

At Our House®

The Birthday Boy

By MARY TINLEY DALY

Sheer joy in living is contagious when you are around our friend, octogenarian George Vivian.

And when you're with George on his birthday — well, the blues just don't have a chance!

One of the English-born "Four Victims" of the theatre in the early days of his century, George has been in the United States since 1905, has played nearly a thousand characters as an actor, staged scores of productions, has, in fact, as one of his biographers puts it,

"done everything in the theatre from stagehand to manager."

As to Shakespeare — start a line and George can pick up from there and go on for the entire play, and has a Shakespearean quote to fit every situation, mundane or celestial.

A recent crippling illness would have stymied or depressed one with less bounce than this slender little man, with his crinkly white hair, bright blue eyes and infinite capacity for living the full life of the mind.

Needless to say, George has many, many friends — we are privileged to be among them — and, as he says himself, with a chuckle, "I have no enemies, I've outlived them all!"

His wife, Dorothy, the other day arranged a surprise party for George's eighty-something birthday and included us among the guests.

With his usual exuberance, George rose to the occasion, leaning heavily on the steel brace that enables him to walk at all, George painfully made his way from couch to birthday table. In a voice somewhat weakened with age, but with the same perfect enunciation of the trained actor, George sang some rather unusual and happy little ditties we should like to share with readers of this column.

You can almost make up the tunes yourself, and here are the words to gladden a birthday at your house:

"HAPPY RETURNS"

Many years, many years,
You come bustling around
Saying all that affection can say.

Still we love to hear
From lips that are dear,
"Many happy returns of the day!"

Then, a garland, a bumper,
A dance and a feast.
Let natal time come when it may!

Be it autumn or spring
This gay chorus we sing:
"Many happy returns of the day!"

"TWENTY-ONE TODAY"

I'm twenty-one today,
I'm twenty-one today,
I've the key to the door
For I've never before
Been twenty-one — till today.
Father says I may do as I like
So about, "Hi-hip-heery"
Sing, "He's a jolly good fellow,
He's twenty-one today!"

"IT'S MY BIRTHDAY!"

You're all in this,
You're all in this,
You are, you are,
Ha-ha! Ha-ha!
Fill your glasses to the brim
And shout Ho-hey!
We're going to have a rumpus
'Cause it's my birthday.
So let your voices ring,
We'll dance and we'll sing
To drive all care away,
And we'll sing and we'll shout
'Til we're all turned out
For it's my birthday!

Lansing Couple Marks 25 Years

Mr. and Mrs. Frederick J. Lansing, 56 Tacoma St., celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on June 18 with a Mass at Holy Rosary Church. A dinner followed at the Four Seasons restaurant.

They were also entertained at a family picnic on June 20 in Ellison Park.



CO-CHAIRMEN Sisters Clare de Paul and Hiltrude get a chuckle over some of the standouts to be featured in the stuffed animal booth at the Summer Festival to be held at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse on July 7-8.



These two young nuns, only 8 months apart in age, are aunt and niece. Sister Mary Giovanni is a Mercy nun; Sister Mary Anthony, in the Sisters of St. Joseph. (See story)

Niece, Aunt

Receive Nun's Habit, In 2 Different Orders

A young lady and her aunt, who is just 8 months older, both received their religious habits recently—but one, weeks ago.

Phyllis Lee Contestable received the habit of the Sisters of Mercy on June 12, and a new religious name—Sister Mary Giovanni. Her aunt, Rena Contestable, received the habit of the Sisters of St. Joseph on June 1, in a ceremony attended by her niece. Rena is now Sister Mary Anthony.

Sister Mary Giovanni is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Contestable, of 291 Rosedal St., a Blessed Sacrament parish. She attended the parochial school there, and then Mercy High.

Sister Mary Anthony is the daughter of Vincent Contestable and the late Antonia Contestable, of 28 Lorimer St., in St. Anthony's parish. Her religious name honors both her mother and her old parish patron. She's a graduate of St. Anthony's school and Nazareth Academy.

Both girls graduated from high school last year, and entered their respective religious communities a few days apart last September. They both want to teach, with Sister Giovanni, who has had considerable musical and drama experience, hoping to teach dramatics some day.

SUMMER BASKETBALL

Peter Todd, program director at the CYO on Chestnut Street has announced that the CYO summer basketball league will start on Tuesday, July 5, and will run for nine weeks. There will be three leagues for men, collegians and high school boys on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights.

For any further information contact Joe Difranco at OL 4-8908 who will be directing the leagues under Mr. Todd.

Games will start at 8, 7 and 6 p.m. evenings.

Stots Choose

Nun for Award

Glasgow—(NC)—Sister Jude, S.N.D., a pioneer in child guidance work here, has been named Scotswoman of the Year by readers of the Glasgow Evening Times. The Glasgow Corporation has made a grant of \$56,000 to the clinic she directs.

College Head

Lisle—(NC)—Father Roman S. Gallardi, O.S.B., has been appointed president of St. Procopius College here by Abbot Daniel W. Kucera, O.S.B., college chancellor and retiring president.

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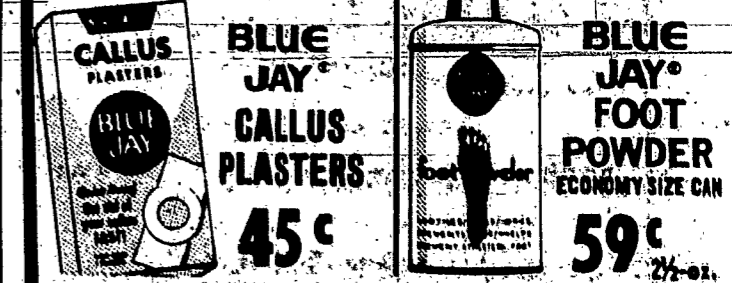
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