

MUCH ADD ABOUT ...

By MARJIE MEYER

Plaudits to the active clubwoman—we think she deserves a pat on the back!

Much maligned by her feminine compatriots who spend their days in offices — all too often noted by the males who came under the influence of Helen Hokinson cartoons—she nevertheless fills an important spot in her community.

True, there are clubs and clubs, and not all of them "do" things. Some are just for fun, an afternoon of bridge, perhaps, or a weekly discussion of neighborhood gossip under the guise of a book review.

Most women who belong to the aforementioned also belong to one or a multitude of other groups. Women's clubs run the gamut from college alumnae organizations to church circles, from men's club auxiliaries to put-and-out philanthropic groups which give all their time and money to the support of an institution.

A statement we hear from husbands more often than we like to admit is this: "There must be some source of dissatisfaction with her home life that makes a woman join things. When a woman becomes active in clubs she neglects everything else."

Perched precariously on a narrow fence, we nevertheless tend to dispute this. What man making the accusation has ever spent day after day at home with nothing to break the monotony of cooking, cleaning and sewing but soap operas and give-away programs?

Companionship, or the need for it during those eight to ten lonely hours, is perhaps the primary reason a woman seeks membership in a club. The responsibilities she accepts there, after soon justify the time used in attending meetings and serving on committees.

Service to community of women's clubs is immeasurable and often unrecognized. Large projects rightly receive their full share of publicity, but small ones are spread over such a wide area that they can seldom be enumerated in the columns of a local newspaper or even in the club's own journal, if such exists.

Whenever there is a drive of any sort, women are asked to help solicit. At Christmas they take funds raised by some project and use them to bring cheer to hospital patients, worthy families, children's homes and the like. Often the recipient of

these gifts alone knows what has been done.

Sewing circles sprang up over the United States during World War I, and again in World War II. When demand for their services was no longer strong, many of them continued to operate on a purely social basis. Critics of these groups should realize that in them is a potential which can be used should critical situations arise.

Antagonism is often present toward the fashion shows, teas and luncheons given by some clubs. Even runnages and bake sales occasionally get their share of scornful remarks.

Such events sometimes are merely for the enjoyment of members. More often they are given to swell the weakened tills of an organization so it may continue to operate, to give money to assorted drives, to pay for school or church equipment or to provide added services for some group it sponsors.

In Torrance, as in every community, there are some women who devote a great deal of time to several organizations, keep their homes running smoothly and still find time to add other activities to their schedule.

Here too, as in other places, there are those who join and accept responsibility, then fail to "carry through," becoming suddenly "too busy."

In between these extremes fall the majority of club members, those who join because they wish to devote their time to some community project, who take on only the amount of responsibility they can assume with ease, who are both leaders and followers without great emphasis on either.

The total amount of voluntary time given by women would doubtless be staggering were it totaled. If it had to be met on a dollar and cents basis, the cost would prevent many community activities from ever taking place.

Say what you will—and there are times when even we think not the best thoughts about women's organizations—their members deserve a heartfelt "thanks!"

Halldale Parent-Teacher Unit Chooses New Board

Elected Thursday 16 to serve Halldale PTA during 1952-53 were Mrs. C. C. DeVore, president; Mmes. John Andrade and Amanda Bonwell, vice presidents; M. D. Hiebert, recording secretary; J. O. Blackman, financial secretary; Ben Rusk, treasurer; E. W. Reese, historian and Fred Schimmel, auditor.

Elections took place during a meeting in the school music room. Highlighting the program was a panel discussion of current juvenile problems by a panel from Robert E. Lee's fifth and sixth grade room.

Taking part in the panel were Alice Navarro, Betty Boyd, Bill Watkins and Bill Baldwin. They discussed topics submitted by PTA members, including tasks in the home, dating, settling disputes among themselves and the effect of certain television programs on individual youngsters.

Halldale School was chosen as a polling place for 10th District PTA elections on April 3. Delegates chosen to represent the school included Mmes. John Garner, F. W. Andrews, W. L. Harvey, Carl Hood, John Andrade, Ben Rusk, U. T. Unander, O. E. Robinson, Fred Schimmel, John Blackmon, W. A. McAllister, E. N. Reese, Amanda Bonwell and John Clark. Mrs. V. O. Gerner and Mrs. Ed Campbell will serve as alternates.

Mrs. W. O. Hoy's Bluebird troop and Mrs. Charles Moore's Campfire Girls presented a brief sketch.

Mrs. DeVore announced that the next meeting has been postponed from April 17 to April 24 because of the PTA convention.

OES Marks Deputy Grand Matron's Visit

Members and friends of Torrance Chapter, Order of Eastern Star, turned out in large numbers for the official visit March 6 of Rena Pearson, deputy grand matron of 92nd District OES.

Worthy Matron Aletha Smith and Worthy Patron Floyd Mead presided over the meeting and introduced the many guests. The visiting deputy was presented with a shower bouquet of yellow roses tied with green satin ribbon, her official colors, and a gift from the chapter.

Officers of Torrance OES, Joan Pierce, Tom Foster, Florence Viellenave and Phyllis Peverley, gave the gift presentation an original twist by acting a brief skit.

SMOKING RULE

In the houses of people who do not put cigarettes on the table or who pass them only during dessert, it is bad taste to light one's own cigarette and smoke during the meal.

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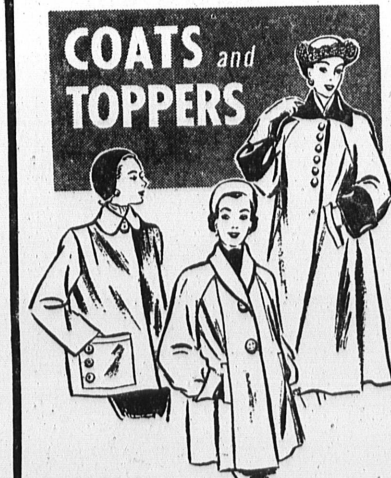
Ladies! Hurry! Hurry! We are giving away 50 orchids each day of our sale to the first 50 ladies that come in! Sale starts Thursday, Friday, Saturday. In addition, enter our popular Bean Guessing contest and win a beautiful set of Wm. A. Rogers Silverplate with a place setting of 6. Second prize is a gorgeous leatherette Jewel Kit which contains a complete set of DuBarry Cosmetics.

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