

# Deep and Shallows

## Fresh From the South Sea Isles

It was chow time at the separation center, and in order to get my lunch I had to skirt a long queue of weather-beaten Leathernecks fresh from the South Seas, lined up four abreast, also awaiting nourishment.

Experienced as I was in the duties of a recreation director, I felt a wave of self-consciousness at the interest I evidently created. I had never considered myself sufficiently glamorous to cause such a stir. Jaws dropped and eyes popped. No wolf-calls — those were definitely taboo — but in the battery of interested eyes I sensed such complete approval that I knew just how Lana Turner feels when greeted by a throng of admiring fans. I caught the murmur: "Jeepers — she sure is pale!" and then I remembered that this was the first Stateside stop these boys had made since their return from the Pacific. Hastily donning my most professional air I called, with a cordial wave of the hand, "See you all up at the recreation hall, boys."

Tension relaxed with an almost audible "Ah-h-h," and I felt myself dropped into place as neatly as the right piece in a jig-saw puzzle. The mystery of my presence in this setting was solved. I belonged. I had been accepted by these naive, these impenitent, these wonderful lads.

—"KELLY."

(Ed's note: Other anecdotes of the experiences in the life of a recreation director will follow in later DEEPS & SHALLOWS.)

## Did You Ever Try to Write a Story?

If you haven't, then you are of a mechanical trend of mind. Maybe you are trying to make a flat belt go around a sharp flat corner and don't tip on one side. Or, maybe you have done some wishful thinking about runless stockings. You might be hoping to make a new grass seed that will cut itself without your having to push the lawn mower, when there are so many other things you would rather do. There are many dream problems, but to write a story — there's NOTHING to that.

You know what you want to say. All you have to do is to sit down, get out the paper, take pen in hand and off you go. Better still, you have a typewriter. Tickle the keys and you get the job done quicker and the editor can read it easier. That's all there is to it — MAYBE . . .

A friend of mine told me about her "itch" to write. Up to then I was pleased with myself, handling a needle and molding clay in my spare time. But this writer's itch is catching and before I realized it I was a member of a creative writing class. This class was composed of very young, middle aged and elderly dames. Each had an

itch to write. Some did poetry, some did prose and some did both — or at least made grand attempts at it.

Funny thing about people who are afflicted with this itch. The most beautiful, fascinating, intriguing plots creep into the creative sections of your mind at NIGHT.

After daylight comes, which calls for breakfast at a rapid tempo and the rush and tear to get the family started to where it should go, your plot may come back in a vague sort of way. But all the catchy phrases, the subtle insinuations, the combination of words that will startle even your teacher — all fade away, like the dew on the grass after the sun comes out.

Now if you catch this itch, I may give you a few helpful pointers. First of all, gather all the scrap paper you can find around the house. Don't let a used envelope get away from you. Slit it open and use the other side. Put these papers with a lead pencil in different places around the house. Some in your mending basket, some in a handy place in your kitchen — and be sure and put some on the table beside your bed. Of course if you have plenty of leisure you won't need any of these suggestions, so just skip 'em.

But if you have to do all your own housework, plus some Red Cross, make Church Calls, attend P.T.A. meetings and do the marketing, it is a help to have these bits of paper in several places around the house.

Dish washing, bed making and dusting are such routine things. No one needs to waste thought on them. If your creative itch becomes active while doing these chores, it is a good idea to jot down your idea on the nearest paper. Some of the driest duties may bring out some brilliant thought. It's worth trying.

But if you have something cooking, stay near it. Because when that itch catches hold of you you live in an entire different environment. Might be in the Alps, or China; but chances are good there won't be any cooking going on there. So, by staying near, (dollars to doughnuts), your nose will give warning when the pot is boiling dry.

When these wonderful plots jump out in the darkness of night, — well, that's another thing. Pretty hard to read what you wrote in the dark on a piece of paper 5 x 5 inches. Did you ever try it? I did. It looked more like Chinese than anything I ever saw. I hadn't met Laura Cross at that time, maybe she could have e-phered it out.

Of course you may turn on a light. But don't do it unless you sleep in a room by yourself. The chances are good that the chap who sleeps in the other bed will bounce up with, "What's the matter, are you sick? Where do you feel sick? Want me to get you something? Electric pad or a glass of water?" Meanwhile you're trying to explain to him, you only wanted to jot down something you thought would be good for your next story. You'll probably hear, "Night was made for sleep," or "Too bad you didn't think to write it down before you went to bed." It might even be an "oh," followed by the name of a hot place that ends in double "l."

Don't let that discourage you. If he had an idea to put down on paper, regardless of the time of day or night and all the low bridges and high water ever heard of, he would have a study for that purpose and the door would have a lock. It might even be in the attic, but the telephone would have to be muffled so as not to knock his valuable thought asunder.

We are all busy women and the days are no longer than they ever were. It takes time to put thoughts on paper. But one can drop one Bridge Club, cut short telephone calls, or save on dishes.

As for plots. All one has to do is to look around. The scenery is full of plots. Look at people and SEE them. Weave little romances around the people you meet. Tell something you would like to have happen. Your imagination is a powerful helper, give it a chance, let your theme be fiction, detective or historical.

As for names — take the telephone directory. Close your eyes, open a page, and stick a pin in a name. If you don't like, try again.

Maybe if you stick to rules, having found your HIDDEN TALENT, you may be suddenly taking in cash on a BEST SELLER.

Then please remember I told you so.

—A.C.O.

—R.B.O.

## Regular Meeting of Collectors Study Group Will Be Held Feb. 4

The Collector's Study group of the Highland Park Woman's club will hold its regular monthly meeting at the club house at 10:30 a.m. on Feb. 4.

At 12 noon, Mrs. Garfield Day and her hospitality committee will serve luncheon. Mrs. Day asks that reservations be made with her, H. P. 2859, or with her co-chairman, Mrs. James Cuthbertson, H. P. 1334, by Saturday, Feb. 1st.

Mrs. Jerry Schmal will review Kenneth Roberts' new book, "Lydia Bailey," at 12:45. Mrs. Frederick Toof, book review chairman, will present Miss Schmal, who appeared at the club a year ago.

Miss Schmal received her degree at DePaul university, and did further study at Northwestern university. She has had a varied experience in Little Theater work, and is entering her seventh season of engagements with women's clubs, book clubs, parent-teacher associations, etc.

She includes with her review a brief biographical sketch of the author, an analysis of the book, and a dramatic presentation of the story.

Mrs. Leonard W. Keaster, president, will preside at the regular meeting of the club at 2 p.m., and the speaker of the afternoon will be introduced by Mrs. Benedict K. Goodman, assistant program chairman.

Mrs. Theodore L. Osborn, chairman, will introduce Mr. John H. Bereman of Boulder Hill Farm, Aurora, Ill.

Mr. Bereman will take his audience on "a trip through the Pennsylvania Dutch country." His subject is Pennsylvania Dutch Folk Art, which includes painted tin, wrought iron, enamelled glass, pottery, carved wood and home-spun fabrics. He will also include information about the people, and the architecture of their farm homes, particularly the picturesque Dutch barns.

## Mrs. George Lyman Is Hostess to Carr Auxiliary

The January meeting of the Helen Taylor Carr auxiliary of the Chicago Commons Settlement will be held Friday, Jan. 31, at 1:30 at the home of Mrs. George S. Lyman, 910 S. Linden avenue. Following the serving of refreshments, the business meeting will be held, with a report on the Christmas old people's party at the Settlement, and a discussion of plans for the spring rummage sale. The meeting will conclude with the usual garment making for the Chicago Neighborhood Settlement. Interested guests are always welcome.

## Chicago Maternity Center's Membership Enrollment Reaches First Goal

The first milestone in the Chicago Maternity center's annual membership enrollment was reached Jan. 24 when committee workers met at the home of Mrs. Howard Linn, 1244 Stone St., to report progress made toward their 1000 member goal.

The enrollment, which was formally opened on Jan. 16, is under the leadership of Mrs. Harry B. C'ow Jr. of Lake Bluff.

Highland Park member of the committee team chairmen is Mrs. R. C. Bennett Jr.

## Home Nursing Service Offers New Course

What to do when the baby comes down with a fever will be commonplace knowledge to those who complete the new Red Cross course in mother and baby care scheduled to open in February.

This training, which is something new in Red Cross educational courses, is being given because so many young mothers-to-be requested it.

To enroll in this Red Cross maternal and child care course, to be held early in February, call Wabash 7850, ext. 64.

"He: 'I'll bet you wouldn't marry me.'"  
So she called his bet and raised him five.

## Women of Presbyterian Church To Hold Group Meetings

The group meetings of the Woman's association of the Highland Park Presbyterian church will be held on Monday, Feb. 3, at 1:15 in the following homes: Mrs. Rex Andrews' group with Mrs. L. P. Hungerford, 913 Ridgewood; Mrs. Brook's group with Mrs. F. V. Nelson, 683 Pleasant court; Mrs. W. L. Buchanan's group with Mrs. C. Ray Phillips, 2501 N. Deere Park Dr.; Mrs. F. B. Carpenter's group with Mrs. Kenneth Kraft, 225 Lakewood Pl.; Mrs. Paul Mathew's group with Mrs. E. G. Huber, 209 S. Green Bay Rd.; Mrs. Eric Molke's group with Mrs. E. L. Andrews, 234 Laurel Ave.; Mrs. C.E. Thorney's group with Mrs. Clarke Wright, 1917 Northmoor Rd.

### Board Meeting

The board will meet Feb. 10 at 10 a.m.

### Bible Class

The Bible class conducted by Mrs. Arthur Tylee at 10:30 a.m. at the public library will meet on Feb. 6, 13, 20 and 27.

### Presbyterial

The Presbyterial will be held on Feb. 14 at the Drexel Park Presbyterian church, 6400 S. Marshfield Ave. Speakers will be Mrs. Edward H. Smith of the board of foreign missions and Mrs. Herbert Brockway of the board of national missions. Both women have traveled widely and an interesting day is anticipated.

## Woman's Club to Hear Of Navy Commander's 3rd Round-World Trip

On Tuesday, February 4th, the Highland Park Woman's club will have the privilege of hearing Irving Johnson, commander, USNR, present the epic story of the Yankee's third trip around the world.

Commander Johnson entitles his lecture, "Sailing to See," for the Yankee's amateur crew, equipped with thirty cameras and thirty guns, fishing tackle, harpoons, diving gear and underwater photographic equipment, spent a year and a half just looking for strange places and excitement. The lecture accompanies a complete new super color film of adventure at its best.

The Yankee started her cruise from the old port of Gloucester, Mass., and her young, adventurous crew included the skipper's wife and their sons, aged one and four. Their journey took them to some of the most alluring spots on earth, and the pictures show them in Galapagos, Easter Island, Pitcairn, Tahiti, Pago Pago, Tarawa, the Solomons and New Guinea. Then out of the primitive islands of the South Seas, and into the East Indies, on to Singapore, Cape of Good Hope and north via the West Indies to Gloucester. They tied up at the home dock exactly 18 months to the minute from the time they left.

Commander Johnson has sailed his schooner on three such trips around the world, always off the beaten track, often off all reliable charts. Because of this, he was able to render invaluable service to the navy, recommending bases, clear channels and guiding landing parties during four years of duty in the Pacific. He has lectured to hundreds of audiences in the United States, as well as in foreign countries and aboard ships of the fleet in wartime.

## Local Cornell U Alumni To Fete President Day

Highland Park alumni of Cornell university are playing an active part in planning a dinner Feb. 5 honoring Dr. Edmund Day, president of the university. Mr. Day will be guest of honor at the Cornell University club of Chicago's annual dinner on that date.

C. L. Felske of Dell place is chairman of the committee in charge of arrangements. Mr. Felske is a Cornell graduate, class of 1924, and has been on the board of governors of the University club of Chicago for many years.

Roger Vail Jr. of S. St. Johns avenue, Malcolm Vail of Lakewood place and Mead Montgomery of S. Sheridan road also are active in the preparations to welcome Dr. Day and will be among the Highland Park alumni on hand for the occasion.

## New Infant Welfare Group Has Been Formed

Meetings so crowded as to threaten to burst at the seams are the reason for forming a fourth Infant Welfare group, which will be known as the intermediate group of the Center.

Officers have been selected as follows: Mrs. John B. Martineau, president; Mrs. L. L. Howe, vice president; Mrs. Theodore Osborn, Jr., secretary; Mrs. Thomas Keogh, treasurer; Mrs. Charles Bates, station chairman; Mrs. Ralph C. Archer, food chairman.

To be eligible for this group, one must have served for five years in the junior group. While the junior group requires the earning of 100 points a year, the new group will have but one requirement — work at the station.

The junior group, the eldest in the Center, was founded in 1926. Once before, in 1939, the group was found to have grown too large for the meeting places, and at that time the senior group was founded.

The Infant Welfare wing, founded in 1944, was not an outgrowth of the junior group, as were the others, but all four organizations are cooperative members of the Highland Park-Ravinia center.

## Gardens in Bloom in March

If you love flowers and the spell of a bright garden — and who doesn't? — you are certain to be thrilled by this notice just received at the editor's desk — a National Flower Show will be held in March in Chicago's International amphitheatre, staged spectacularly by the Society of American Florists, first show since the war.

Readers can save neatly on their admissions to the show by getting advance sale tickets at their flower shops. The advance sale price is only 85 cents, while the regular admission price at show time will be \$1.20.

One of the reasons Chicago was selected for the big show was the vast network of greenhouses and nurseries in this area. Many of the flowers you will see in March are now being grown in Chicago's warm greenhouses.

## Arden Shore Group to Meet With Mrs. Clinton

The next regular meeting of the Arden Shore group will be at the home of Mrs. D. L. Clinton, 220 Dale, at 2 p.m. Monday, February 3.

FOR SALE: Davenport; studio couch, maple pull-up chairs; electric exercising machine; dishes; clothing, etc.

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