



## Walker Begins Her Reign as Queen of the May



### The May Queen Has Other Attributes

While talking to Nancy Walker, Salem's May Queen, I was very surprised to find that she is planning to spend the summer at home with her parents. Other than being at Kinston, she will stay at the family's beach home on Ocean Ridge. "I don't know what Mother will say," she confessed, "but I want to get a job while I'm there; maybe on a paper or something. Also I'm planning to catch up on a little reading. This summer I want to digest my four years of college."

I wondered why she wasn't planning another one of her trips again. Her only reply was that she had done so much in the way of traveling that she didn't want to add any more experiences until the old ones had sunk in somewhat.

Year before last, Nancy lived with a German family during the summer. She did not study, but she became acquainted with the language and the people. During high school she knew a German boy, who was an exchange student. He taught her to appreciate German literature and the language, so when she came to Salem and discovered that she could take German, she immediately enrolled and became an honor student. At present she is reading *Faust* by Goethe. During the past year, she has

read many German short stories in German and English translation. As the male sex goes, she prefers European boys to American boys. As for the women, she says that she has never found a word in German equivalent to the English word "diet."

After seeing that German women didn't bother about styles, she began to notice the American women. Although she enjoys the way American women pamper themselves with high styles and cosmetics, she says that many times it is carried to the extreme.

Nancy does not like perfume and a great deal of jewelry. Being in music, she cannot wear rings, or bracelets, so this accounts for her lack of them. She dislikes having anything around her neck, and wears only pearl earrings.

She dislikes seeing someone with a short neck wearing a high necked dress and seeing a peter pan collar on a large neck. She enthusiastically approves of sack dresses with good lines. "They have such delightful back interests," she remarked.

Last summer Nancy went to Michigan and was a student at the University of Ann Arbor. Her main interest was music, but she also took "Great Books". This course originated at the University of Chicago and is designed to give the

student "free rein" in the studying of great works. She audited a drama course and used the book, *From Ghosts To Death of A Salesman*. By belonging to the Arts Council's Foreign Film Club, she has seen many of the plays she studied last summer, such as *Green Pastures* and *Miss Julie*. Although the movie, *Crime and Punishment* was entirely in French (she's never had French), she says she enjoyed seeing the French treatment of a Russian novel. This year she has enjoyed reading *1984, Desire Under The Elms*—a play by O'Neill, and *The Fountainhead*. At present she is reading *By Love Possessed*, which she feels was overrated.

Among her favorite authors are Orwell and Huxley. She dislikes Hemingway, for "he really thinks he's pretty special." After reading *The Sun Also Rises*, she concluded, from a remark by a friend, that he threw in Spanish phrases so that everyone would know that he spoke Spanish. Then he jumped from France to Spain so that we could hear how much he knew about bullfighting.

Speaking of Europe, Nancy says that before a person goes abroad, they should really brush up on art. She admits readily that she could not begin to judge art. She attributes this to the fact that she

### May Dell Transformed; Spring Officially Begins

The narrator begins with a poem on May by Herrick. The audience sits on the hillside anxiously awaiting the court procession. The girls in their long colorful dresses stately walk down the winding path of the May Dell. A slight breeze stirs the grass. The skirts rustle. The queen stands as she is crowned. She then sits in the rustic outdoor throne and the girls in the court

surround her.

The narrator begins. "Billy Bigelow, do you remember . . ."

Suddenly, there is a splash of color—bright red, hot orange, cornflower blue, dazzling chartreuse, brilliant purple. The crowds of people mill aimlessly past the Carnival shows—the Arabian Dancer, the fat lady, the two-headed lady, the half-man, half-woman. The Parisian Can-Can girls.

Billy Bigelow and Julie Jordan meet at the Carnival, dance together, and fall in love. Mrs. Fowler, the Carousel owner, watches jealously in the background.

The crowd breaks up into small bunches. The narration stops. The scene shifts to a picnic—cloths are spread on the ground . . . food.

The Choral Ensemble appears. The sound of their voices echo through the tree-lined dell. The dancers twirl and their skirts swish to the music of the Carousel Waltz. And then, "Once A Year Day" is sung as the hillside is covered in an array of color.

The last notes die away. The dancers disappear. The color fades. The pageant is over as the narrator begins again with the opening lines of Milton's poem on May.

has never had any real close contact with artists and has never studied art, except for her course in art appreciation here. Comparing art to music, she says she can't conceive of anyone understanding a complete performance who has never had any training in music. She named Eric Newton as the best Rondthaler lecturer Salem has ever had.

While in Michigan, she went with her Connecticut roommate to the Shakespearean Festival at Stratford, Ontario, where she saw *Hamlet* and *Twelfth Night*. She was very excited when the Pierrettes chose the latter of these last fall, and decided she must be in the cast. She played the part of the page. The actors she saw this

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