

Key Note

Volume 2

March, 1939

No. 3

MARCH

March isn't really, really bad.
He's just a boisterous, headstrong lad
Who sails our kites and roughs our hair
And jumps at us most anywhere,
And grabs our coats and throws our hats
And puffs the fur on pussy cats.

I like March.

March sings a lusty springtime song,
And capers, dances, romps along;
He piles the fleecy clouds on high
Then chases them all 'round the sky.
The daffodils so gay and prim,
Dance and laugh along with him.

I like March.

March puffs his cheeks and gives a shout
That brings the pussywillow out;
He whistles in a thousand keys
And wrestles with the maple trees,
He brings the robins,--the bluebirds, too,
And that is why I'm telling you,

I like March.

--Selected.

THAT OTHERS MAY KNOW

Each Department in the General Conference has its distinct sphere, and we are not always aware of what goes on next door. So let's take an imaginary trip and see what others are doing, aside from their regular routine work.

The Treasury Department is more than busy preparing financial statements for the Spring Council, and the officers, of course, are planning for this meeting March 7-9. A revised working policy for the General Conference is being prepared in the Secretarial Department, and will soon be out.

Figures upon figures make more figures, and these are what the Statistical Department is compiling--1938's statistics, now that the 1939 Year Book is in circulation. In the Medical Department a new book entitled "Principles of Healthful Living" will be ready for distribution at the summer camp meetings. Denominational examinations for nursing schools are also in progress.

This month the Sabbath School Department will send the fourth quarter lessons to the translators and publishers, and 1940's first quarter lessons will be sent to the committee for study. T. Rose misses the Seminary patronage in the library, but--June 7 will soon be here. The Department of Education can now boast its long-planned magazine. The Journal of True Education, with Doctor Teesdale as editor, makes its bow. Board of Regents final examinations for our S.D.A. schools will be printed this month.

It is none too early to talk Harvest Ingathering in the Home Missionary Department. Though their main theme now is Missions Extension, they promise the Singing Band Leaflet in March. The M.V. Department is beginning to promote summer camps. The 1940 Morning Watch Calendar is on the press; copies have already been sent to foreign fields; also the 1940 Gazette programs make current work.

Bills now pending in Congress, perilous to our work if passed, are closely watched by members in the Religious Liberty Department. According to the Purchasing Bureau, there is no depression. All working together keep the presses humming in the Printing Department, and the mimeographs turning out the reams of circular matter.

Trains run on schedule, boats still sail, folk have to travel, accordingly Mrs. Thompson has a steady run of work. Which reminds us all that those ideal vacation days will soon be here, for "Spring is just 'round the corner." Cheerio!

— FAREWELL —

The hayloft room at Iron Gate Inn, on the afternoon of February 7, was the scene of a farewell luncheon for Miss Grace Evans. Thirty-three of her friends from the General Conference and the Review gathered there to wish her success and happiness in her new position as secretary to the manager of the Southern Publishing Association, Nashville, Tennessee.

Edgar Guest's definition of success is, "The love of friends to win"—well, surely Grace's five-year stay in Takoma Park has been a success, (judging from the response of her many friends to make this occasion one to be not easily forgotten). Ruth and Irma Lee, with the aid of Thelma and T. Rose, provided a unique way of expressing to Grace just how much we would miss her—not only in the office, but skating, hiking, swimming, at tennis, etc., while the Twins and Mabel S. arranged for a most delicious luncheon. The little clock, and the large black purse (which was just what she wanted) will be reminders of her friends here.

DO YOU KNOW? —

The origin of: "nasturtium," "robbing Peter to pay Paul," "in the soup," "marcel," "pig in a poke," "let the cat out of the bag"?

- How you got your name?
- What is good English?
- Where do all the words come from?
- How to correct speech defects?
- The fine art of repartee?
- How to get ideas across?

These are just a few of the points that are helpfully discussed in the January and February numbers of Better English. And besides, there are Correct English and How to Use It and two copies each month of The Gregg Writer coming to the library for the definite and specific benefit of the Keepers. Why not avail yourself of this opportunity? It's free!

SPONSORS'

PRAYER THOUGHTS

"If radio's slim fingers can pluck a melody
From night--and toss it over a continent or sea;
If the petaled white notes of a violin
Are blown across the mountains or the city's din;
If songs, like crimson roses, are culled from thin blue air--
Why should mortals wonder if God hears prayer?"

Between the
humble and contrite
heart and the majesty of
heaven there are no barriers;
the only password is prayer.--Ballou

Margaret Weir (Spiritual).

VOTING RETURNS

Thanks to the 18 girls who responded to our request for an opinion as to the most suitable night to meet in connection with the Current Events Forum. As to the night, Monday has the majority of votes. As to place, the Ivory Room has it. However, we are not ready to make a definite report, as this majority of votes for the Ivory Room at the Cafeteria did not come from those who prefer Monday night. We shall have to ask for another vote, so you'll hear from us again.

Hazel I. Shadel (Current Events).

LET'S GO!!

When the thermometer reads 20 above it is difficult to engender enthusiasm about hiking. We are more anxious to scurry home to our warm firesides and rather dream about the charms of walking than practice it. So, because as I write these words, the temperature is indeed very low, let us envision, for future reference, a brisk, Sabbath afternoon; a group of happy, smiling "Keepers," dressed in practical walking costumes, eager to hear the "Let's go!" which will start us on our way toward Sligo Parkway, Rock Creek Park, or mayhap to discover some hitherto unknown territory. Weather permitting, such a hike will soon become a reality.

Mario Mooney (Hiking).

S P O R T S M A N

TENNIS

Your Tennis Sponsor has preserved in her notebook the following lines by Margery Wilson, author of the books "Charm" and "The New Etiquette," and is passing them on to those who may be interested, as a Preface to Tennis:

MANNERS MAKE THE SPORTSMAN

All the world takes off its hat to a good sport. To be a good sport does not necessarily imply the participation in any game--unless it be the highly entertaining game of life. It takes exactly the same quality to stand up under the thwacks of mischievous fate as it does to give a good account of oneself in a grilling game of tennis. That is the reason games are so important--they are invaluable training.

Good sportsmanship does not mean that one need win--at anything. It is, in fact, less frequently displayed in a modest winner than in a poised and gracious loser. Good sportsmanship is made up of a collection of excellent qualities--courage, kindness, and a proper sense of values. The individual who feels he just must be the best player in his club had better resign at once. He is playing for personal aggrandizement rather than for the love of the game.

Not that anybody should not have the keenest interest in acquiring skill in a game. The good sportsman does his level best to win. The game is the thing. But he--the essential he--is in no way involved in the outcome. Win or lose, he remains poised, well-mannered, well-disposed toward his fellows.

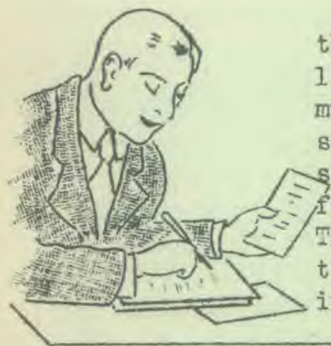
There are certain things that good sportsmen do and other things they do not do. They are equally courteous to both partner and opponent. They are never so intent upon their own game as to fail to comment upon the good playing of a companion--even when he is playing against them. The sportsman does not sympathize patronizingly with another who has made a bad shot but remains discreetly silent. He refrains from bemoaning his own bad playing.

The good tennis player always gives his partner an opportunity to distinguish himself. Good players keep an eye on the court and see that there are no balls lying about upon which someone may slip. Sprained ankles do hurt. Sportsmen change courts without dilly-dallying and delaying the game.

Is it surprising that the good sportsman or sportswoman is usually a person very much worth while?--Margery Wilson.

Gwynneth Thompson (Tennis).

THE HOME STUDY INSTITUTE



Yes, we are a BIG family, but we do not think our family of 2302 sending in their lessons to us last year, worried you very much. They are a fairly QUIET crowd. You see they were kept busy with their other school activities, daily work, etc., and yet found time to send us nearly 23,000 lessons. This kept our staff of teachers quite busy too, as they are men and women who are teaching others also.

Nearly 1,000 students completed subjects in which they had been enrolled, and had the pleasure of receiving their credit certificates. Hundreds of others wrote us very pathetic letters, stating their desire to secure a Christian education, and their inability to attend one of our own schools.

How we wish we had a LARGE Student Aid Fund to help many worthy young people get a start, at least, along these lines! We do the best we can, however, and try to encourage them to work hard and save their money so that they may attend a college or an academy. The trouble is that so many find it difficult to secure any employment whatever.

Then, of course, we are not counting the hundreds in church study groups,--men and women studying how to give good Bible readings to their friends and neighbors, or the good brother learning how he can go to some little place and preach the message.

The good letters we receive from many who have studied along these lines and who are now working and winning souls, helps us to know the Lord is with us and honoring the work we are trying to do for Him.

--Lizzie M. Gregg.

THE KEY NOTE

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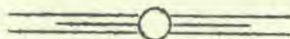
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SECRETARIAL SNAPSHOTS

February 6, in fifteen lively minutes, there was the election of Hazel Shadel as Current Events Forum sponsor, report of committee on Welfare Question and interesting announcement from the Nature Sponsor, in addition to the routine formalities. The meeting of February 9, at which the social was postponed, required only five minutes.

If you are a busy person and feel you cannot spare the time, try and come anyway to our meeting March 6 at 5 P.M.
--Ora Williams, Secretary.



INTRODUCING--

Kathryn Haynal, who needs no introduction to many of us, but who now connects with the Publishing Department office staff. Kathryn, one of a family of fourteen children, was born in Jugoslavia, and spoke the Slovak language in her childhood. Later she accompanied her parents to Canada, where they accepted the S.D.A. faith. Afterward she became an American citizen. She completed the business course at Walla Walla College and the nurses' course at the Florida Sanitarium, has done stenographic work in Canada, the United States, and Inter-America (where she learned Spanish), and spent a year at the American Hospital in Paris. Kathryn likes cooking, skating, bicycling, horseback riding, swimming, fancy lettering, tennis, cold showers,--and may even learn to like the Takoma Park climate. She lives at 127 Willow Avenue.

THIS 'N THAT

June Bender spent a "pleasant" ten days at her home in Fletcher, N.C. during February. She was bereft of her tonsils while there, but it was at least pleasant to be at home.

Frances Nowlin was away from the office for several days because of the illness of her mother. We are glad that Mrs. Nowlin is improving day by day.

After their long wait to secure final permission to enter Argentina, the Cornells sailed from New York Feb. 24 on the S. S. "Uruguay," for South America.

Hazel Shadel quotes the doctor as saying Wrangle is "doing as well as can be expected" after being struck by an automobile.

W. E. Nelson's office was the scene of much good cheer Feb. 23, when the fruit basket packed for Mr. Walker's delectation during his illness, was on display for all to see.

In a letter received by Nell Hunter, Grace Evans wishes to be remembered to all the girls here, and says she plans to write a personal note to each one. The latch string will always be out at her nifty little 3-room apartment, to which she has just moved.

Mrs. Flora Williams, escorted to the home of Mrs. R. W. Reed the evening of Feb. 8, was ushered in to meet the "Surprise" greeting by her Sabbath school class, who met to commemorate her birthday. The pleasant occasion will long be remembered, as well as the huge basket of flowers.

Remember Ruth Tyrell-Hughes? Marie Mooney visited her recently when spending a week-end in Wilmington with Virginia Kimball-Wilcox.

It was a happy surprise to Dorothy Ford one morning in February to find the members of the Sabbath School Department gathered to celebrate her birthday. A delicious cake--with lighted candles--and ice cream were served.

Even though Mr. Flu has visited one after another in the office here last month, there are several who seem to have been overlooked, or else who dodged his call.