

THE ERWIN CHATTER

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WONDERING

Have you ever watched people at work and see them pause for a moment with a smile on their face or with a far away look in their eyes? Have you ever wondered about what they were thinking? Have you ever asked them of what they were dreaming? And have them answer, "Oh, nothing."

Some of them would be ashamed for the rest of us to know what they had smiled about, for they were thinking of memories of yesterday—maybe of their first toy, a kind word of encouragement from someone, or how quiet and peaceful the whole world seemed as they slipped out of bed to watch the sun rise and to hear the birds in the trees and feel the glory and holiness of the awakening new day. Or maybe it was the memory of their first child being held close and thanking God for His blessing, or the memory of it learning to walk, talk or something it did that would only be precious to a mother or father. It could be the thought and the thrill of bringing in the first rabbit or squirrel or fish, and yes, the walk in the woods in the rain just to let the stillness and quietness bring peace to one's soul.

Yes, just watch the people at work around you, for that smile or dreamy look, and wonder if someone else has that peace of heart and mind that your memories bring to you.

A Fellow Worker.

THANKSGIVING 1946

It is the month of Thanksgiving again. Having just observed Armistice Day, we can all be truly thankful here in every town and village in America that peace has again come to the world. And while things are yet very unsettled and the war not officially ended, we have so much to appreciate here in our country. Things may not be back to normal and to the individual who cannot still buy all he has the money and desire to purchase, things may seem in a rotten mess; but here in our section of the country we have so much more than the peoples of other countries that relatively we have nothing about which to complain.

The fine thing about Thanksgiving, which commemorates the beginning of the freedom of our country, is that it affords each of us time to stop and count our blessings—to do our own counting of our own blessings and to give thanks in our own way to God for them. Only under the free system which we live can one have so much to be thankful for. This year it will be well not only to give thanks for what we do have, but also to dedicate ourselves to the preservation of our way of life.

All sorts of new ideas of isms keep trying to undermine the American free system. Only by each citizen keeping alert to what is happening throughout the nation—keeping himself informed and thinking for himself can this way of life we all should cherish so deeply be preserved.

MRS. JAMES A. BRADY

(Continued from page 1)

in my power to make America truly musical."

Following Mrs. Brady's address the club presented a musical program under the direction of the Music Counselor, Mariola Crawford, consisting of the following:

Piano Duet: "Larga" (Handel), by Betty Sue Eaton and Mary Shepherd.

Quartet: "Let Not Your Heart Be Troubled," by Irene Spry, Anne Ridenhour, Betty Sue Eaton and Mary Shepherd.

Chorus: "Lullaby," by Grammar Grade Group of Club.

Piano Solo: "Beethoven's Fifth Symphony—First Movement," by David Milholen.

Chorus: "The Rosary" (Ethelbert Nevin), by Glee Club Group of Club, Peggy Brinegar, Soloist.

At the conclusion of the musical program delicious refreshments were served to the following by the hostess, Mrs. J. L.

James: Guests, Mrs. James A. Brady, State Junior Counselor; Mrs. W. L. Carden, Junior District Director; Mr. Thomas Shuler, Director of Music, Mitchell College; Erickson Huske. Members, Jean Athey, Peggy Blackwood, Peggy Brinegar, Peggy Cornatzer, Betty Sue Eaton, Dot Hodgins, Billy Jean Josey, Patty Lewis, Larry McCullough, Peggy McCullough, David Milholen, Robert Munday, Betty Sue Nichols, Kay Nichols, Anne Ridenhour, Donald Seders, Mary Shepherd, Irene Spry, Doris Veach, Jean Wagner, Sue Wagner, Peggy Wyrick, Carlyle Young.

The meeting adjourned with the singing of the National Anthem.

On Saturday, November 2, the officers and the Club Counselor attended the Southern District Junior Meeting held in Gastonia. Peggy Brinegar gave a report of the progress of the club to date, and a piano duet, "Lady of the Garden," was presented by Betty Sue Eaton and Mary Shepherd.



CREASON-REAVIS RITES ANNOUNCED—Miss Vermell Creason and David Reavis, Jr., were united in marriage, September 14, at Mocksville. F. R. Leagans, Justice of the Peace, heard the vows.

The bride was dressed in powder blue with black accessories. She is the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Baxter Creason of Cooleemee.

Mr. Reavis is the son of Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Reavis of Woodleaf.

The young couple are at present making their home with the bride's parents.



BEAVER-RIDENHOUR NUP-TIALS PERFORMED—Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Beaver of Salisbury have announced the marriage of their daughter, Ruth Dalene, to Thomas William Ridenhour, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Ridenhour of Cooleemee, on October 19 at York, South Carolina, with Judge E. Gettys Nunn performing the ceremony.

Mr. and Mrs. Ridenhour went on a short wedding trip through Western North Carolina, and at the present are making their home with Mr. Ridenhour's parents in Cooleemee.



YOUNG HORSEBACK RID-ER—Pictured above is Joan Stroud, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Stroud of Mocksville, and her horse, Lady Peavine.



London Today

By GEORGE S. BENSON
President of Harding College
Seanev, Arkansas

Looking Ahead

ENGLAND suffered much during the war. Many blocks in the heart of the great city of London, completely razed by the Nazi "Luftwaffe," remain unrepaired. All parts of the city sustained scattered damage from the raids. They took much punishment bravely, and they are industriously setting about to repair their country.

Perhaps it is partly Britain's proximity to continental trouble-makers and the consequent disaster, although some of these trouble spots have been pawned as well as threat during her history, that gives the people such an awareness of foreign relations. They have learned the defenses that are usually provided by a good foreign office, and have developed shrewd international statesmen. There is little apparent disunity in their foreign policy.

Rationing RECONSTRUCTION Slow-Down in Britain is moving slowly. Most Britons feel that rationing of materials has slowed production. The government is meticulous about "filling out forms," and the proper approval must be had to obtain each different type of building material. Sometimes brickwork must stop because the bureau controlling glass has not approved and returned the forms for buying windows.

The London press announced while I was there that building contractors were being granted extra gasoline rations because of the additional travel required to get their numerous forms filled

out and circulated to wholesalers and retailers, which they found necessary to do in order to complete a building.

Queues ENGLAND is experiencing a greater shortage of food, clothing, and gasoline than during the war, and therefore rationing has not been eliminated. On the contrary, some items are now rationed which were not under rationing during the war. Queues of from 50 to 300 people were constantly on the streets, at most all hours, waiting to get rationed articles.

I had to obtain food points to give the hotel for the week I was in London. Upon the advice of the hotel manager that I should report at the rationing office when the doors opened at nine o'clock, I arrived at 8:45 and found a long queue waiting. Eventually I found myself in a special room for foreign visitors, with only a few of the waiting applicants, and had to wait only about an hour. The speed of the ration clerks reminded me of some of our own paid clerks during the war: it was evident they were not paid by the number of customers they served and that they had no fear of competition.

I was actually hungry every day I spent in England. Bread counts as one of the three courses available for a London dinner, and if bread is ordered this eliminates either the soup or the sweet. During my last day in London a hotel waiter was fined \$20 for inadvertently putting a roll on the table for each of two men who had not ordered bread. They chanced to be inspectors.

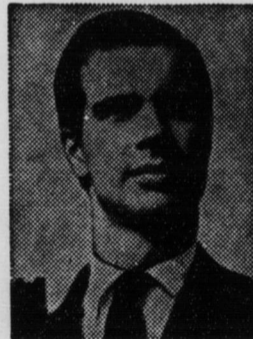


READING & WRITING

BY Edwin Seaver AND Robin McKoun

TO EFFECT the widest possible distribution of "Hiroshima,"

John Hersey's report of what happened to a city and its people when the first atom bomb was dropped on Japan, the Book-of-the-Month Club will give it as an "extra" book to members in November.



JOHN HERSEY

"We have decided to give 'Hiroshima' to our members, instead of selling it," states Harry Scherman, president of the Club, "because we know we can distribute many more copies that way, and we want to do our part in giving this book the widest possible dissemination. We find it hard to conceive of anything being written that could be of more importance at this moment to the human race."

The Book-of-the-Month Club's decision to give "Hiroshima" to its members is the latest development in the unprecedented public response to John Hersey's report. First the New Yorker magazine devoted its entire issue of August 31 to it. The magazine was sold out a few hours after it hit the newsstands. Since then "Hiroshima" has been syndicated in many newspapers and it has been read in entirety in a series of evening broadcasts over one of the major networks.

It is estimated that between 100,000 and 750,000 copies of the book will be given to Book-of-the-Month Club subscribers. The author's royalties resulting from the Club's distribution will be contributed by him to the American Red Cross.



In "Man, an Autobiography," George R. Stewart objects to the conventional histories. "I, Man," he says, "am thoroughly tired of the various so-called histories of me. First, they are badly proportioned, giving up nearly all their space to these last 3,000 years, although what I have done during that time is not nearly so notable as what I did earlier." Mr. Stewart sees the story of Man in terms of 5,000 centuries.