland.

Each member is chosen by her own chapter for her achievements and cooperation in statewide competition during the annual Oregon Epsilon Sigma Alpha convention in April. This year's convention will be held in Coos Bay, Oregon.

Ancient Greece was the theme for this annual event. The Medford chapters, under the chairmanship of Miss De Maris Glutsch, were in charge of the decorations. Tiny Grecian temples and ivy were the table centerpieces.

Mrs. Robert Shangle, president of the District council, announced a ch honored member and her husband as she appeared through the arch of Grecian pillars. Each was presented a corsage and trophy from her own chapter.

Newly chartered, Delta Omega chapter, Medford, won the award for the best representation for the evening. The chapter received an attendance award scroll.

The dinner and program were followed by dancing.

Meeting Planned

Phoenix-A meeting of the Phoenix Grange Home Economics club will be held Wednesday, March 15, at the home of Mrs. Willis House, Fern Valley road. Dessert will be served at 1 p.m. with Mrs. Charles Johnson assisting.

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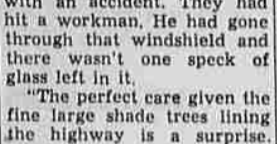
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Calendar

Calendar notices and news for the weekly section of The Mail Tribune must be submitted in writing and deadline for the Sunday edition is 1 p.m. Friday. Deadline for the weekly calendar is 9 a.m. of the day of publication and for week day news is 8 p.m. the day before publication.

- Monday:**
- 7:30 p.m. - Civil Air Patrol, CAP Building, Medford airport.
 - 7:30 p.m. - Southern Oregon Preschool association, with Mrs. Lester Harris, 707 South Oakdale ave.
 - 7:45 p.m. - Neighbors of Woodcraft, Eagles hall.
 - 8 p.m. - St. Catherine's Guild, St. Mark's Episcopal church.
 - 8 p.m. - Scottish Rite Women's Guild, Masonic temple.
 - 9:30 a.m. - Women's Association circles of First Presbyterian church: Mercy, with Mrs. R. W. Ackerman, 748 Oak st.; Temple, with Mrs. Lester DeArmond, 16 North Groveland ave.; Hope, with Mrs. E. J. DeVoe, 2200 Woodlawn ave.
 - 12:30 p.m. - Women's Association circles of First Presbyterian church: Bethany, with Mrs. Carrie Walters, 21 North Berkeley Way; Faith, at church; Grace, Mrs. Don Vessey, 1424 Whitman ave.; Charity, with Mrs. Marrs Gibbons, 1790 Old Military rd.

Potpourri



This reporter wishes that readers would sign their communications, especially when they are of an uncomplimentary nature. We have one critic who, for about the third time, has pointed out the error of our writing ways but since the communications are unsigned, we cannot write or call him—or her. We hope those who aren't really interested in grammatical usage will forgive us.

We're perfectly willing to admit that grammar is not one of our strong points. As a "grader" we attended a small country school where the standard of teaching was probably not too high, and for reasons which seemed good and sufficient to the school superintendent and the board, we had only a semester of grammar in the seventh and eighth grades, which we passed in one year instead of two. The small high school was in danger of losing its rating with the state authorities, and pupils were being crowded along to help swell the enrollment. At mid-term of the year we passed an eighth-grade examination in grammar, and had no more.

This critic objects to Potpourri's use of "lay." We wrote in this column last week that "we had the habit of leaving our possessions laying around." Well, let us quote from a well known authority, Bergen Evans, in his book, "A Dictionary of Contemporary American Usage." It would be interesting to quote the entire article, but Mr. E. takes up a lot of space on the business of "lay" and "lie."

He starts out by saying that formerly it was considered proper to say "I will lay down for a nap" meaning "I will lay me down" but that some grammarians, more interested in logic than fact, at length insisted that it was necessary to use "lie" and that this resulted in much confusion. He adds that in current English, "lie" is used more often, but that many still use "lay" and declares "This may show that the speaker is depending upon his grandmother more than his teacher, or it may show that his speech habits have formed by reading English literature."

Then the authoritative Mr. Evans goes on to write that "in many English verbs the active form may be used with the passive sense" and that this is true of "lay." People have always said "the book is laying on the table" he declares, points out that some grammarians claim that "lie" is required and concludes "This is an over-statement. Lie may be used, but it is not required."

There is much more, including the statement that "Both verbs, lay and lie, are correct so far as theoretical grammar is concerned. The preferred form is the one heard most often in your own community. There is a tendency in present-day English to prefer the verb 'lay' in speaking of inanimate objects, and the verb 'lie' in speaking of living creatures."

Probably this is all wasted. Either our critic won't be impressed with Mr. Evans, or else he—or she—won't read this. We'll bide our time. If another communication comes, we'll know.

As a matter of fact, we sympathize with our critic and his desire that the English language should be properly written. It is no secret that too many graduates of this nation's schools do not know how to correctly use their own language. It is one of our deplorable shortcomings.

One's own language is, of course, a tool for living. Without a sufficient grasp of English how can a citizen of the United States write a letter, make out an application for a position, hold down a job, carry on his own business, convey an idea, understand what is going on in his government or fulfill his duties as a citizen? How can he know that he is not being cheated, that his rights and privileges are not being taken from him, or that he is not being wrongfully indoctrinated if he has no real grasp of his own language?

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