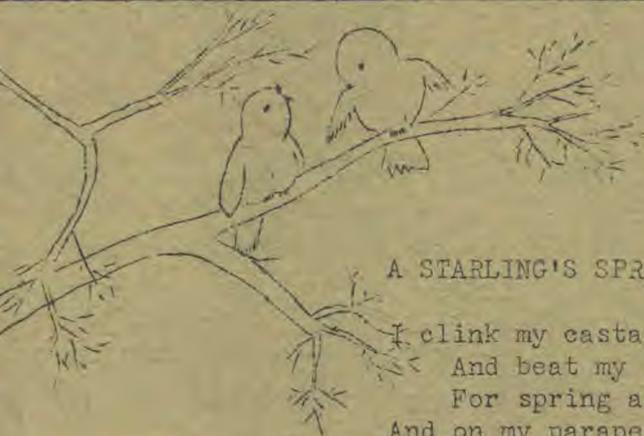


The Keynote

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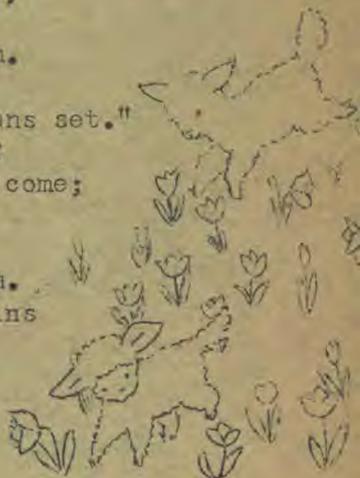


A STARLING'S SPRING RONDEL

I clink my castanet
 And beat my little drum;
 For spring at last has come
 And on my parapet
 Of chestnut, gummy-wet,
 Where bees begin to hum,
 I clink my castanet,
 And beat my little drum.

"Spring goes," you say, "suns set."
 So be it! Why be glum?
 Enough, the spring has come;
 And without fear or fret
 I clink my castanet,
 And beat my little drum.

--James Cousins



In these days of "closed sessions," "locked doors," "and secret missions," when rulers, dignitaries, and diplomats "disappear" for days and turn up in places far remote, it is not surprising, perhaps, that this same germ has infiltrated in the ranks of that elite body known as "The Keepers of The Keys."

It all started early in the year when we were each visited by our president, Esther, and handed a form which called for the most personal and intimate information. Not wanting to divulge the innermost secrets of our lives to all and sundry, we asked: "And what will you do with this information when you get it?" With an air of I-know-and-you-don't, and look of sagacity such as only our president can give, we were told, "You'll know before very long."

A week or two later little calendars of the month of February were posted in strategic and "concealed" places, with a red ring around the 27th. Underneath were the words, "Hold this date." Fearing lest these would not be seen, slips were brought to us individually, on which were these words: "Save the 27th."

Our attempts to get an inkling of what all this means has availed us nothing. Talk about closely guarded secrets! The Office of War Information has nothing on us!

But just picture, if you can, seventy-odd women with their curiosity at boiling point and no way of satisfying it! And the fact that SPRING is the time when things do happen doesn't help to quiet our palpitating hearts, either.

Well, we gladly share what we don't know with you who have scattered to the four winds. Our copy will go to press before the 27th, but we promise a full report in the next issue—that is, if we know it ourselves by that time. Until then you'll have a taste of what we've been going through all this year—but you have it for only one month.

E. M. A.

FLASH! Just heard there's to be a party in the Review and Herald chapel on March 13. More later.

IS THIS NEWS?

February birthdays!

Here are the celebrations we heard about:

Esther Benton's with ice cream and pie in the library.

Mrs. Marsh's in her home, where Elder and Mrs. Bond, Mrs. Peterson, Jewel, Grace, and Dorothy popped in on her with ice cream, cake, and punch.

Dorothy Ford's with cake and ice cream in Elder Cormack's office.

The Twins' at Grace Coyl's home, where they went one evening ostensibly to make Bambies for children in war-stricken Europe. There were TWO iced cakes all lighted with candles—We won't say how many!—fruit jello and cream. Also sharing the surprise were Evelyn Wells, Marion Nyman, Dorothy Ford, Hazel Shadel, and Elsie Argent. Incidentally, four Bambies were made.

We feel sure there were other birthday celebrations during the month, but you didn't tell us about them.

February travelers!

Marilyn Oats visited her folks in Portsmouth and Norfolk, Virginia, over a week end.

D. Lois Burnett called at a number of sanitariums, and M. Winifred McCormack accompanied conference nurses in their visits to academies and church schools.

Jewel Hatcher went to an M. V. Leaders' Convention at Staunton, Virginia, Feb. 10 and 11. This was the first state-wide convention of its kind in the Potomac Conference. Jewel presented the topic, "How to Increase the Attendance."

February visitors!

T. Rose Curtis was delightfully surprised when her cousin, Mrs. C. W. Curtis, a missionary in Africa for eighteen years, called on her. Mrs. Curtis had just returned from Africa permanently, and was on her way to Battle Creek.

Marie Mooney was a surprised and delighted hostess to her sister, Lt. Margaret Strettle of the Army Nurses' Corps, stationed at Mason General Hospital, Brentwood, Long Island. Having an unexpected five-day leave, Margaret promptly entrained for Takoma Park. Her next stop, she believes, is overseas.

Theodora Wirak was surprised by a visit from her two brothers, Sgt.'s Elmer and Joseph Wirak of Minnesota.

Dorothy Ferren has had as visitors the past few days her sister, Mrs. Vernon Flory, with her two children.

Pearl Perez' brother, Cpl. Thomas Austin Davis, visited her last week. For the past two years he has done X-ray technician work in evacuation hospitals in India and Burma, and will return to Burma as soon as his thirty-day furlough is over. He enjoyed seeing Washington, also drinking milk, eating ice cream and all the fresh food he could hold, because the boys in the Chine-Burma-India section live on concentrated rations.

February's indisposed!

We sympathize with those who had enforced rests during the month, and hope that all will soon be well again.

Verna Slate writes: Vacationing behind a little sign saying "Scarlet Fever."

Juanita Jones had the unpleasant experience of coming down with the flu while on a week-end visit to her home in Fredericksburg.

Helen Miller's mother recently suffered a coronary thrombosis attack, which has caused Helen anxiety and extra work at home. Our sympathy to you, Helen, and to your mother.

Mrs. Mary Scott is looking more cheerful these days since her daughter Doris has returned home from the sanitarium after her operation. We hope Doris will make fast progress toward health.

February's miscellany!

To the old-timers it seems good to have Carolyn Keeler with us again, even temporarily. She is working for Mr. Williams while Chester Rogers is recuperating from his serious operation.

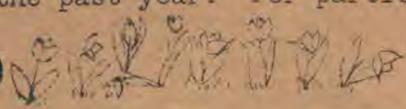
Esther Benton, Ingrid Beaulieu, Christine Rutledge, Elaine Shull, and Grace Evans had dinner at Zippie Franklin's home on Sabbath.

Lilith Brando won a silver dollar from "Dr. M. Q." at the musical program given by the Srevoleton Club at Columbia Hall, Saturday night, Feb. 24.

Louise Meyer recently had a few days' vacation and reports a "good" time.

All wound up! Who? What? Marion, Marilyn, and Louise are making afghans, and are they having fun???

Looking for a new room, girls? 614 Flower Avenue is your best bet. At least there have been three weddings from there in the past year. For particulars, see Mrs. Towery.



THE ALUMNI



Lorna DeGinder proudly presents her first grandchild, Kelvin DeGinder, born to Lindy and Mary Anna at Galveston, Texas, Jan. 19, 1945. Lindy is a third-year medical student, and Mary Anna was a student nurse, but she got her MA degree before she could get her R. N.

Some well remember Nina Munson who was connected at one time with the Medical Department. She is now working at the Loma Linda Sanitarium as secretary. Nina says she enjoys the monthly visits of the KEY NOTE very much.

Matilda Wyatt and her husband spent a week end last month at the home of Evelyn Wells. Edith Geymet assisted in entertaining the Wyatts.

Alice LaBonte sends greetings to all her friends in the office, via Miss McCormack, who recently visited Portland, Oregon, and had a little chat with Alice.

Marie Rogers-Holcomb, formerly of the Statistical Department, spent a few days with her mother, Mrs. Rogers, two weeks ago. Marie and her husband live in New York State.

Thelma Wellman received two interesting letters recently from "old" Keepers—Pauline Klady has been dieting and lost 15 lbs. Mrs. Nivison reports her husband's contract with the Navy Department at Pearl Harbor is finished and they hope to be in Washington sometime in April. Mr. Nivison will probably enter the Merchant Marines.

Senorita Esther Adams was entertained at the Paul-Curtis home by a group of Keepers who had known her for a long time. At least we thought we were entertaining Esther, but as a raconteur of no mean ability, she did the entertaining with her recital of experiences in South America—amusing, thrilling, inspirational, and otherwise. Knitting needles, crochet hooks, and weave-it frames were much in evidence, and before "Adios" was said, delicious refreshments were served by our hostesses.

W E L C O M E !

Dorothy Ninaj has joined the Home Missionary Department after working in the office of the Central American Union Mission in San Jose, Costa Rica. Having attended Washington Missionary College, however, it must seem like coming home.



COMMUNITY CLIPPINGS

The new Sligo Church, on the corner of Flower and Carroll Avenues, with a seating capacity of 2,500, opened its doors for regular services on December 31, 1944.

Beginning on Friday evening, February 23, 1945, a ten-day series of old-fashioned revival meetings is being conducted by Elder W. H. Branson, assisted by the pastors of the local churches and General Conference workers, with R. A. Anderson in charge of the music.

So far the meetings have been well attended and a genuine spirit of revival seems to be present.

During the week preceding, the regular worship in the General Conference, Review, and other institutions gave place to small prayer bands. These groups spent fifteen minutes every morning in earnest supplication that the Spirit of God would so warm our own hearts, bringing a new earnestness and consecration into our lives, that many in the neighborhood who once fellowshiped with us would feel the glow and with renewed courage and zeal re-unite with the remnant church.

From little bits picked up here and there in our own office, these prayer bands were enjoyed. So much so, that several have expressed a wish that they might become a permanent practice - at least once every week.

THE KEYNOTE

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