

Louis Pratt, Local IFYE Delegate, Describes Costa Rica Central Plateau In Second Report on Experiences

By LOUIS (FRANK) PRATT

International Farm Youth Exchange in Costa Rica

Due to a change in schedule, I spent October in the central plateau region instead of the coastal plain as stated in my first report. I was in the area of Palmares, so called because of its many palm trees. I lived with five different families.

Costa Rica is frequently nicknamed "Switzerland of the Americas." This name is applicable to the central plateau as well as the mountain region.

The terrain is extremely rugged. It is this rugged terrain that has made the ox cart a renowned symbol of Costa Rica.

The oxen can provide transportation where other modes of travel are not possible. Building of roads is difficult and constant maintenance is necessary due to the high rainfall, slides and rapid growth of vegetation. Except for the relatively few paved roads, most of the road building and maintenance is done by human labor.

Climate, Vegetation Described

The climate throughout the central plateau is very mild, never freezing and seldom very hot. Winter temperatures are slightly higher than summer temperatures and rainfall is at its lowest during the winter. At night the trees and other vegetation sparkle delightfully with fireflies.

Orchids are native in Costa Rica and are recognized as the national flower. Such flowers as geraniums, carnations and begonias grow and bloom throughout the year. I have seen many beautiful and exotic birds. One interesting example is the "Frosted Bird." They are so called because they frequently venture into the higher mountain region and become frozen.

High Quality Coffee Grown

The principle agriculture in this region is coffee and some sugar cane, corn and tobacco. Coffee is Costa Rica's largest and most important export commodity, most of which is purchased by the United States. According to the extension service, Costa Rican coffee is a high quality product and does not go on the market as a pure product, but is blended with Brazilian and other coffees. The harvest of coffee beans extends from July through Novem-

ber. The ripening of the beans on any one plant may extend over a two-month period, making necessary several pickings. The coffee beans are then either dried artificially or spread on concrete "patios" to dry in the sun.

Mechanized Farming Limited

The adaptability of farming in this region to mechanization is quite limited. The steep slopes confine use of machinery to the valleys and the cost of service of machinery vs. the cost of labor makes the feasibility of machinery questionable. (The relatively high rainfall is also a limiting factor.)

Election day in Costa Rica is Feb. 11. In 1962 a new president will be elected. The number of political parties varies from election to election; this year there are three candidates and thus three parties. Campaigning is well under way with announcements on radio and television, stories and advertisements in newspapers, billboards and posters.

Campaigning Vigorous

Term of office is four years and a president cannot immediately succeed himself. He may, however, wait for one term, then run for the presidency again. It appears that it's "no holds barred" in the campaigning. I have seen cartoons and stories in newspapers openly accusing candidates of being communists or of having unscrupulous interests.

Earlier in the month I had the opportunity of visiting a hydroelectric project under construction. This project is the first of a proposed series of projects in this area. According to the project foreman, the series of projects upon completion will constitute a model Tennessee Valley authority.

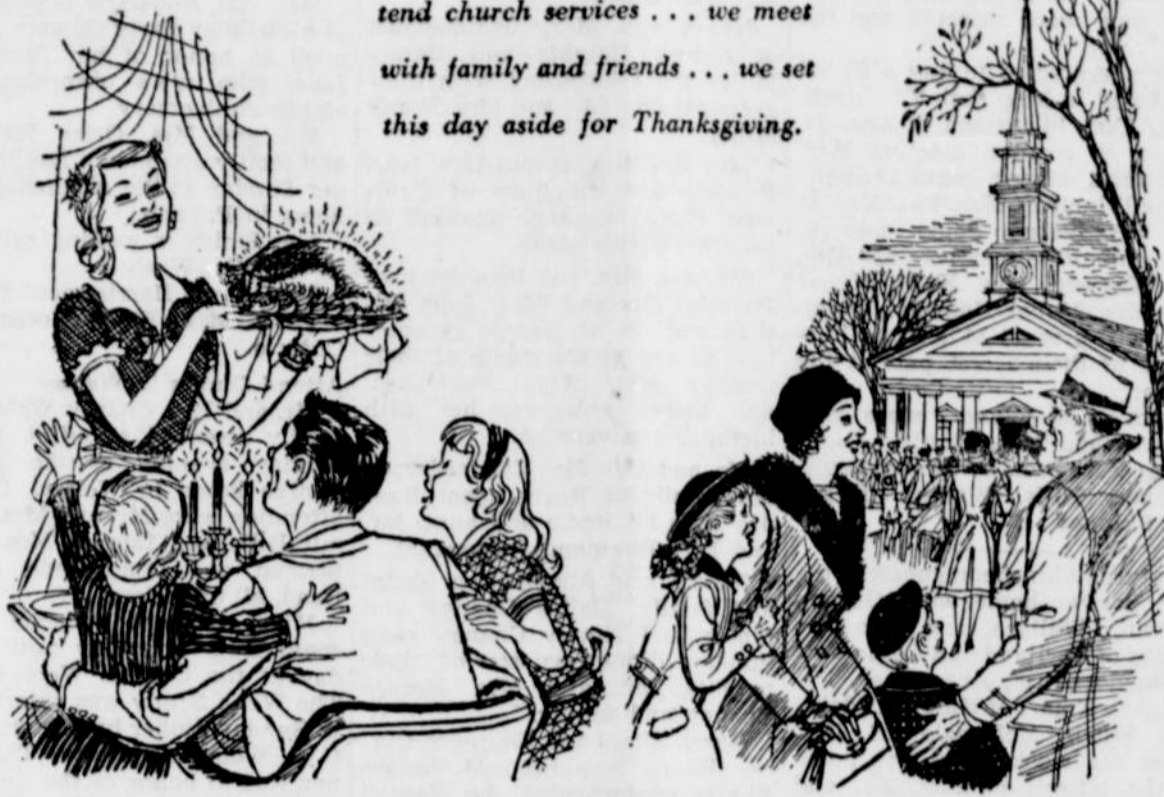
With each such project Costa Rica not only gains development in her hydroelectric resources but also development in her share of the world's most important resource—man.

Mrs. Paul House, Mrs. Glenn Marcum, Billy and Sara attended a party Thursday afternoon at the Ray Barnes home in Vale. The event honored Todd Barnes on his second birthday anniversary.

WE GIVE THANKS

Let us be thankful . . . for the freedom to worship in the church of our choice . . . for happy faces around the family's Thanksgiving table, and for the plenty that graces it . . . for good health, good friends, good neighbors . . . and for all that we enjoy in this land of ours.

To show our thankfulness . . . we attend church services . . . we meet with family and friends . . . we set this day aside for Thanksgiving.



Mrs. L. Gressley Named to Head Merry Matrons

By Mrs. Frank Byers

OREGON TRAIL—Merry Matrons club met Nov. 15 at the home of Della Holmes with 14 members present. New officers were elected for the next six months as follows:

Lorena Gressley, president; Alberta Tyner, vice president; Peggy Brown, secretary-treasurer; Cora Rookstool, historian.

Plans were completed for the club's annual pre-Christmas dinner and party the evening of Dec. 13 at Oregon Trail hall.

A pillow making demonstration was given by Opal Holmes. The rest of the afternoon was spent visiting. Refreshments were served by the hostess. Favors and trays carried out the Thanksgiving motif.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Holmes and family attended the annual young people's banquet Thursday evening at Owyhee Community church.

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Brown and Eugene attended the junior high football banquet Friday evening in Nyssa.

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Hartley attended the parents demonstration meeting by the primary Sunday afternoon at Owyhee LDS church.

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Adams and David of Craigmont, Idaho, were weekend guests at the Alfred Adams home.

Returns From Hospital

Richard Adams who was injured in an automobile accident a week ago Friday evening was able to return home Saturday morning from Malheur Memorial hospital.

Mrs. A. M. Goodson of Parma visited Thursday afternoon with Mrs. Alice Holmes.

Sandra and Jimmy Neeley who were in a car accident a week ago Friday evening were able to return to school the middle of the week.

Mr. and Mrs. Claire Horton of Boise were Sunday afternoon callers at the Alfred Adams home.

Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Hendricks

Tri-Valley Unit Members Hear Furniture Topic

By Mrs. O. P. Council

SUNSET VALLEY—Tri-Valley Extension unit members met Friday at the home of Mrs. Wilbur Chapin. Fifteen ladies were in attendance to hear Mrs. Edna Mae Wimsatt, county leader, give the lesson on furniture arrangement and to consult her on their own problems of furniture placement.

Mrs. Vern Garner gave a demonstration of corsage making. Several members of Owyhee Garden club brought corsages they had made with Mrs. Garner's help at their meeting last Friday.

Next meeting will be at the home of Mrs. Frank Holub and will be the Christmas meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. Leland Montgomery and Mr. and Mrs. Dean Montgomery went to Idaho Falls last Thursday, returning Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Newgen left Thursday to spend the winter in Arizona. They will visit her mother, Mrs. Salley Staggs in Somerton for a few days before going to visit relatives farther south in that state and in California.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Hoden and family of Big Bend were dinner guests Tuesday evening of Mr. and Mrs. Neil Dimmick.

John Knottingham of the Mitchell Butte district, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Keller and children of Ontario and Charles Moore of Nampa were Sunday dinner guests at the O. P. Council home.

Knights Have New Baby

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Knight are parents of a boy born Friday morning. Mrs. Knight returned home Saturday from the hospital with her new son, Scott Ray.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Ward and family attended the Thanksgiving dinner Thursday evening at Owyhee Community church.

Mrs. E. J. Hobson flew to Oakland, Calif., Wednesday to visit her daughter, Mrs. K. C. Kimball and family. She will return with them in their car when they come to spend Thanksgiving with the rest of the family.

Mr. and Mrs. Glen Strickland and Kathy took Neil Bohannon, Cecile Smith, Janice Richards and Jerry Strickland to Wallowa Friday to attend the Chi Rho fellowship meeting. One interesting feature of the meeting was talks by two Congolese mission teachers who are in the states on a year's scholarship and attend Oregon State university. The young people asked them questions on many subjects.

Entertains Club Ladies

Worthwhile club met Thursday with Mrs. Charles Olsen of rural Adrian. Eight members and two guests were present. Christmas plans were made for the Dec. 14 meeting to be held at the Kenneth Lorensen home.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Newgen and boys, Mr. and Mrs. Don Wilson

were Sunday dinner guests at the Thane Lankford home near Marsing.

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Hartley attended the farewell testimonial for Mr. and Mrs. Leland Montgomery Sunday evening at Owyhee ward. The Montgomerys are leaving soon on an LDS mission.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Williams of Portland were recent Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Lamont Fife. Mrs. Williams is state Emblem president and was making an official visitation to the local club.

ATTEND BOISE PARADE

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Moncur and family attended the Fairland parade Saturday in Boise. Their daughter, Linda, returned home with them and spent the weekend.

OBENCHAINS HOST DINNER

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Rucker and family of Parma and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Gundry and family of Boise were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Obenchain and family.

VISIT IN BOISE

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Farr and Mr. and Mrs. Tom Weeks spent Sunday visiting in Boise. The Weeks couple visited at the home of her brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Otis Squire, while the Farris spent the day with their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Chard and family.

SECOND CLASS RANK GIVEN TO MEMBERS OF TROOP 80

Cindy Tracy opened the meeting. Karen Cannon and Karen Main presented the colors at the Nov. 17 session of Girl Scout troop 80 at Nyssa community hall.

Receiving their second class rank awards were Sheila Huffman, Cindy Tracy, Cille Tracy, Karen Main, Junia Mitchell, Anna Anderson and Karen Cannon.

Refreshments were served following adjournment of the business meeting.

—Karen Main, Reporter.

WM. FINDLING SUCCUMBS AT SUTSCHKOW RESIDENCE

In the Nov. 16 issue of the Journal an error appeared in an obituary for William Frederick Findling. Mr. Findling succumbed Nov. 11, 1961, at the home of Mrs. Amalie Sutschkow at 517 North Seventh street instead of in Malheur Memorial nursing home.

Miss Joan Baker Arrived Nov. 16 from Brigham Young university for Thanksgiving holidays and to visit her mother, Mrs. Mamie Baker and other relatives.

TAKE TIME

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THANKSGIVING!

Take Time To Think . . .

It is the source of power.

Take Time To Play . . .

It is the secret of perpetual youth.

Take Time To Read . . .

It is the fountain of wisdom.

Take Time To Love and Be Loved . . .

It is a God-given privilege.

Take Time To Be Friendly . . .

It is the road to happiness.

Take Time To Laugh . . .

It is the music of the soul.

Take Time To Give . . .

It is too short to be selfish.

Take Time To Work . . .

It is the price of success.

Take Time To Pray . . .

It is the greatest power on earth.

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