

Key Note

Volume 2

May, 1939

No. 5



MOTHER

"God thought to give the sweetest
In His almighty power to earth,
And deeply pondered
What it should be,
One hour in fondest joy and love
Of heart outweighing every other;
He moved the gates
Of heaven apart
And gave to earth a mother."



THE RICHEST PERSON

Did you ever take an inventory of your wealth?

Mrs. Ann Tillary Renshaw, prominent psychologist of Washington, D.C. has summarized the assets of "The Richest Person" in these briefs.

How rich are you?

He has been delivered from the bondage of things.

He is never bored, because he is always interested.

He often gives his naked soul a sun bath. Some people never undress their souls.

He discards his delusions when he becomes aware of them, and cherishes his illusions.

He does not allow fads to dictate his taste.

He does not want to be any older or younger than he is.

He has to work for a living. To endow a human being is to rob him of his primal joy.

He has determined to live his own life in his own way, and to let others do the same.

He is old-fashioned in his principles, up-to-date in his opinions, and ahead of the times in his ideals.

He lives his life by the day, knowing he is but a day-laborer; and not by the job, knowing he is not the contractor.

He emerges from sorrow noble, and from pleasure refreshed.

He knows how to be alone without loneliness, and in company without ennui.

He has a sense of humor, and therefore sees things in proper perspective, being amused at most things and in earnest about a few.

He quickly casts out of his mind any thought that has begun to ferment.

He knows how and when to play. His body is not sick, hungry, or sated.

He has definitely arranged with death, and hence does not think upon dying.

He grows old and sweetens.

Submitted by Minnie Truitt.

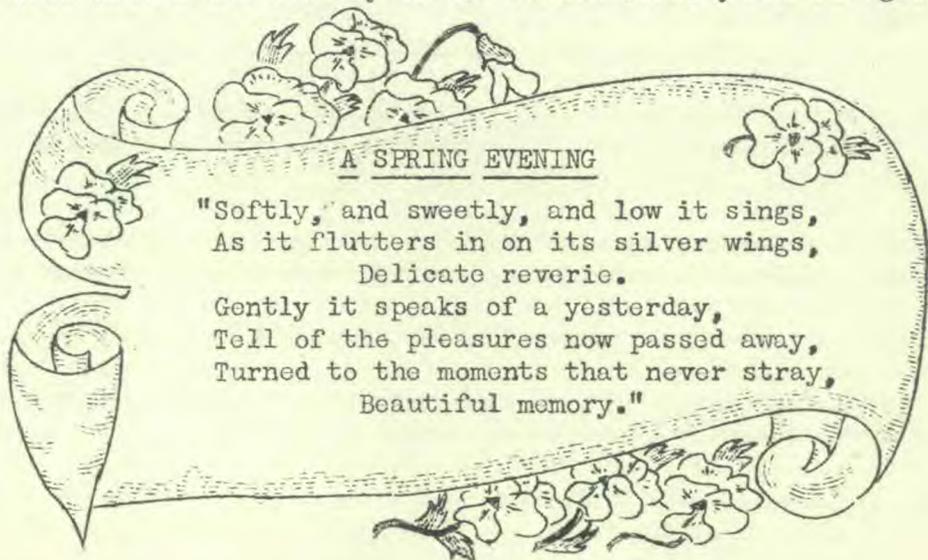
MORE HOBBY STORIES

The April issue carried the last of the Hobby stories turned in for the Hobby Contest put on in 1938. The editors invite more of you to let our readers in on your hobby. With all the publicity given hobbies by the local M. V. Society, we are confident that some of you can locate yours. We are always on the receiving line.

WOMAN — HER SPHERE

In May, when mothers are honored on the day set apart, it is good to ponder a little on the responsibility of woman and her important part in the race. A prominent writer speaks thus of the power of woman for good or evil:

"A good woman is the best thing this side of heaven; a bad woman is the worst thing this side of the pit. A woman touches the limit both ways; she rises higher and falls lower than man. The most degraded human being on earth today is a woman; the purest character on earth today is a woman; woman either blesses or curses everything she touches. Nothing can hurt woman like sin, and nothing can destroy sin like woman. Christ and woman can save the world; the devil and woman can damn it. The women of our country will settle the destiny of our nation morally and religiously."



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BIRD LIFE



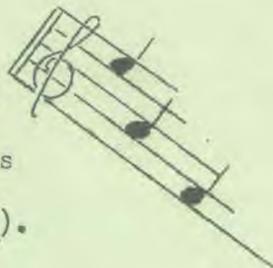
In past years the National Geographic Magazine has published many fine articles on bird life, with pictures. Now this material is available in one volume. The Berrien Book Bindery can supply this book, which contains the life story and pictures of 500 birds. The price is \$1.25 plus 25¢ postage. The book should be a fine reference work for those interested in bird study.

Genevieve Melendy (Nature).

MUSIC

May 2 the Finnish Male Chorus will sing at Constitution Hall. This Chorus is made up of members of three regular organizations in Finland, especially to come to America to open the Fair in New York. Tickets are on sale at T. Arthur Smith's Agency, and range in price from 50¢ to \$2.00.

Harriett Richardson (Music).



THE PERILS OF READING

I concur so heartily with the statements of Aldous Huxley on the back of a recent issue of the Readers Digest regarding our reading, that I wish to give voice to it here:

"As of all other good things, one can have too much even of reading. Indulged in to excess, reading becomes a vice--a vice all the more dangerous for not being generally recognized as such. Yet excessive reading is the only form of self-indulgence which fails to get the blame it deserves. The fact is surprising; for it is obvious to anyone who candidly observes himself and other people that excessive reading can devour a man's time, dissipate his energies, vitiate his thinking, and distract his attention from reality. . . . Not only do we read too much; we also read the wrong kind of stuff."

(Turn to page 5)

SUPREMACY

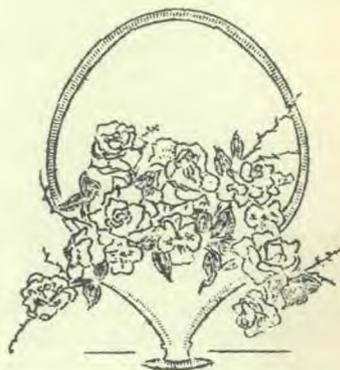
TREASURE HUNT

"A-tisket, a-tasket,"

Let's pack a May basket.

Tonight will be the climax to the Friendship Friend game we have been playing for the past three months. Come to the chapel at five o'clock for your first Treasure Hunt orders. When you have come to the end of that six-step hunt and receive that gay "May basket" gift, you will find disclosed the name of your Secret Friend. We are all looking forward to many pleasant surprises.

Elsie Winders (Social).



TENNIS



Open season is here for tennis--with all the thrill that can come with a fast, low ball sent spinning by a well-timed S-M-A-C-K of the racket. If you don't know that thrill, why not start in now on the initial steps to get it? Or, if you'd like a few pointers on improving your stroke or grip on the racket, or would like to know some of the most common errors of players,--see M.P., Department of Education, for the loan of the new 1939 Lawn Tennis Manual.
Marguerite Perkins (Tennis).

THE PERILS OF READING, Contd. from page 4

As stated before in these pages, our reading, considering the people we claim to be, should be such as contributes to the building of noble characters. "Pointless reading," even in our endeavor to keep abreast of present-day happenings, can be shunned by keeping before us this high aim. Our conversation, aye, our habits, clearly reveal the character of our reading. Let us "filter the muddy torrent" and be a positive influence.

Stella Fleisher (Literary).

A DAY IN THE WHITE PUBLICATIONS OFFICE

"What do they do in the White Publications office?" We invite you to spend a day with us. This day is a fair cross-section of what goes on in Rooms 3 and 5 on the ground floor and in the vault across the hall. Just before closing time yesterday someone called to ask regarding a statement which he understood to be in an Ellen G. White article in an old Review. The mail has not come yet, so we look up this matter and arrange to have it copied.

One letter in our mail this morning is from Inter-America, and requests information regarding an abridgment of "Great Controversy" for use in Spanish. This abridgment, using about half of our English book, was worked out in our office a year ago. We explain just what the plan is and promise to send a dummy--the making of which takes about 3 hours--showing what will be included in the book.

Another letter is from a conference president telling of a certain situation which has arisen, asking if, in meeting similar situations in past years, counsel was given which would be helpful today. So while Mrs. Chrisman is making up the dummy for Inter-America, I look up the matter in question. This research takes me to our files in the vault and to the card index, where on some 16,000 cards the principal topics in the 50,000 pages of E. G. White manuscripts and 2,000 periodical articles, are noted. I learn that a situation of similar character was met in 1901, and there is counsel which will be helpful in meeting the present-day problem.

In an adjoining room Elder Robinson is busy on a book manuscript. This volume was planned many years ago by Sister White; other work pressed in and it was postponed. This manuscript is a history of the health reform movement among Seventh-day Adventists. His work on this has taken him to the hand-written letters and diaries of the early days. He has pored over early periodical files in our vault. In the Library of Congress he has discovered the background of health movements in scores of intriguing, rare volumes.

The telephone rings. It is a call from the Review and Herald proof room. Some writer has given a faulty credit to a statement attributed to Mrs. White, so we search at once for the statement. This found, an attempt is made to take up the work which had been planned for the major part of the day--on a manuscript on the life of Mrs. White, prepared for juniors, by Mrs. Ruth Wheeler. However, the 'phone rings again. This time it is Elder Froom. Some question has arisen which (time to ring on)

THE KEY NOTE

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INTRODUCING--

Mrs. Sarah F. Williams, who is connecting with the Home Study Institute office. For several years Mrs. Williams worked for a large law firm in Washington, D. C. She accepted the "Truth" a little over a year ago, and her faithful adherence in keeping the Sabbath eventually led to her leaving her work in the city. Though inducements were offered by her employers, she preferred to "obey God" and is happy to be associated with a group of Christian believers.

Hooray for the name "Williams."
We now have four in our office
--W. H. Williams, Mrs. Flora
H. Williams, Miss Ora Williams,
and now Mrs. Sarah F. Williams.

E. G. WHITE PUBLICATIONS, Contd. from page 6

involves a point in the Spirit of prophecy, and he requests a short article for The Ministry which will give information to all our workers. The article is promised. Back to the Wheeler manuscript once more, with only a good beginning before the 12 o'clock bell rings.

This afternoon a meeting of the Trustees is scheduled for two o'clock. My time is taken until then in preparing the Agenda. After the Board meeting we take up the afternoon mail, dictate the minutes of the meeting, and write to the publishers who are involved in certain actions which have been taken.

At 4:30 Mrs. Thompson calls and says there are visitors upstairs who wish to see our office and vault. The closing half hour is given to explaining interesting documents, including the manuscript files and early periodicals, the big Bible, etc. Thus a busy day has passed, with many interruptions, and rather slow progress made on some of the large tasks in hand; but the staff feel it a privilege to serve at the headquarters of the work in the custody of the Ellen G. White writings.

Arthur L. White

THIS 'N THAT

Helen Stolz's mother, from Cresskill, N. J., spent a pleasant two weeks here, seeing Helen—and the cherry blossoms.

A former employee, Miss Mable Bartlett, now in the office of the Greater New York Conference, wishes to be remembered to her friends in the Park. Mrs. Mace brought greetings from her recent visit to New York.

Miss Marguerite Perkins, our new tennis sponsor, elected to fill the vacancy made by the resignation of Gwynneth Thompson, has some timely information for us on page 5 of this issue.

We thought we were seeing things on Easter Monday afternoon when Mae Reichard-Walin greeted those of us who so recently knew her as our "Hello Girl," only of course she never said "Hello."

Those of the "Old Guard" who knew Bula Botsford as a worker in the M. V. Department, away back when it was located where the library now is, are glad to see her in our midst again.

"Bless your dear hearts, if you girls don't plan the nicest surprises for me," writes Lela Wilcox. "How much I thank you for all the pleasure this Easter surprise gave me. That Easter egg with its secret numbers and nice sayings surely gave me pleasure all day."

On the evening of April 2 the members of the Secretarial staff met in Hazel Shadel's delightful, oriental-minded apartment. The girls entertained the Secretaries and their wives with food and games. Supper was served on individual trays, the Easter motif being brought out in the favors and the dessert. Interesting games followed supper. Was the evening a success? Well—ask the guests.

Mrs. Flora Plummer's 77th birthday was celebrated at her home the evening of April 26, by a group who had worked for her in past years. A Roll Call of those who had been in the Sabbath School Department during Mrs. Plummer's term of office numbered 43. Guests present were: S. A. Wellman, Rosamond D. Ginther, Margaret Weir, the Twins, Louise Meyer, Lottie Quinn, M. Stella Fleisher, Marie Mooney, Mary Paul, Ruth Conard, Dr. C. H. Wolohon, M. D. Howard, and Ernestine Albertson.

Using the last of her vacation time, Nell Hunter and her mother spent a week-end in Pittsburgh visiting relatives the middle of April. Mrs. Stella Thompson vacationed at home last week, and the Twins also took advantage of their vacation time last week.

Warning to pedestrians! Irma Lee now has her driver's license.