

Deep and Shallows

Character Sketch

Dear Millie:

The story of Frances Martinez is a long one, covering many years, and I can tell you only a part of her tragic life. But the hour I spent with her convinced me that at times she had known, perhaps still knows, great and supreme moments.

My neighbor, Mary Jenkins, asked me to drive with her to see Pedro Martinez. "He is a good worker, but his wife is terrible," she said. "We may have to walk part way, for they live in an isolated spot in the mountains."

"I love to walk," I replied, curious as to the terrible wife and eager for adventure.

After driving as far as we dared, over the narrow road, we parked the car and started down the canyon trail on foot. A deer, startled by our approach crashed into the dense forest. Birds called a shrill alarm and took refuge in the woods.

The descent was at a sixty degree angle, down, down a good mile of winding sandy trail, but finally we came to the bottom of the canyon. Apprehensively I eyed the mile of climb leading to the home of Pedro and his terrible wife. Mary had told me none of their story, and I had asked no questions.

As we breathlessly rounded the last hundred yards, Pedro came running to greet us, his happy Latin face animated with the pleasure of seeing visitors. Everywhere about the filthy yard was an accumulation of junk—oil drums, parts of old cars, a battered truck, and, believe it or not, a large cook stove about fifty feet from the house. The pipe rose high, and poured forth fragrant wood smoke. The odor of cooking beans escaped a huge covered pot. Chickens scratched everywhere. Rugged living, this, I thought.

I saw what, at first, I guessed was a hired man emerge from the door of the house, a former army officer's barracks. How it had ever been hauled to the mountain top I couldn't guess.

But it wasn't a hired man who came from the house, it was Mrs. Martinez, stopping to stir the fire and look at the pot of beans before she noticed us. Then she came forward with long strides, hampered a bit by the heavy men's shoes she wore. A tall, well-built woman of about 40, she wore

jeans and a khaki shirt, both fashioned for men. Her clothes were very dirty. Her hair had once been blond, but now it was unkempt and the color of old straw.

But she had a well-molded countenance. Her eyes were blue, and she had a way of hastily closing them off with her thick lashes. Hurt eyes, I thought. Hurt by everyone, including Frances, herself.

The hospitality of the Martinez' was most cordial. We were invited into the house, and, to my astonishment, it was neat and tidy as a pin. The furniture was exquisite period pieces which any antique collector would have prized.

Frances talked to me while Mary transacted her business with Pedro. Why, I wondered, had this lovely, or at least born lovely, German-type woman married Pedro and come to live in this isolated spot?

As she talked, my wonderment increased. Her voice was rich, her vocabulary varied and delightful. Had she told me she was a Wellesley or Vassar graduate I would not have been surprised. But she told nothing of herself. She talked of the majestic mountains, the joy of the small birds, the delicate fronds of the maiden-hair ferns and the exotic color of mountain wild flowers. She talked so continuously that I could not ask questions.

I forgot her stringy hair, her unclean clothes and the squalid surroundings. I was transported to a world of beauty and culture. While talking of lovely things Frances, herself, seemed a different woman. For a moment I looked deep into her tortured eyes and found there the unwritten music of a mighty symphony.

Why did people condemn her as "terrible"? Why did her eyes tell me that she condemned herself? "Pedro says he'll drive us back across the canyon to our car in his truck," announced Mary Jenkins. And there, dear Millie, was the end of my visit with Frances Martinez. More of her story will have to wait for another letter.

Always,
—E. B.

Celebrated Harpist To Entertain Woman's Club Tuesday, March 6

Next Tuesday afternoon, March 6, the Highland Park Woman's Club will have the honor of hearing Virginia Nahigian, the celebrated harpist. Luncheon at 12:15 p.m. will follow the morning meeting of the Collectors' Study Group.

Mrs. Sidney Frisch, president, announces that this will be Reciprocity Day. The local Club will be host to the officers of the Tenth District Federation of Women's Clubs and the presidents of the various clubs in this district. After opening the regular session at 2:00 p.m. Mrs. Frisch will turn the meeting over to the program chairman, Mrs. Marvin Wallach, who will introduce the artist.

Miss Nahigian, whose home is in nearby Glenview, is a harpist of remarkable talent. She is a musician first and a capable exponent of the harp afterwards. While majoring in music at Mills College she studied with Vojmir Attl and continued her study in New York with Salvatore de Stefano and in Chicago with Alberto Salvi. Her recitals in New York, Chicago, Los Angeles and Pasadena have charmed her audiences with the sonority and vitality that can make harp music an active pleasure. She appeared with a Symphonic Harp Ensemble in San Francisco and with orchestras throughout the country. Her repertoire includes a number of original adaptations of readings with Harp.

The Collectors' Study Group meeting at 10:30 a.m. will be in charge of Mrs. Kendall Clough. Mr. Charlyss L. Hinds will speak on "Pitfalls of Antique Collecting." His lectures are always popular as he is an amusing, witty speaker in addition to being well-qualified to give sound advice to the antique collector. Mr. Hinds

Welfare Wing Plans Spring Dance At Saddle & Cycle Club

At the February meeting of the Highland Park-Ravinia Infant Welfare Wing, Mrs. George S. Flagler was selected to be chairman of the spring dance on May 5 at the Saddle and Cycle Club in Chicago. Several committees were also organized: in charge of tickets for the dance, Mrs. Robert L. Sanders and Miss Nancy Bock; in charge of games, Mrs. Robert Earhart; and in charge of prizes, Mrs. Robert Moseley and Mrs. Robert Raughley, Jr.

Mrs. Percy Prior has been named assistant publicity chairman for the rest of the year, while Mrs. Howard R. Will was placed in charge of a cook book sale, and Mrs. George S. Kellner was chosen to head the fashion show at next December's Christmas bazaar.

The meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Robert Moon, 203 Laurel, and assisting as co-hostesses were Mrs. Robert Jarchow, Mrs. John Channer, and Mrs. W. W. Hamilton. A feature movie, "Cargoes for Peace", showing the work of the Merchant Marine in peace time, was shown in color by Mr. Benno F. Nell, and refreshments were served at the conclusion of the meeting.

Those wishing luncheon reservations should make them before 9:00 p.m. Friday, March 2nd, by calling Mrs. J. Franklin Bickmore, HI. 2-4512; Mrs. Oliver E. Weed, HI. 2-2117; or Mrs. J. M. Munday, HI. 2-6377.

Charisma Club Will Present Film On California

Charisma Club of Bethany church, Laurel and McGovern, will sponsor Eggersted film, "California Calls" on Tuesday, March 6 at 8 p.m.

This beautiful color movie synchronized to music is another film taken by Ray Eggersted. We have been thrilled and entertained by the spectacular beauty of his previous films, "The Mighty Colorado," the southwest, the Pacific northwest and the south. We can be sure of a real treat when we see "California Calls." We will see the 1950-51 Rose Bowl Football Game, the Parade of Roses, and journey the 800-mile coastline and view the majestic dignity of the Redwoods. We pause at four National Parks with snow-covered mountains—giant waterfalls and cascading rivers, Yosemite, Death Valley, Palm Springs, Forest Lawn Memorial Park, San Bernardino in the heart of the Orange Empire, Pasadena, Hollywood, Beverly Hills and beautiful Santa Barbara.

An infinite variety of scenic treasures, romance, beauty, a land of promise, California might well be called the Pot of Gold at the End of the Rainbow.

Be sure to see this new wonderful movie by Mr. Eggersted. Tickets are available at Suburban Grocery & Market, Paul's Barber Shop, Van Guilder Motors, or Highland Park Savings & Loan Assn.

The Hospitality Committee, with Mrs. J. C. Laegeler as chairman, is planning an especially nice tea in honor of our Tenth District guests.

D.A.R. Will Feature National Security At March 8 Meeting

National Security—from a viewpoint interesting to both men and women—will be featured at the next meeting of the North Shore Chapter D.A.R. to be held Thursday evening, March 8 at 8 p.m. in the auditorium of the Highland Park Recreation Center.

Edward Clamage, who is the principal speaker, is past State Commander of the American Legion. Interested in the rehabilitation of veterans, he has served as State Vice Chairman of the Legion Rehabilitation Committee, a member of the executive group of the National Rehabilitation Committee, State Chairman of the Anti-Subversive committee of the American Legion and as a member of the All American Conference to Combat Communism.

Mrs. Edmund L. Andrews will act as hostess to the meeting to which members are allowed to bring special guests. She will be assisted by the following co-hostesses: Mesdames William Einbeck, John R. Dolan, Harry S. Temple, James Morrison, Robert Patton, Edwin Gilroy, F. G. Waggett, and Miss Nancy Waggett.

Mr. Clamage will be introduced by Mrs. George O. Strecker, chairman of the chapter program committee, and Mrs. Jerry Leaming, regent, will preside.

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To Northwestern University... On Its 100th Anniversary

We who live in Northern Illinois are perhaps more aware than the rest of the world that here in our midst a great university has grown and reached maturity. But the influence of Northwestern and the products of its work are cherished wherever the arts and sciences have contributed to human progress.

Much of America's basic philosophy can be gained from a study of this institution's history—from its small beginning in the middle of the past century to its present leadership in education. And still more of what we all hope for is seen in the prospect of services Northwestern is yet to perform—from the promise it offers to the future of medicine, of law, of technology, of commerce, of culture, and of peace.



To Northwestern University after a hundred years, and to its great teachers of yesterday, today and tomorrow—our gratitude and our congratulations!

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