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Thru The Looking Glass

Put On Your Thinking Cap

By LOUISE WILSON

Today Friday is important for [illegible] reasons: It's Abraham Lincoln's birthday, it's just two days till Valentine's Day, and it's the day we announce the details of the Courier Journal's first fashion contest.

The idea came to me during the Millinery Institute's luncheon in New York last month when I heard Edith Head, Paramount's fashion chief, say: "No woman should be seen outside the house without a HAT."

REACTIONS, PUFFED like firecrackers all around me and I wondered what your reaction would be. How to find out? A contest. The prize? A new Easter bonnet!

So I phoned Kim Wise of Millinery Institute and she was as enthusiastic about it as I. She promised the Millinery Institute of America's complete cooperation even to doing the final judging and awarding a brand new, beautiful designer hat!...

Speaking of hats, the big fashion news is the size. They continue to be big and bulky but light in weight. Note the sailor at the top left. It's bulky looking but is of seafoam straw decked out with a royal treatment of flowers. One runaway crocus sails gaily down into the royal blue veiling.

The Halo beret in the center has a queenly elegance as interpreted by Emme. Black straw contrasts with snow-white chiffon that frames the face with a nun-like grace and shawls down in streamers that can trail or tuck away.

Above, right, is a pink confection by G. Howard Hodge. Peeping from the folds of mesh Milan is an handful of Spring crocuses.

WITH VALENTINE'S Day but one more shopping day away, consider a gift of Black Watch by Prince Matchabelli, a bottle or a brace of man's grooming aids. Black Watch shave lotion and Black Watch man's cologne are characterized by a subtly permeating leather-and-tobacco aroma undertoned with deep woody notes. In a word, it's great and masculine.

BY THE WAY, with all the fuss and furore about lipstick dyes, Estee Lauder sends this firm statement: "I wish to inform you that all Estee Lauder lipsticks have been made and will be made from colors certified as safe and harmless for use on the lips."

So that's an encouraging note.

HERE'S ANOTHER: it appears we're entering an era of wholesomeness. The resurgence of religion, the bringing to light and correcting of juvenile methods of production, the increasing popularity of educational programs, the steady pushing back of "rock and roll" persistance, and the great success of wholesome musical shows surely indicate a strong trend in this direction. And so, happily, do the latest trends of fashion.

On February 20th, we'll concentrate on a "Little Girl's Easter Parade." Meantime, we'll welcome bushels and bushels of entries in our Easter Bonnet contest . . . and questions relating to fashion and beauty!

So keeping all this under my hat for a month hasn't been easy but here are the details: Write in 25 words or less what you think of Edith Head's statement, "No woman should be seen outside the house without a hat." Then, in a sentence or two, add why you want to win this hat. Send in as many entries as you wish. The deadline for all entries is March 19th.

The winner will be announced in this column on April 8th. No special literary ability is required. Letters will be judged on originality and sincerity. Address entries to EASTER HAT CONTEST, Courier Journal, 55 Exchange, Rochester 4, New York.

THIS BEING Leap Year, we're opening the contest to men as well as women. Men's reactions to women's hats are usually pretty sound, so they ought to have a voice in our contest, too. What easier way to be a hero than to win an Easter hat for some special lady!

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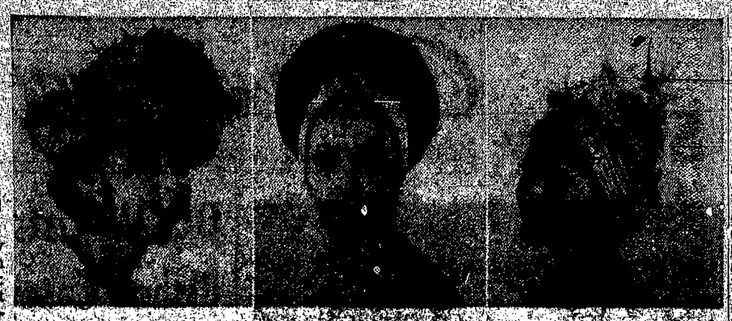


Three Wise Styles For Easter

Fatima Play Scheduled At Mercy High

"Our Lady of Fatima," a one-act play by the Rev. Ulman Nagle, O.P., has been selected for the school play at Our Lady of Mercy High School on Friday and Saturday evenings, Feb. 26 and 27, in the school auditorium. The play is under the direction of Sister Mary Pius.

Senior Nancy Florin will portray the Blessed Mother. Lucia as a ten-year-old child will be played by freshmen Kathleen Jeary and Antoinetta Townsend. Jacinta will be portrayed by grade-schoolers Dorothy Twamley and Deborah Wuest. Grade-schoolers Michael Jeary and Patrick Gleason will play Francisco.

THE SUPPORTING cast includes seniors Catherine Averill and Kathy Peters; juniors Jo Anne Madigan, Terry Vigna, Sheila Dwyer and Germaine Schluster; sophomores Laurie Waldorf; and freshmen Gabrielle Wickert and Kathy Ashenburg.

Minor roles have been given to Pat Erdle, Ann MacArthur, Peggy O'Reilly, Bonnie Trau, Sue VerHoeven, Martha Johnsak, Jeanette Stadtmueller, Mary Kress, Margaret Delaney, Dianna DeMark, Caitlin Ingram, Wendy Lusniak, Elaine Tantillo, Joanne Walchhodt, Margaret Mary Welker and Mary E. Barrett.

Theatre Guide

CINEMA
The Mouse That Roared — A-1 (Unobjectionable)

LITTLE
Broth of a Boy — A-1

MONROE
Percy and Rose — A-3 (Unobjectionable for adults and adolescents)

LOEW'S
On the Beach — A-3 (Unobjectionable for adults)

PARAMOUNT
Operation Petticoat — A-3
Story on Page 1 — A-3

RIVIERA
Solomon and Sheba — B (Objectionable)

FINE ARTS
The House of the Angel Moon — A-1
Singing in the Rain — B

PALACE
The Rise and Fall of Legs Diamond — B
Surrender — Hell — A-2

REGENT
Night of the Blood Beast — B
She Gods of Shark Reef — A-2

At Our House . . .

St. Valentine's Day

By MARY TIMMY DALY

Valentine Day. What does that mean to the children?

For our children, as it did for us as children, it means a lot of kid stuff: lace paper messages, coyly addressed in disguised handwriting with a "Guess Who?" motif; a gayly decorated box at school into which everybody — "But everybody!" — puts in a one or two-cent valentine for everybody else. And there's always a special one to a special person.

Adults and pseudo-adults often choose this day to send anonymously the "comic" kind — those that really hurt as they pinpoint foibles, failings, or even physical disabilities.

THE CUSTOM of tentative romancing goes back, way back, to the Middle Ages when it was believed that mid-way in the second month of the new year, birds took their first mates of the season.

Chaucer, in Old English (14th century) in his "Parliament of Foules" writes:

"For this was on Seynt Valentyne's day
"When every foul cometh ther to choose his mate."

In the Connoisseur, a series of essays published in the early 18th century, we read of a young girl who "pinned five bay leaves, one on each corner of my pillow, one in the middle." It sounds as though this would make her dream of beef stew, but it seems this was supposed to make her dream of her sweetheart and, if she so dreamed, she would marry him before the year's end.

TO MAKE sure the girl hard-boiled an egg, took out the yolk, filled the cavity with salt, ate the whole thing (including shell), without speaking or drinking after the ordeal. Then she continued, "I lay abed and shut my eyes all morning till he came to our house; for I would not have seen another man before him for all the world."

Family Rosary Radio Program

Friday, Feb. 12—Raymond T. Brien, St. Francis of Assisi.

Saturday, Feb. 13 — Louis Lanzi, "Annunciation."

Sunday, Feb. 14 — A representative of St. Rita's, West Webster.

Monday, Feb. 15—Leo Saeum, St. Joseph accompanied by Holy Name Society.

Tuesday, Feb. 16—Paul Stock, St. Philip Neri accompanied by Holy Name Society.

Wednesday, Feb. 17—Joseph P. Mark, St. Andrew accompanied by Holy Name Society.

Thursday, Feb. 18.— Alvin Chapas, St. George accompanied by Holy Name Society.

Getting a man the day we'd say...

In the 18th and 19th centuries in England, France, and Scotland on St. Valentine's Eve, it was a ceremony for young boys and girls to write names of those of the opposite sex on billets, throw them into a common pile, then draw. Those drawn were "valentines."

St. Francis de Sales, 16th century Bishop and "Gentleman Saint" severely forbade the custom. To abolish it, he instituted the practice of giving billets with the names of certain saints to be honored and imitated by the boys.

So, you see, this Valentine business has been going on for a long, long time.

As to why the day is named in honor of St. Valentine — probably it has nothing to do with the saint (or saints, for there were at least three of them by the name) except for the fact that February 14 is their Feast Day. Also, it coincides with the ancient practice of the birds.

ONE OF the best known of the Saints Valentine was a priest-physician of Rome. Because he refused to renounce his faith, Valentine was beaten by clubs and afterward beheaded on the 14th day of February, about the year 270. In 350 a church was built over his tomb on the Flaminian Way (Gate of St. Valentine).

Another Valentine was the Bishop of Interamna (modern Terni). Other martyrs named St. Valentine were known as "baptismal" saints, i.e., anonymous martyrs to whom the names of some known martyr was given.

So, this year, as we celebrate Valentine Day in a rather lighthearted and somewhat silly way, we see the background: customs originating in a worldly sense but taking on the name of truly great saints of the Church.

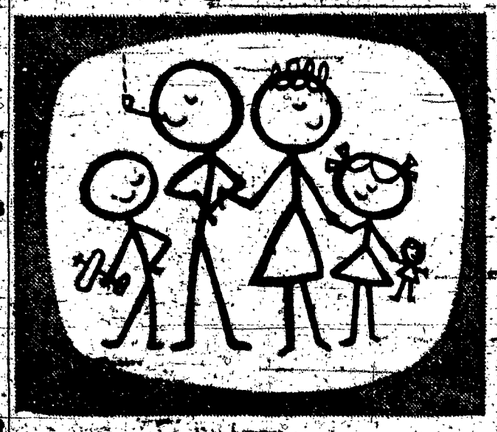
Perhaps this is good. If the purely natural generation-after-generation custom of sending valentines had not persisted, St. Valentine and his other martyr-namesakes might have been forgotten.

As we bake a heart-shaped cake, decorate it with red hearts, use "I love you" place cards, our thoughts can go to more serious things than the perennial customs of the birds.

At Mass, when we see the priest come out robed in red vestments, we will realize that this is not only the color of the cinnamon hearts for sale in my candy store. These red vestments are representative of the martyrs of the Church — those who shed their blood for their religious convictions.

This is the real meaning of St. Valentine's Day.

DOROTHY GRAY
ONCE-A-YEAR SALE
TWO LIPSTICKS ONE DOLLAR
Choose from top fashion shades
AT ALL DAY'S DRUG STORES



Picture of a family scene
Where savings help make life serene!
The roof may spring a leak, Junior may need a bicycle, Mom's cleaner may lose its vacuum . . . but there'll be no panic in this house. For over at Community Mom and Dad have a fine fat nest egg just waiting for such emergencies. Why don't you start saving systematically at Community so serenity can start making your life rosier?
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Buffalo Theatre Proves A-1 Films Good Business

Buffalo — (NC) — Buffalo's Catholic Theater, in operation for the past two years, is proof that a theater showing only A-1 (general patronage) movies can be successful.

Described as the first theater of its kind in the country, Catholic Theater provides wholesome Sunday entertainment for adults and youngsters.

LOCATED ON property adjoining Holy Cross Church, the theater was purchased by the parish's pastor, Msgr. Joseph Gambino, after its owners decided to close it in April, 1958.

With the assistance of a group of priests and lay men, including Father Vincent Belle, present parish curate who was also in charge the past New Year's Day, and Rino A. Palumbo, a lawyer and parishioner, the theater was put into operation.

"We found that Catholic Theater attracted mostly children, so we geared it primarily for their enjoyment," Palumbo stated. He said the theater is able to get films at nominal cost because of the type of its operation.

THE THEATER, which has a seating capacity of about 1,200, usually attracts 600 to 650 customers for its Sunday performances. If only recorded full-house was last spring when it presented "The Miracle of St. Therese."

IF you are interested in earning $10.00 to $15 per week — or more — in your spare time, write MRS. ELIZABETH TRUMET — 330 Hillendale Drive, Rome 11, N.Y. — only 30 more names available this week. Full time positions.

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VALENTINE VALUES
Near East Missions
ST. VALENTINE (Feb. 14th), a priest and martyr, doctor, is famous for his generous kindness to THE NEEDY. Our HIS TIME for you show A SENSE OF ST. VALENTINE'S VALUES BY SOME GENEROUS GIFT TO POPE JOHN XXIII FOR THE GREEK-ARMAN REFUGEES OF OUR NEAR EAST, a gift which is to enhance both the Christianity which represents the Easter of OUR OF AMERICA'S MOST FAMOUS PRESIDENTS, ABRAHAM LINCOLN (His birthday: Feb. 12th.)
LOVELY CHOICE OF NAMES
MARIE AND THERESE — With these names THEY CAN'T MISS being good sisters—When each of them has a pledge of $130 for each year of their two-year novitiate, HABIB AND ELIAS — Judging from these names, EAST IS EAST. A promise of $100 for each year of their six-year seminary course will allow HABIB AND ELIAS to continue the GLORIOUS HISTORY OF THE PRIESTHOOD in the Eastern Church.
WILL YOU WILL? YOU WILL? WELL, WILL WELL. YOUR LAST WILL IS IMPORTANT TO YOUR RELATIVES, FRIENDS AND THE NEAR EAST MISSIONS.
CYCLONE IN AUGUST
The people in MASSAUA in ERITREA have raised $2,000 to rebuild their parish church which was DEVELED BY A CYCLONE THIS PAST AUGUST. Your gift towards the $1,000 necessary to FINISH THE CHURCH WILL PUT THEM BACK IN BUSINESS.
WHO'S MINDING THE STORE?
That's what we say when everyone is gone and there's nobody home. Our priests, Brothers and sisters are ALWAYS MINDING THE STORE, even in the most remote mission areas. You can help them keep the stock of GOD'S SPIRITUAL AND MATERIAL GIFTS EASILY AVAILABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION by your membership in the Catholic Near East Welfare Association. Dues: Perpetual Individual $25, Annual Individual $1, PERPETUAL FAMILY $100, ANNUAL FAMILY $5.
YOUR MANY MASS OFFERINGS MEAN SO MUCH TO OUR MISSIONS AND OUR MISSIONARIES. A GIFT CARD GOES TO YOU—OR THE PERSON YOU NAME—WHEN YOU SEND IN YOUR OFFERING AND INTENTIONS FOR THE LIVING AND DEAD.
GIFT IN MEMORY OF
A DECEASED RELATIVE OR FRIEND can be: Chalice $40, Monstrance $40, Station of the Cross $25, Complete Mass Kit $100, Altar Cruets $15, Altar $75, Confessional $250, Anniversary Lamp $15. Or YOU MAY PREFER to enroll them in the MONICA GUILD—which watches over the material needs of our churches and chapels, MARY'S BANK—a savings account for the expenses of our convents, THE LEPERS FUND—Need we tell you the rest? FOR ANY OF THESE CLUBS, A Prayer-A-Day and A Dollar-A-Month.
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