

The Key Note

Volume 5
Number 2



JUNE

I can almost hear them grow,
Nature's legions, row on row,
Dazed am I with wealth of bloom,
Captivated with perfume
From honeysuckle steeped in sun;
I watch the roses one by one
Unfold their satin-petalled hearts,
Display their varicolored arts.
Need one ask for greater boon
Than this rich panoply of June

Thelma Wellman



BETWEEN
US



STENOGRAPHERS

Hail to the Keepers of the Keys! Hail to the keepers of our files, our records, our memories, and sometimes our wits. Hail to the keepers of the keys to our rooms, our desks, and sometimes our wallets. But best of all, hail to the keepers of the key-board.

Were I still in my youth I would be one of you. At 17 I heard of something called "shorthand." I went to a neighborhood pal from a city school to see what it looked like. When his mother read a paragraph from the paper, and he took it down and read it to me, that settled it! I sent for a "Phonographic Companion" and set out to study at home.

In my first year at college, I took shorthand in the spring term, renting an all-cap Caligraph for practice, then set out to earn my way through four years of school, coming out without owing a Lincoln penny. Along the way I wrote for W. W. Prescott, W. C. White, W. A. Colcord, O. A. Olsen, Uriah Smith, and A. O. Tait. My longest letter was 27 pages solid for W. C. White as secretary of the Mission Board. My best reporting was for Mrs. E. G. White, Uriah Smith, A. T. Jones, and a Congregational minister (at 10 cents a page).

For two years Edson Rogers and I wrote in the same room for the president and the Secretary of the General Conference in Battle Creek, often exchanging Graham notes, and copying our letters in a book of tissue with a wet rag.

After fifty years I still love and use shorthand and a portable, and no one sets a higher value on what our skilled Keepers of the Keys mean to us in the daily round. I know it from the inside.

W. E. Howell.

WE JUST PICKED THIS UP



The illustration at upper right is taken from the insignia of the 41st Troop Carrier Squadron. If you're interested in military, naval, and coast guard insignia, ask T. Rose for the June National Geographic.

Ethel Mumbers-Coon expects to leave June 1 to rejoin Glen in his work in Syracuse, N. Y. She has been working here while the children finished up their school work, though her husband stayed for the winter term only at the Seminary.

Mrs. Lena Day was in Washington recently to care for her son Charles, who suffered a concussion of the brain as the result of an accident. He is now at the Helrose Sanitarium and is reported doing well.

More Victory gardeners: Nora, Jewel, Marjorie, T. Rose, Mary Paul, Erna, the Twins. Mary Jane has 124 tomato and 12 watermelon plants, and we'll know where to go this summer! Eunice says she's raising blisters.

Lois Burnett has returned from a round of the schools of nursing and pre-nursing departments of the colleges in the South and Middle West.

Mark Divison will be leaving for the Army about June 9. He and Esther plan to visit her people in Wisconsin prior to his induction.

T. Rose wrote her first V-mail letter last Thursday to Cpl. Ross A. Curtis, somewhere west of San Francisco.

Mary Scott recently enjoyed a visit to Shenandoah Valley Academy on the occasion of Doris's graduation.

Ethel Freeman will be working only half time after June 1 but advises us not to jump to any conclusions.

Reach down in your pockets! Pearl announces that she will soon be around to collect dues.

SOCIAL BUTTERFLIES:

- Nora and Jewel ate waffles at the MacDonalds'--a "three-round bout."
- The Home Study Institute had a party at the Olsen residence on the evening of May 31, to which all workers and teachers were invited.
- The "sewing circle" had a birthday party for Vesta Webster at Alice Fagerstrom's apartment.
- Katie Farney has had a lively six weeks as hostess to Elizabeth Denison, daughter of a schoolmate of Mount Vernon days.
- The Seminary had a picnic last Thursday which was very well attended, but because of the rain it had to be held in the Sanitarium gymnasium.
- Nora's aunt and uncle, Dr. and Mrs. Linsley, are visiting her. Doctor Linsley is professor of history at the University of Arizona.

THE VACATION SEASON OPENS.

Eunice Rozema and Carol Hetzell are planning a vacation in West Virginia (the circulars promise romance!).

We all envy President Dorothy Ford her lovely trip to Florida with Miss Helen Spicer.

La Verne Case happily trekked south to Memphis, May 28.

Edit! Geymet is spending the week-end over Memorial Day with Matilda Wyatt. There hasn't been any connivance with the black market--they went on the bus.

THERE'S MUSIC IN THE AIR.

- Viola, Carol, and Alice are blending their voices these days on the Boothby-Mansell broadcast.

- The "A Cappellicans" had two recordings made at NBC-Trans-ix Wednesday night--the final ones under the direction of Professor Greer.

- Edith Geymet distinguished herself in George Wargo's Sinfoniettas in a recent Saturday evening, playing first violin.

Why don't we -

- present each outgoing president of the Keepers with a suitable key ring or container as a useful memento of her term of office?
- put a bird bath under the acacia tree on the lawn?
- get out an informally written Office Handbook for the benefit of new girls coming into the office? It could contain a plan of the building, with names and locations of all the Keepers; policies regarding vacations, bus fare, medical expenses, etc.; directions as to where to get supplies; and miscellaneous items that everyone needs to know and hates to ask.
- remember to let the treasurer know when someone in our department is sick?
- stick to our tradition of introducing each newcomer all the way around the building?
- put camp chairs on the roof for the benefit of Keepers who like to get a sun bath at noon?

These suggestions have been made by various members of the Keepers of the Keys and are entirely unofficial!

INTRODUCING KITTY

A "little bit" of Ireland walked into the Insurance office and hung up her hat. Mary Katherine Kavanaugh is her full signature, but she's "Kitty" to all her friends. Her Irish good humor is infectious, and the green of the shamrock is her favorite color.

Kitty comes from the East Penna. Book and Bible House, and before that she was a steno in her dad's insurance office. East Penna. touched her weakness in their farewell gift--a suitcase--for Kitty loves to travel. She also likes tennis, Italian spaghetti, and music, though her beloved baby grand is now at her home in Baltimore.

We are very glad to have met you, Kitty!

WATCH FOR THESE

Other "new girls" who will be with us soon: Mrs. Foust, of Southern Junior College, who will work in the Medical Department; Betty Canon of Pacific Union College and Eva Linscott of the Atlantic Union Conference, both of whom will join the Home Missionary Department; and Grace Coyl, no stranger to many of us, who will work in the Ministerial Association office.

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Issued Monthly by the Keepers of the Keys

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