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Society Women Are Zealous Craftsmen in Needlepoint and Allied Arts

'It Drives Me Crazy,' Cries One Devotee

Another Enthusiast Has Nearly Completed 12 Chair Seats.

OVERHEARD in a theater lobby: "My needlepoint is driving me crazy" . . . Transmitted over the telephone: "At present I am looking for a fine piece to cover a French folding table" . . . Said over tea cups: "At last she has finished those chair covers" . . . Relayed by a modest expert: "My work is nothing compared to hers. She has made exquisite pieces" . . .

Judging by such conversations it seems that the days of doing needlework are no longer a thing of the past. To find beautifully made pieces of needlepoint, crewel embroidery and petit point one doesn't have to tour French convents or inspect museum displays.

Strange as it may appear, Milwaukee women have somehow managed to find time during the 24 crowded hours of each day to ply their needles and produce handiwork which deserves to be on display with that exhibited at the Vernay galleries and the Fine Arts exhibition at Rockefeller center.

A Dozen Chair Seats Are Nearly Completed

Although Mrs. Rae Bell's needlepoint activities haven't yet reached the point where she has started a petit point waist coat for her husband as has one Chicago woman, she expects in a few weeks to complete her twelfth dining room chair seat cover. The three years she has employed on them are not really so long when one considers that she has worked only during the evenings and has done all of the half stitches around the center design in addition to the wreaths of brightly colored flowers and the rust colored background.

There is a pillow in the Bell home which will escape the fate of most pillows, that of being munition for a fight some time during its life time, for after many weary hours of putting her needle in and out to make a tree burdened with fruit and all that goes with a rustic scene, Mrs. Bell decided to enforce a taboo.

A needle woman at heart is Mrs. Herman Weigell, for even on her honeymoon in 1929 she toured German shops in search of the Chinese Chippendale piece which she now has in her home on E. Kensington boulevard. Then, too, she spent a great deal of time while in England rummaging through antique shops until she found a Prince of Wales chair, more than 150 years old, which would be suitable for the needlepoint piece she had purchased at Nymphenburg in Bavaria.

Needlework Guild Gave Mrs. Weigell Her Start

Her experience started when she attended classes at the Chicago Art institute sponsored by the Chicago Needle Work guild. Under the direction of a Mrs. Symons of Hampton Court, England, who, by the way does most of the repair work on the rare pieces owned by English museums, she learned not only the art of needlepoint and petit point but that of the hedebo of Norway and the crewel work of the Jacobean period.

It was while thumbing through old German magazines that Mrs. Weigell found the cross stitch design which she reproduced on canvas and used as the pattern for the ladder back Georgian chair in her home. At present she is studying old patterns in an effort to find one which will be in keeping with the style of her dining room chairs. When she finds it, she will send it to Chicago where a member of the Royal School of Needle Work in London, who is now conducting a course similar to the one she took in 1918, will tint the design on canvass as she specifies.

Bridge Is Forsaken In Favor of the Needle

In one group, a number of years ago, there was a battle—bridge versus needlework—and because the latter won, the members have spent their winter months for the past three years sewing instead of pondering over tricks, bids and scores.

Mrs. McMillan Schley, one of the members, has to her credit now, instead of pencil covered tallies, a wing chair with the tree of life pattern done in crewel embroidery, and an appreciable start on a long bench cover. As soon as she finishes the woodland scene with its soft grays, blues and greens she plans to fill in the background with oyster white.

Two French chair covers are among Mrs. Gustave Blatz' accomplishments. One has as its background soft beige and the other rose. Mrs. Hugh Randall, another member of the group, has just completed a bell cord about six feet long and four inches wide.

Mrs. Emil R. Klode has spent her hours with the group working on a patchwork quilt, doing needle point pieces and knitting several dresses, while Mrs. L. A. Wagner, who is somewhat of a novice with a needle, has completed two afghans. Mrs. Walter Ross and Mrs. Charles Paeschke Jr. may be classified in the category of those who "do everything," while Mrs. William Thompson confines her interests to making pillows, bed spreads and other articles for the home. Mrs. Melvin Andres has not yet taken up the art of needlepoint, but the speed and skill with which she now knits have improved remarkably during the three year moratorium on bridge.

With four chair seats completed, Adelaide Schroeter of St. Louis, who is spending the winter with her grandmother, Mrs. A. C. Zinn, is well on the way to having a complete set for a dining room. Not content with tackling the job of working all of the pieces, Miss Schroeter is drawing the designs for each one, using as her motifs floral wreaths, autumn leaves, figures and conventional designs.

Mrs. H. H. Thomas and Mother-in-Law Co-operate

Just so she wouldn't become too weary with the undertaking, Miss Schroeter has been sandwiching between her sewing hours the painting of murals in the recreation room of her grandmother's home on N. Summit avenue.

A devotee of the art for at least 15 years, Mrs. Frazier Jeffrey has made needlepoint seats in old blue for the seven old carved back chairs which were in the home of her mother, Mrs. Fannie E. Stafford.

Working in a co-operative manner Mrs. H. H. Thomas and her mother-in-law, Mrs. W. E. Thomas, completed within five months dining room chair seats for the former's home.

Among the other women who are perpetuating that art which Penelope employed while waiting for Ulysses' return are Mrs. Albert Trostel Sr., Mrs. Arthur Uihlein, Mrs. Alfred Kieckhefer, Mrs. Grant Hill, Mrs. Curtis Evans, Mrs. Max Nohl, Mrs. W. T. Sullivan and Mrs. Warren Wheeler.

She Stamps Her Own Designs

Adelaide Schroeter of St. Louis, who spends each winter here with her grandmother, Mrs. A. C. Zinn, N. Summit avenue, is a firm believer in the efficacy of needlepoint for whiling away leisure hours. She draws and stamps her own designs.

(Sentinel Photo.)

Jill Learns About the West

After three years in New York, Mrs. Charles Nichols and her husband have returned to Milwaukee to make their home. She is the former Helen Davy of Nashotah. Dr. and Mrs. Nichols are living on N. Oakland avenue, where Jill, their pet Scottie, is getting acclimated to western ways.

(Sentinel Photo.)

Conference on Homemaking Is Getting Attention

STILL almost two months off, the Midwest conference on homemaking in Chicago March 19, 20 and 21 has elicited interest among clubwomen here.

Parent-Teacher association leaders are making tentative plans to attend, and Mrs. William A. Hastings, 119 Monona avenue, Madison, has been delegated chairman of providing units of the Wisconsin Congress of Parent and Teachers with delegate tickets.

The conference, sponsored jointly by the Illinois Congress of Parents and Teachers and the Household Science institute, will take up the economic, social and spiritual aspects of the subject.

The threefold purpose of the conference is: To focus attention of the thinking public upon the commendable manner in which the homemakers of America have met the present crisis, to foster an organized effort to co-ordinate and unify all that is being done in various channels to advance the profession of homemaking, and to establish a basis for the dissemination of helpful, authoritative information.

A non-commercial educational exhibit will be held in conjunction with the three-day conference. The conference will be open to the public, without charge.

Federation Committee On Health Will Meet

FOLLOWING the Thursday lecture of the Mothercraft society of the Maternity Hospital and Dispensary association, the newly appointed public health committee of the Milwaukee County Federation of Women's clubs will meet. The lectures, by Miss Carrie B. Levy, supervisor of the special class of the Milwaukee public schools, and by Dr. C. H. Burnett, director of clinics for the Maternity Hospital and Dispensary association, will be given at 1 p. m.

Bridge Benefits to Augment U.W. Pharmacy Loan Fund

10 Cities of Wisconsin Will Join in Campaign.

TO augment their student loan fund at the University of Wisconsin, officers of the women's auxiliary to the Wisconsin Pharmaceutical association are sponsoring a state-wide series of benefit bridge parties this month. The fund, which is administered by Dr. Edward Kremers of the department of pharmacy at the university, can be drawn on by sons and daughters of Wisconsin pharmacists at the university. Benefits are being given in 10 cities.

Mrs. Oscar Rennebohm of Madison, state president of the auxiliary, has appointed the following women to take charge of the bridge party in their respective cities: Mrs. Fred Schlintz, Appleton; Mrs. H. O. Jaastad, Eau Claire; Mrs. Wilbur Lalis, Fond du Lac; Mrs. O. W. Haertlein, Kenosha; Mrs. W. O. Richtmann, Madison; Mrs. Otto H. Berndt, Manitowoc; Mrs. F. W. Mueller, Oshkosh; Mrs. H. F. Roenitz, Sheboygan; Mrs. Harold Baebenroth, Stevens Point, and Mrs. Karl J. Henrich, Superior.

MRS. OSCAR RENNEBOHM.

Precedents

By MARGE STANLEY

JOSEPH V. QUARLES, E. Juneau avenue, is a descendant of the Quarles family which originated in Ufford, England, in 1066. The origin of the name is completely lost; it is obviously of French derivation, but the exact meaning is unknown, though the spelling has remained unaltered for 900 years.

At the time of Puritan oppression, some of the members fled to Holland, where they were known as the Quarles Van Ufford. There is still a Baron Quarles de Quarles living in Amsterdam.

However, the majority of the family remained in England as staunch royalists. A Frances Quarles was poet laureate under Charles I, but when that luckless monarch was beheaded, the family fortunes declined. Royalists were persecuted under Cromwell's rule, and at last two of the brothers escaped from England under false names, and sailed to America. Chance separated them, and one landed in Salem in 1644, while the other made his way to Virginia. The southern branch spread throughout the South and West, and is a large family today.

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OF the descendants of the Salem branch, only the Milwaukee family is left. For a number of generations the family remained in New England, and at the time of the Revolution, Samuel Quarles, the founder of Ossipee, N. H., was the family head. It was his son, Col. Joseph V. Quarles, born in 1799, who finally came West.

He moved from Ossipee to Kenosha in 1838, where he married Caroline Bullen, daughter of that Gen. John Bullen who played in Kenosha much the same part that Solomon Juneau represented in Milwaukee—early settler and sponsor of the town.

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GENERAL BULLEN was in some ways a reckless, adventurous soul, and in others very prudent and deliberate. It was after much consideration that he built a tavern at Bullen's bridge on the Fox river, assuming that this waterway would sooner or later develop into a vast artery of commerce. At that time no one could foresee the development of railroads to such an extent as to overshadow water transportation.

At Bullen's bridge he had need for prudence. One of the neighboring Indian chiefs asked for his daughter Caroline's hand in marriage, considering, of course, that he was conferring a great honor on her. It took a great deal of diplomacy to refuse consent without angering the tribe.

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BUT he was not always so diplomatic. Both the general and Colonel Quarles were ardent abolitionists, and served on the famous underground railway that assisted escaped slaves to Canada. On one occasion an irate Southerner traced his runaway slave to General Bullen's cellar, and demanded his return. The short tempered general refused, and in the ensuing argument, armed only with a hoe, he succeeded in driving off the owner, despite the fact that the latter had a pistol. The slave, hidden in a barrel, was later sent on to freedom.

It was Colonel Quarles' son, Joseph Jr., who moved to Milwaukee in 1890. His son is the present Joseph V. Quarles of E. Juneau avenue, whose son Joseph is the fourth, and grandson the fifth to bear the name.

Grace Wagner Becomes Bride In Honolulu

ANNOUNCEMENTS have been received here of the marriage, on Jan. 12 in the chapel of St. Andrew's cathedral, Honolulu, of Grace Vander Veer Wagner, daughter of Prof, and Mrs. George Wagner of Madison, and Lieut. Emery Roughton of the United States navy, son of Mr. and Mrs. Enos Roughton, Lewiston, O. The ceremony was performed at 4 p. m. that day by the Rev. William Ault, dean of St. Andrew's, and was followed by a reception.

The bride, who was unattended, was given in marriage by Lieut. Warren Johnson. The best man was Lieut. George A. Sharp, and the ushers were Lieuts. Vincent Meola, Frank Suongo, Raymond Johnson, Clayton Marcy, Charles Fenton and John E. Stevens. The guests included the officers of the United States submarine squadron 4 and their wives, and a few other friends.

After a honeymoon on the north coast of Oahu, the couple will live in Honolulu.

The bride attended Sweet Briar college, and was graduated in 1928 from the University of Wisconsin, where she affiliated with Alpha Phi sorority. She did graduate work at Simmons college in Boston.

Lieutenant Roughton was graduated from the United States naval academy at Annapolis, and is at present on duty with submarine S 21, stationed at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

Amendment on 'Equal Rights' To Be Debated

WHAT promises to be one of the livelier debates of the current club season will be held Thursday at the weekly discussion meeting sponsored by the legislative committee of the Milwaukee County Federation of Women's Clubs, in the Plankinton hotel at 2 p. m.

The proposed equal rights amendment to the constitution is the subject. Mrs. Max Rotter, busy worker in the campaign for the amendment's adoption, and Mrs. Belle Bortin Ruppa, an able second, will uphold the affirmative. They will be faced by Miss Anita Koenen, chairman of legal status of women for the Milwaukee County League of Women Voters, and Mrs. Thomas M. Duncan—both advocates of protective legislation for women.

GOOD NEWS HEALTH LOOKS TIMES YWCA

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Current Drama In America Is Nicoll's Topic

WHAT the real worth is of the plays now on Broadway; what tendencies are manifest there, and what can be expected from playwrights in the future will be discussed by Allardyce Nicoll, chairman of the drama department of Yale university, when he speaks before Woman's club members Thursday on "The Drama in America Today."

Preceding his lecture, Professor Nicoll will be guest of honor at the luncheon to be given by Mrs. George Harlow and Mrs. Charles L. Jones, chairmen of the day.

Professor Nicoll, formerly professor of languages and literature at the University of London, is a recognized authority on drama and dramatic criticism, and has numerous books to his credit. A Shakespearian scholar, he has published several volumes of study and criticism on that author; he has also written numerous books on the development of the theater, and critical studies of William Blake and John Dryden. In the drama-history group, his "Masks, Mimes and Miracles" is best known.

Conferees on Crime Bureau Appointed

MRS. J. R. HOUSTON and Mrs. A. W. Wilkinson have been appointed to assist Mrs. C. R. Beck with the Women's Court conference co-operation in the campaign for a Milwaukee county crime prevention bureau. This committee will confer with a similar group from the Milwaukee Woman's club and with Judge Max W. Nohl in drafting a bill empowering the county board to set up such a bureau. It is planned to introduce the bill into this session of the state legislature.

Officers Are Installed By Plumbers' Auxiliary

NEWLY installed officers of the women's auxiliary, Milwaukee Association of Master Plumbers, are Mmes. Jacob Schuh, president; George J. Stoehr, first vice president; Edwin Thill, second vice president; A. A. Hoffmann, third vice president; J. J. Mueller, recording secretary; J. E. Grimm, corresponding secretary; Peter Vogt, treasurer; F. G. Colwell, assistant treasurer; Rose Friend, chaplain, and Miss Clara J. Wittig, publicity chairman.

Walrus Club Will Be Clad In Feathers

All the Members Are Hunting Adornment for the Ball.

A QUIET hunt for feathers is in progress in different parts of Milwaukee, and garrets and storerooms are being ransacked by eager searchers who hope to steal a march on their less far-sighted friends.

Within the next few weeks this treasure hunt promises to be city-wide, for it is whispered in the circles of the informed that feathers are to play an important part in the making of costumes for the Maya ball to be given by the Walrus club at the Pfister hotel on Shrove Tuesday night.

It is also whispered that as preparations for the ball get under way more intensively, men will be as eager as the women to secure feathered costume accessories, for the ancient Maya warriors adorned both shield and spear with them. They will also be in great demand for elaborate headdresses.

The feathers which are being sought are of the straight variety. The most coveted ones are those of primitive coloring or those of such neutral tint that they can be dyed into a semblance of semi-tropical plumage. Greatest prize of all are the iridescent green or blood-red feathers of the male quezal which were once the prerogative of chiefs of noble blood but which are now the national symbol of Guatemala.

Betrothal of Miss Stein Announced by Parents

MR. AND MRS. NATHAN STEIN, N. Forty-eighth street, will have open house this afternoon from 2 to 5 o'clock, and this evening from 7 to 9 o'clock in honor of their daughter, Sara Kalo, whose engagement to Victor Resnick, son of Mrs. Samuel Resnick, they announce this morning.

North Shore Women

TO alleviate urgent need in a number of families not receiving county aid, the North Shore Woman's club will give a benefit luncheon and card party at the home of the president, Mrs. Frederick P. Jones, 2747 N. Hackett avenue, Feb. 5.

Home Charm and Comfort

Rapid strides in the art of home making give new responsibilities to American women. It now is a woman's task to plan the home—furnish it—to make it beautifully intimate. The home maker accepts this responsibility. She is achieving marvelous results. But her planning and furnishing are being done chiefly in daylight hours. Unfortunately night finds little expression in her artistic ability. Most of the beauty of furnishings, drapes, rugs and settings is hidden because of inadequate light. The sparkle and charm are lost.

But a more important consideration—the eyes. Poor lighting is a real menace to eyesight. Three-fourths of all people over 50 now suffer from damaged eyesight and attendant ills. Much of this is due to eye abuse in poor light. Eye specialists urge us to conserve our sight—and our nervous systems—by giving care to the lighting in our homes.

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