

60th Anniversary Observed by Club

October, 1962, was contrasted with 1902 when three women's groups with similar purposes and backgrounds met October 8 in joint celebration of the sixtieth anniversary of Ashland Study club. Guests for the afternoon program presented in the parish house of Trinity Episcopal church were members of the Wednesday Study club of Medford and Fortnightly Study club of Ashland.

Mrs. R. Drew Lamb presided, welcoming the visitors and introducing Mrs. Faith McCullough, program chairman, who presented Mrs. Horace Myers and Mrs. Len Osgood for the program.

Mrs. Myers chose to review David Howarth's book, "We Die Alone", a true account of a young resistance fighter's escape through occupied Norway into neutral Sweden during World War II. Jan Baalsrud was the sole survivor of a group of 12, who made a 12,000 mile journey to land successfully on Norway's northern coast, only to be betrayed to the Germans.

Of current interest and with a locale on the opposite side of the globe was Mrs. Osgood's talk, based upon excerpts from the diary of a 16-year-old Guamanian boy, Augustin, a student in the island school where Mrs. Osgood's daughter and son-in-law are teachers.

In conclusion Mrs. Osgood read a recently published poem written by Robert Hoeft, her son-in-law, in which he paints a vivid word picture of the natural forces at work on Guam to erode and destroy clothing, books, and even metal.

Club programs throughout the years have ranged the world in literature, science and the arts. When Mrs. McCullough spoke of programs given in past years, it was noted that science and Russia were as interesting to Ashland citizens in 1926 as they are in 1962. In 1926 Mrs. Engle talked on "Science Is Remaking the World" and at another meeting Mrs. Alice Applegate Peil was reported to have discussed "The Sex Question in Russia."

The background of Ashland Study club was traced by Mrs. McCullough, who told of its pre-organization roots in 1896 when Prof. Irving Vining had gathered together a group of men and women to study Shakespeare. From this and a Chautauqua circle and later the Bayview Reading circle came the group of 20 women who made up the charter members of Ashland Study club in 1902.

In 1907 a similar club was organized in Medford which has flourished for 55 years as the Wednesday Study club. One of its charter members, 92-year-old Mrs. F. K. Deuel, attended the anniversary tea. It was almost 20 years later (1926) when Fortnightly Study club was founded in Ashland. Through the years all three women's groups have enjoyed annual reciprocity meetings.

In response to roll call each member of Ashland Study club gave the year in which she had joined. The visiting club presidents, Mrs. M. M. Morris, Wednesday Study club, and Mrs. Alice Willits, Fortnightly Study club, extended birthday greetings and introduced their members.

Following the program refreshments were served from a tea table centered with a large arrangement of autumn flowers and foliage and featuring a birthday cake. Gold and bronze garden flowers decorated the room and the wide mantel above a crackling fire.

Those who poured were Mrs. Lamb and Mrs. Walter Redford. Mrs. Ralph Burgess and Mrs. Elizabeth Sommer were co-chairmen in charge of the social hour.



Pouring during the tea given Monday in Ashland to celebrate Ashland Study club's sixtieth anniversary were Mrs. R. Drew Lamb (at left), hostess club president, and Mrs. Walter Redford, a past president. Engaged in conversation are Mrs. Alice Willits (at left), Fortnightly Study club president, and Mrs. M. M. Morris, Medford Wednesday Study club president.



In March of 1916, Ashland Study club members held a progressive luncheon to honor Mrs. R. L. Burdick and Mrs. J. B. Ware and during the event this picture was made. The party was held at the homes of Mrs. C. W. Nims, Mrs. F. D. Wagner and Mrs. E. (Alice Applegate) Peil, and Mrs. Peil was also present for the tea last Monday. A newspaper account of the 1916 luncheon says that "posing for the photographer and visiting the lithia springs ended a very enjoyable afternoon."



Long-time members of Ashland Study club reminisced over old records and remembered meetings held 45 years ago at the 60th anniversary tea. Mrs. Fred S. Engle (at left), who joined in 1912, recalled incidents also remembered by Mrs. Louise Perozzi (center), and Mrs. Alice Applegate Peil. Mrs. Perozzi has belonged to the organization since 1924 and Mrs. Peil holds the club record, having been a member since 1910. All three are now courtesy members but are regular in attendance.



A distinguished guest at the tea Monday, whose membership in Wednesday Study club dates back to its organization 55 years ago, was Mrs. F. K. Deuel, (at left) who at 92 years finds herself its only charter member. With Mrs. Deuel is Mrs. L. V. Watkins, another long-time Wednesday Study club member.

(Photos by Knackstedt)