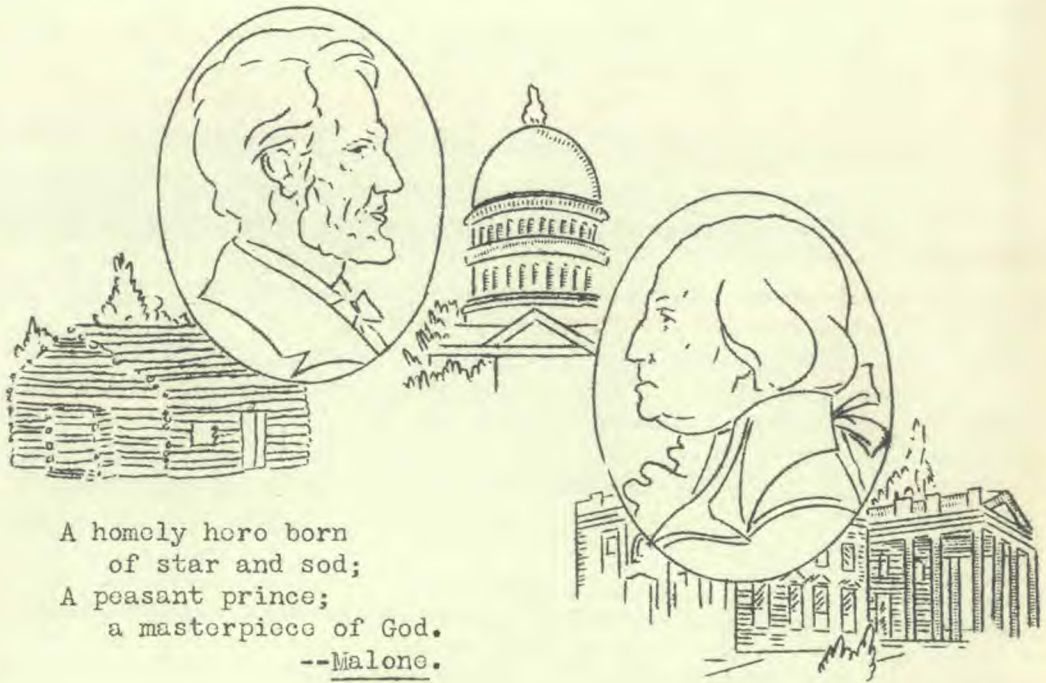


Key Note

Volume 2

February, 1939

No. 2



A homely hero born
of star and sod;
A peasant prince;
a masterpiece of God.
--Malone.

Washington's a watchword,
such as no'er
Shall sink while there's an
echo left to air.
--Byron.

ERASERS

Recently I've been thinking a great deal about erasers-- probably because in the past few weeks I've had to change the final number of the date from "8" to "9" so many times. Of course, it would be much better if we didn't have to use erasers. But a stenographer's life being as it is, harassed by typographical errors, I, for one, am very thankful for erasers.

And my musings about these little rubber gadgets which are so important a part of our office equipment has made me think of what we might call "life's erasers," the little unobtrusive words and acts which smooth out the mistakes and blunders and unfortunate happenings in the everyday lives of those about us.

There's the soft, art gum type of "life's eraser," which, with a cheery "Good-morning, I'm so glad to see you," or "That dress certainly becomes you," often rubs out the gray shadows which have darkened a friend's morning and sends her on her way with a brighter outlook.

The sturdy little gray, circular erasers which eradicate stubborn typing mistakes are comparable to kindly acts, which help those about us over a hard task, or encourage them to try again when the first attempt has failed.

The small bundles of spun glass which rub out superfluous marks so expertly are sharp as a well-directed joke, which changes a gloomy day into a jolly occasion; yet unless carefully applied, the fine threads of this eraser break off and get into one's fingers, even as an ill-advised joke causes more harm than good.

Of course, there are many other types of "life's erasers." It's too bad our days contain faults. But they do, and life being as it is, full of mistakes and blunders, I am very thankful for "life's erasers."

Keepers of the Keys, shall we not keep a good supply of "Life's erasers" on hand to smooth out the unpleasant experiences in the lives of those about us?--Ruth Conard.

— WALKING IS MY HOBBY —

You can't ride my hobby, because it's walking.

Why walking? It rejuvenates me. It contributes to my good health. "Oh, blessed health! Thou art above all gold and treasure." Walking swiftly, I feel the exhilaration of quickened circulation. Breathing deeply, the fresh air fills my lungs. Clearing the mind of mental cares, there follow restfulness and contentment.



Walking takes me into the freedom of the open country. There's the blue sky, the fleecy clouds, friendly trees, the beauty of the flowers to be seen and enjoyed. The rippling waters, the songs of birds soothe and tranquilize.

Walking in the morning, one sees the world in its freshness. Walking at noonday, one derives the benefit of ultra-violet rays. Walking in the softly falling rain, there is relaxation. Walking in the evening, see the moon ride high, the brightly shining stars, feel the caress of the cool wind, and behold the witchery of the deepening shadows.

O, walking as a hobby brings profit and enjoyment.

"Walking in life's bright pathway,
Under its sunny skies,
Sharing its wealth of promise,
Holding its glad surprise;
Catching the love-toned music,
Born of the woodland free,
This is the life I cherish,
This is the life for me."

--Katie Farney—

SPONSORS'

"COME ON DOWN"



Tall skaters, short skaters, fat skaters, lean skaters, fancy skaters, funny skaters, old-time skaters, new skaters, amateur skaters, expert skaters, young skaters, old skaters, all kinds of skaters, at the Chevy Chase Ice Palace, so don't stay away because you can't skate or because you happen not to be a second Sonja Henie. Now is a good time to learn, and practice makes perfect. Aside from being a wonderful relaxation for tired minds, skating is one of the best known recreations. To those of you who have not been-- the rest of us say, "Come on down."

Mayme Higgins (Ice Skating).

WITH OUR BOOK FRIENDS

Lovers of Elizabeth Barrett and Robert Browning will, I believe, enjoy "The Family of the Barretts," by Jeanette Marks. It is a chronicle of the wealthy planter class of Jamaica. Robert Browning's grandmother was also of Jamaica. The characters of the book are fascinating and the colorful story of life on the great sugar plantations of Jamaica makes absorbing reading.



"I Knew Hitler," by Kurt Ludecke, a book of 800 pages, portrays the true characteristics of Hitler, it is said, and covers events up to "the bloody purge of 1934."

I might quote from an interesting commentator, "One of the most inspiring aspects of American life today is the response of the general public to the higher forms of art, the best in current literature. In fact, America is coming of age artistically. . . . In this forward march, women, especially in literature, are in the vanguard."

Stella Fleisher (Literary).

SOPHREAN

THOSE SECRET PALS

Already some of the girls are wondering who their kind Friendship Friend may be. You all are no doubt doing, we hope, the little acts of kindness and thoughtfulness that count so much. Just a word of caution should be given in regard to spending office time delivering gifts, etc. If great care is not used, much time will be lost to the office and just criticism given. We urge that no one pay any large sum for a gift, and assure you that the recipient will appreciate it as much as if you had paid a much larger amount. It is the little nameless acts of love that count most.



Stop! Look! Listen! Hold February 14 from six to ten open for our first party of the year. Elsie Windors (Social).

A NEW COURSE IN NATURE STUDY



We are told in the good Book to "Consider the lilies," and "Go to the ant." Many other lessons in the Bible are based on objects of nature. But how little time we spend contemplating God's handiwork! Perhaps you have been waiting for a plan that you could follow. Now we have that guide in the interesting outline for nature study which has been prepared for the Home Study Institute, called "Nature Appreciation. There is a section for each month of the year, suggesting what is profitable in the several fields of nature study, as birds, trees, flowers, and stars, to be studied at each particular season. Such subjects as clouds, weather, insects, and minerals are also considered.

One working group has already been formed, and now is an opportune time for others who are interested to begin this study. A little knowledge thus obtained will make all your contacts with nature thrilling. This study is different from others; it takes you outdoors instead of keeping you inside. The cost of the course is only one dollar. Genevieve Melendy (Nature).

DO YOU KNOW?

What the "Cliveden Set" is and its significance in international politics?

How the United States compares in airplane strength with other nations of the world?

What Democrat has recently thrown his hat into the ring for presidential nomination in 1940?

How many years the Spanish civil war has been in progress?

If you know the answers to these and many other questions about current events, you may enjoy talking them over with others. If you have trouble keeping up with the swift-moving events of this world of ours, you may feel the need of an opportunity for exchange of comment regarding these intensely interesting happenings.

Those who have not had opportunity to express their desire to join a Current Events Forum, to meet possibly every two weeks, for the supper hour, at the cafeteria, and who are interested in doing so, may hand their names and information as to the evening most convenient for them to the Secretary, Ora Williams, before the February business meeting, which comes the 6th.

SPECTATOR SPORTS !!

The "Friday Rides" are now being presented weekly at Fort Myer until and including March 17. These exhibitions of fancy riding are held in the Riding Academy on the reservation at 2:45 P.M. Tickets--which are free--should be requested about a week in advance by telephone or letter, and may be called for in person or will be mailed if you send in a stamped self-addressed envelope. If a group plan to go together, one person may secure tickets for the entire party. Telephone Chestnut 3000 and ask for Ticket Office.

"A thing sed iz hard tew recall, but unsed it kan be spoken any time."--Josh Billings.

THE KEY NOTE

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SECRETARIAL SNAPSHOTS

The Keepers' first meeting of 1939 opened enthusiastically with a full agenda. There was an amendment to the constitution, appointment of a committee to study the question of welfare sponsorship, current events forum questionnaire, reminder of gift assessment, dues, letter of appreciation from Fountain Head, alluring suggestions from hiking sponsor, and invitation to name favorite musical compositions to be heard at the forthcoming social. In the animated discussion about refreshments at socials, the sentiment seemed to be "Please give us food," perhaps influenced by the 26 empty ventriculi. At the next meeting it is hoped there will be 61 ventriculi, whether empty or full.--Ora Williams, Secretary.

WITH THE SHARPS AND FLATS

Sunday evening, January 15, approximately 35 Keepers' of the Keys and their guests enjoyed an evening with the sharps and flats. Under the guidance of Harriett Richardson, the music sponsor, the girls had an opportunity to express themselves orally and on paper.

All enjoyed the romantic story made up largely of titles of songs, which they had to guess after their rendition at the piano. Being in good voice, the club members fairly raised the roof of the Seminary chapel in their singing of rounds and old-fashioned songs. A novel note was sounded in the refreshments, with ribbon sandwiches marked with a treble clef, a feature quite in keeping with the subject of the evening.

After struggling with a cleverly phrased true-false quiz on music, the Keepers were delighted with the original way devised to discover their secret friends for the next few months. Each punched a board, paid the forfeit demanded, and found the name of her friend on the back of the slip. There was much merriment over some of the comical penalties which were demanded of the victims. Thank you, Harriett and Elsie, for a memorable evening of fun.--Theilma Wellman.

THIS 'N THAT

Grace Evans could not have forgotten her birthday if she had tried, for on January 9 she received in the mail a huge angel-food cake from her mother in Ohio. All those who tasted it know that it was d-e-l-i-c-i-o-u-s.

Field work called Miss Jensen away from the office on January 11 for a six weeks' period. Her journeys follow a triangular route--Florida, across to California, and back via Massachusetts. Looking out through the eyes of a nursing educator, she will find much to do in the Schools of Nursing which she visits.

Enrollment figures for the second semester of the winter quarter of the S.D.A. Seminary reveal that there are 37 enrolled, from eight of our North American Division conferences, and from seven overseas divisions.

After attending a week-end Sabbath school convention in Hackensack, N.J., Miss Ginther spent two days' vacation with her nephew in Peekskill, New York.

Mrs. Irene Walters is as proud of her cast as is Doctor Calvert, which she will have to wear while her fractured hip heals. She intimates that she will be getting a pair of drumsticks and entertaining the family when she goes home from the Sanitarium.

An overflow audience filled the new Hyattsville church at its first meeting in the new church on January 7. From a nucleus of 47 the membership now stands at 200. The building is a gray stone structure, seating 327. A beautiful rose window adorns the front, and the other stained glass windows, designed by T. K. Martin, depict the doctrines of our faith. A Hammond electric organ and a baby grand piano are part of the equipment. In the basement are four large Sabbath school rooms. The entire structure and furnishings cost approximately \$25,000, and is free of debt.

Seen at the Office.--A secretary who was very much chagrined one morning to discover, when removing her overshoes, that she had on two shoes of different style!! She was a good sport, however.