

KEEPERS WIELD THE PEN

If you see two girls engrossed in conversation in the hall nowadays, the chances are they aren't planning their spring wardrobe. They're more likely to be comparing brief forms for "Spirit of prophecy" or "third angel's message," or conjecturing success or failure on the 150-word test.

Whether or not the General Conference session is held, there should be a well-trained group of reporters ready for it, thanks to Mr. Foote's guidance at the Sunday and Wednesday afternoon sessions. He reports that so far the Pitman writers hold the speed records, while the Greggites have a slight edge on accuracy.

Sir Isaac Pitman, reserved Britisher that he was, would probably sit up in his grave if he could watch Elsie and Ora doing him so proud on the "increasing speed" tests. (Note to Gregg writers, NOT TO BE DELETED BY EDITOR: Are we going to stand by and let the adherents of this un-American system carry off the trophies, while the honor of the Gregg system remains by us undefended? Forth, then, and give battle.)

For the benefit of those who like to practice with the radio, here is a list I've been compiling of suitable weekly programs. (Additions will be welcomed.)

<u>SUNDAY</u>	6:00 WRC	Catholic Hour--15-20 minutes, even and distinct, not too fast. Religious vocabulary
	8:15 WMAL	Dorothy Thompson--Fairly fast.
	9:30 WOL	Cedric Foster--News, quite fast.
<u>TUESDAY</u>	8:15 WOL	Richard Eaton--News, quite fast.
	10:30 WTOP	Congress Speaks--15-minute talk by a different Congressman each week.

WEDNESDAY 10:00 WOL Summer Welles--15 minutes, slow at first, good practice all the way.

THURSDAY 8:15 WOL Richard Eaton--same as Tuesday
8:30 WJAL Town Meeting--Four 5-minute speeches to introduce the discussion.

Esther Benton.

Editor: Go ahead, Greggites, and "give battle." You've nothing to be ashamed of as is. With the fine performance of Esther and Mary, and Hazel with her 140 trophy, the writers of the "un-American system" have their work out trying to keep one jump ahead of you.

But why label us "un-American"? Your system originated in Liverpool, England, in 1888. The founder--John Robert Gregg, an Irishman!

THE REPORTERS REPORT

First Floor

Though a delayed bit of news, we must not fail to report Edith Geymet's visit to Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt. Edith, with other "international students," was invited by Mrs. Roosevelt to a tea given in their honor, and Edith had the pleasure of shaking hands and talking with the First Lady.

The Treasury Department is celebrating the first day of the month by a supper and party. Stella Fleisher, Stella Thompson, Genevieve Melendy, Zippy Franklin, and Lena Wetmore are the ladies in the office delegated to provide entertainment and make sure there is plenty to eat.

Mary Paul is happy to welcome new recruits to the Red Cross class. So far this year Gladys Griffin, Valeda Johnson, Esther Carterette and Evelyn Wells have joined. Last Thursday night the class made 375 dressings, the best record for some time.

Second Floor

Welcome to Mrs. Verda Trickett, from Michigan, who has joined the auditing department. Verda's husband is in the Army, assigned to a hospital ship.

Verna Slate entertained her brother Charles and wife last Sunday. Her brother is serving in the Navy.

Mrs. Walters enjoyed a trip to Orlando, Florida, the first of January, to visit her son Louis, serving the Navy in South American waters.

Thelma Wellman and Mrs. Phyllis Jones celebrated belated birthdays by lunching at Garfinckles and watching the style show.

Third Floor

Emma Howell started the New Year with an unexpected auto trip to Florida, where she visited her brother John, principal of Forest Lake Academy, near Orlando. Oranges that you pick with your own hands taste - oh, so good!

Gladys Griffin and her father, who is visiting here, attended the reception honoring Governor and Mrs. Hildreth, of Maine, at the Wardman Park Hotel, Saturday night, January 20. She reports a pleasant time meeting the Senators and Congressmen and their wives, also Congresswoman Margaret Chase Smith.

Little did Gladys realize the surprise awaiting her when called to the library by T. Rose on Sunday, January 21, to see pictures of Maine. (Gladys is from Maine.) Eight girls bounded upon her singing "happy birthday" and helped dispose of an iced spice cake. P.S. We counted twenty-five candles.

Ingrid is the recipient of all our sympathy these days. She recently had an impacted tooth extracted and spent several days in bed. But cheer up, Ingrid, for Esther Benton once had ten fillings and one extraction done--all at one sitting!

New Year's Day was celebrated in strictly English fashion by our Britisher and her Allies. Elsie Argent, from London, introduced England's traditional New Year custom to a group of Keepers-- little hot mince pies. Miss Borm donated glasses of cold milk. Needless to say, this treat was received with customary American enthusiasm.

This is the end of third floor news, and almost the end of the reporter. Whoever thought that third floor-ites lived such a quiet, peaceful life that in one month only five news notes were available? Anyway, everyone promised to make the headlines in the next issue.

Seminary

The Seminary library staff, among whom Barbara Phipps worked, with several friends from the General Conference, hovered 'round, dry-eyed by dint of desperate effort, while Esther Benton, on behalf of the Keepers of the Keys, made a farewell speech and presented the parting gift--a white ascot scarf and a pair of white string gloves. A further celebration was enjoyed at the Review Cafeteria. One evening at supper, just after the chocolate cream pie, with (real!) whipped cream, another gift was given so that Barbara will remember the Seminary staff--every time it's empty, especially. It was a billfold. 'Bye Barb. Have a good time in the fastnesses of Michigan! (Barbara departed on the 6:02 p.m. train, January 23, 1945, to become assistant librarian at Emmanuel Missionary College.) When asked what she would like the Keepers to do during 1945, Barbara replied: "Write me letters and send me the Keynote."

The Home Study Institute is happy to welcome Mrs. Helen Johnson of the Inter-State Commerce Department, as a full-time worker. Helen is making her home with her parents at 815 Carroll Avenue while her husband is serving his country. Their young son, Jesse Junior, who is now nineteen months old, helps to cheer the lonely hours while Daddy is away.

Mrs. Mary Moore-Cress, part-time worker at the Home Study Institute, had the delightful experience of being snowbound in Bucyrus, Ohio, thus prolonging her Christmas vacation about ten days.

We are sorry to learn that Theodora Wirak's father passed away in Lancaster, Minnesota, January 1. Miss Wirak attended the funeral and spent several days at home.

ALUMNI CORNER

Pauline Klady is acting as organist this year of the White Memorial Hospital Young People's Society. We miss Pauline, but our loss is their gain.

A baby shower for Helen Porter was given in the Recreation Hall of the Leland Memorial Hospital the evening of January 22. The fifty friends present, among them several Keepers, enjoyed the very interesting program. Many were the lovely gifts that Helen received.

After a four-year term of service in the division office at Buenos Aires, Esther Adams has returned, via an airplane trip over the Andes and up through Central America. A number of Keepers received interesting letters from Esther telling of her experiences en route. She went first to her home in Michigan and is now with her sister here in town. Welcome back, Esther!

Lillian Bragan, formerly of the Medical Department, is now spending a little time in Palm Springs, Florida. Lillian is in private duty at Glendale, California, and went to Florida with a patient. Ask Marie Mooney to tell you about the beautiful apartment Lillian has in Glendale.

Kathryn Jensen-Nelson and her husband have accepted a call to the Boulder-Colorado Sanitarium. Elder Nelson will be Bible teacher and chaplain and Mrs. Nelson will do some teaching.

Welcome news has been received from two former Keepers now interned in the Far East. A card from Bessie Mount to Hazel Shadel, written in April, 1944, said she had just received Hazel's letter of August, 1943. Mary Ogle sent the following message to Elsie Minesinger: "Anxious to hear from you. Hope to see you soon. Well and comfortable. Greetings to all friends. No word from anyone yet." Both these friends are in the Philippines and we rejoice to know they are in good health and keeping cheerful. May the day of their liberation soon come!

In a letter from Betty Canon, from Buenos Aires, she tells how she became lost one Friday afternoon trying to find the hair-dresser. Finally she called the division office. The only one there was Elder Dunn, who went to her rescue and sent her in the opposite direction to that she was pursuing. Betty arrived two hours late and was greeted with "muy tarde, muy tarde." Learning later that Elder Dunn himself is always getting lost, Betty felt she had been fortunate in not getting into further difficulty. It costs only 67 cents, our money, to have one's hair done in Buenos Aires, and it is well done, Betty says.