

SALEMITE INTERVIEWS HELEN JEPSON

(By Chubby Hayes)

A bored and blase manner, tall, statuesque, blondness—that was Helen Jepson. She greeted me graciously with just a trace of a smile. She was extremely patient while the photographer took pictures—interviewers and photographers were less than nothing to her—she took us in her stride. Her every motion was studied and composed. The tiny, forward-jutting, blue hat never bobbed—there was never any enthusiasm. Once she smiled when she talked about Gershwin whose music she likes very, very much. Once she grimaced when discussing Negro folk music which she doesn't think white-folks can sing at all.

She was studiously indifferent when asked which opera she favored—she likes them all—well, maybe *Pelleas et Melisande* a little better than some. Her lovely hands adorned with two exceptionally large moonstone rings deviated only once from their careful repose—when she told me about her rustic 116 acre farm which is only 85 miles from New York and where she spends all her free time. Her hands swept in a graceful arch.

"I've kept it very simple," she said. "The main house only has four bed-rooms, although there are guest cabins all around." There are no electric lights, just kerosene lamps and kerosene refrigerators.

Her accompanist was in and out of the room all the time. Yes, she was quite fond of him. He had been with her four years, and his name was spelled W-a-l-l-e-n-b-o-r-n. To every question she gave an answer, and that was all—no elaboration—just an answer. Miss Helen Jepson was that afternoon with the warm sunlight pouring in on her blond hair a very beautiful woman, but she might have been any hard working young person. She had none of the glamour and spontaneity which footlights and an appreciative audience were to bring her that evening.

MATH CLUB ENTERTAINS NEW MEMBERS

At a banquet Tuesday night, February night the Mu Alpha Thetas, entertained nine girls made eligible for membership in the club by their excellence in the mathematics department during the past semester.

Th girls thus honored at the annual affair in the basement of Bitting building were: Mary Lib Bray, Mary Lou Brown, Violet Boston, Barbara Weir, Mary Ellen Carrig, Margaret Kempton, Becky Howell, Harriet Sink and Jane Perry.

A patriotic motif was carried out in the decorations of the room and the table. Red candles banked with green leaves and replicas of Washington's fabled hatchet were placed on the mantle above the open fire and down the center of the table at which 35 persons were seated. The place cards were attractive silhouettes of George Washington. Seated at one head of the table were: Catherine Harrell, president; Mr. Curlee, advisor; and Eleanor Hutchison, vice-president. At the foot of the table were: Bobby Whittier, treasurer; Dr. Rondthaler, and Betty Anne White, master of ceremonies. Mrs. Rondthaler was seated half way down the table opposite Anne Ewing, who during the course of the meal initiated the new members by requiring that

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HELEN JEPSON
Photo Courtesy Journal-Sentinel

FRENCH CLUB DISCUSSES LOVE

What is love? Dr. Downs, at the French Club meeting, Wednesday evening, February 19, attempted to answer this question with the help of French poetry.

In this hour of informal conversation and discussion, he read also selections from Andre Maurois's *En Amerique*, in which the famous French author describes his visit to Smith College and presents his impressions to this strange life in a city of women.

The French Club is now beginning an hour of conversation which is to be held every Monday night for the benefit of students who want to learn to express themselves in the French language. It is hoped that their meeting will give French students an opportunity to learn to use the French language with greater facility and less self-consciousness.

Outside of its monthly meeting and weekly conversation hours, the French Club is planning a banquet which will be held in the latter part of May.

PASSION PLAY ENACTED HERE

Under the sponsorship of the Junior Chamber of Commerce the famed Passion Play of the Black Hills has been brought to Winston-Salem with a presentation of eight performances.

The Passion Play was pushed out of Europe by armies. Since then the troupe has translated its story into the English language and has traveled from city to city giving about 400 performances each year. The play is shown in 22 scenes, beginning with Palm Sunday.

Jesef Meier is featured as the Christus in the lavish drama which has been produced for years. Meier is 36 years old and has never known any other life than the Christus he plays. His grandfather and his grandfather's father—as far back as seven generations—have been the Christus.

A fleet of trucks bearing tons of equipment for the staging of the famed play rolled into town Tuesday. It was pointed out that

VOICE COURSE IS OUTLINED

Wednesday chapel was taken over by Mr. Bair, who, with the cooperation of his voice majors, tried to show the successive stages in the cultivation of a voice. Mr. Bair said that the first requirement of a singer is the "singing-drive," or to be exact, the urge to express oneself in song. But the actual training of a voice is a long and difficult procedure. Beginners are started on the simple exercises—which, incidentally, didn't seem so simple. Elaine Ripple every ably demonstrated one. Others who demonstrated the succeeding steps were: Ella Lou Taylor, Juanita Miller, Marion Gary, Peggy Eaton, and Jane Garrou. Annie Hyman Bunn sang beautiful an Italian aria. Jenny Linn and Becky Nifong both sang difficult numbers used to develop technical facility.

Catherine Swain and Mr. Felix Arnold sang with professional skill a selection from *Faust*, and were given a spontaneous burst of applause. The Choral Ensemble sang with Marion Gary as soloist in *Ave Maria*.

Although several of the artists were sick (among them were: Lindy Stokes, Johnsie Bason, and Mary Sue Briggs), the program was quite a success. It is the first opportunity many of us have had to see the splendid work Mr. Bair and his pupils are doing in the Music Department.

the equipment needed and used in the production is almost as great as that used by a circus.

One of the most important features of the great historical drama are the lighting effects. In scene after scene these effects show the pale dawn blending into a brilliant sunny light of day, and then, late, into the peaceful calm and stillness of night.

Another outstanding feature is a mixed choir singing Handel's triumphant "Hallelujah Chorus" as the Christus makes his ascension.

Matinees and evening performances at 2:00 and 8:00 p. m., are being given Wednesday through Saturday.

CHORAL ENSEMBLE LEAVES TOMORROW

FIFTY-TWO STUDENTS MADE HONOR ROLL

In chapel Wednesday morning Dr. H. E. Rondthaler announced the names of the 52 students whose excellent work during the past semester placed them on the Honor Rolls of the college. Eighteen of these made the "A" Honor Roll and 34 achieved the B plus average which entitles them to the "B plus" Honor Roll. Due recognition was accorded these students by the faculty and students.

The lists are:

"A" HONOR ROLL:

Seniors:

Gladys Blackwood
Margaret Holbrook
Sarah Linn
Eleanor Welch

Juniors:

Eugenia Baynes
Dorothy Dixon
Carrie Donnell
Doris Shore
Reece Thomas
Margaret Vardell

Sophomores:

Sara Barnum
Betty Vanderbilt

Freshmen:

Mary Ellen Carrig
Mary Phinney
Harriet Sink
Peggy Jane White

Business Department:

Jane Cannon

Special:

Mrs. Alice Rondthaler

"B" PLUS HONOR ROLL

Seniors:

Marvel Campbell
Elizabeth Dobbin
Louise Early
Sallie Emerson
Martha Hine
Marian Johnson
Katharine King
Lillian Lanning
Virginia McNeeny
Martha Louise Merritt
Lena Winston Morris
Dorothy Mullen
Leonore Rice
Ruth Schnedl
Martha Stonestreet

Juniors:

Louise Bralower
Leila Johnston
Margaret Moran
Alice Purcell
Dorothy Sisk
Mary Worth Walker
Cecelia Castellow
Margaret Leinbach
Mary Lu Moore
Mary Elizabeth Rand
Elizabeth Read
Barbara Whittier

Freshmen:

Marian Burrenick
Shirley Gosselein
Henrie Harris
Frances Harrison
Rebecca Howell
Eusebia Midgotte
Betty Moore

Business Department:

Charlotte Denny
Jeannette Dowling
Kitty McKoy

SENIORS OFFER MASQUERADE

All you jumping-beans, keep in mind the Mexican Fiesta that the seniors are working their fool (?) heads off over—that isn't a really good evening Saturday if you brush good evening Saturday if you ??? up on the old costume, add a black mask and a white man, and trot him down to the gym around 8:30.

In other words, dearies, G. Washington won't be idle at Salem College Saturday night—he'll be running around in a sarape and sombrero, humming "Cielito Lindo" in pasa double time. And you had better be there too!

THREE DAY TOUR BEGINS IN EARLY MORNING

The Choral Ensemble leaves Saturday morning, February 22nd, in the early glimmerings of dawn for the week-end tour which has been planned by the executive committee of the group. After the early departure from Salem, the girls will clamber out of their latest-model Greyhound bus for breakfast in Statesville.

The first concert will be given Saturday afternoon in Asheville at the Asheville School for Boys. Sarah Linn will be the featured soloist at this performance.

The Ensemble will then journey to Bryson City, Tenn., where the girls will spend the night after a performance in which the outstanding soloist will be Leonore Rice.

The most exciting part of the tour is the trip to Atlanta for a sacred concert in the Druid Hills Presbyterian Church. Margaret Vardell will take an outstanding part at the organ, playing several solos, and playing the difficult instrumental parts for the beautiful and unusual number by Karg-Elert, written for organ and women's chorus.

Monday morning, again in the cool grey dawn, the Salemites will climb aboard for the last lap of the concert tour. The last performance will be given at Davidson College Monday night, and at this concert Margaret Vardell and Sarah Linn will be featured. This stop at Davidson will be enjoyed by all the Salemites, if overheard remarks can be trusted, as it appears to be the highlight of the tour.

Realizing the value of audience reaction, the Choral Ensemble, under the direction of Clifford Bair, has worked out a duel program ideal, to fit every need of the audience. A secular program will be given at Asheville, Bryson City, and at Davidson. One of the highlights of this program is the opera excerpt from "Cosi fan Tutti," or "A School for Lovers," by Mozart, Kathryn Swain, Marian Gray, and Lillian Stokes will sing the roles in this presentation. The sacred program to be given at Atlanta gives a representative selection from each of the choral schools since the earliest Gothic, and each number expresses the religious aspirations and desires of man from the late Medieval period to the present day.

Eleanor Welch will take an outstanding part on every program, playing harp solos, and presenting harp interludes between each choral number. These interludes, of Eleanor's own composition, introduced the theme and character of each selection and serve as a tie to bind the program into a unified whole.

Special acknowledgment should be given to the members of the executive committee of the Choral Ensemble—Marian Johnson, president and student conductor; Johnsie Bason, secretary - treasurer; and Margaret Leinbach, manager—for their efficient work in planning the details of the tour. Much of the money to defray the expenses of the trip has been raised by the Ensemble, through the sponsoring of such groups as the Davidson Glee Club and the Little Symphony of the University of Michigan.

With its interesting program and ensemble work, its distinctive quality engendered by the inspiring direction of Mr. Bair, with its tour planned in detail by its efficient leaders, the Choral Ensemble should do much on this tour to add to the esteem which already belongs to Salem College and its School of Music.