

London Terrace News

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MARCH

1936

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London Terrace

MARCH 1936

VOLUME III

NUMBER 3

Buses Imminent

As we go to press, there are definite indications that the long-awaited motorization of passenger traffic along Twenty-third Street is slated for mid-April. It looks as though buses would be quietly purring along in place of the trolley cars within a couple of weeks.

The Twenty-third Street Association, which has been in the forefront of the bus fight ever since it started, abetted by residents and the Management of London Terrace, sends word that the legal difficulties are due for a quick straightening out any day now. The buses are being held in readiness, so that the minute the word comes, they can be slapped into service.

A general jubilee celebration is being planned with a parade and all sorts of high jinks in prospect.

Chess Tourney

Terrace chess players go up against some big time competition on the night of Wednesday, April first. None other than Mr. Horowitz, one of the top-notch king jumpers of the world, is to sit down in the Penthouse Club with a chess board in front of him and take on all comers in simultaneous play. This young gentleman should be something to watch in action. He is a member of the United States team which won the International Championship in Warsaw last year.

Admirers of the fine art in-

involved in moving chess men from here to there are invited to look on at the match. A fee of ten cents is the admission charge. If you would like to stack up your technique against that of Mr. Horowitz, all you have to do is plunk down fifty cents, take a board and go to it. Entries for play must be filed in advance with Ned Goldschmidt, 5K, 410 Building. Play starts at 8:30 P. M.

The fourth month of the existence of the Chess Club finds it with twenty-one members who meet weekly on Wednesday nights in the Penthouse Club. They are currently engaged in a tournament, with the players lined up in two divisions, A and B, in accordance with their proven ability. The winner from each division is to be awarded a mechanical chess-moving device which en-

ables its users to concentrate entirely on the mental exercise of the game without having to exert any physical effort.

Page Rube Goldberg.

Discard Outlet

That stack of discarded magazines and those books which have been dispossessed from their shelves often constitute something of a problem. They seem too good to be thrown away, yet they take up room and have outlived any practical purpose. One of our tenants has come through with a solution of what to do with them. She is a Red Cross worker who spends one day a week at the Marine Hospital on Ellis Island. The Hospital houses 500 men, most of them World War veterans. They want things to read.

If you would like to do these men a good turn and at the same time clear out the old magazines and books, why not send the reading matter along to the Hospital? A call to Mrs. Steele, Apartment 14D, 465 Building, will do the trick. She will arrange to have the material picked up and delivered to the Hospital. All reading matter is destroyed after it is used to prevent the spread of any contagious diseases, so an unlimited supply is needed.

This would seem to be an ideal way to clear out some of your excess reading matter without letting it go to waste.

How about giving Mrs. Steele a ring?



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WATER JAMBOREE

(Editor's Note—Press time caught us smack on the date of the swimming meet. In case it is over by the time this is in print, we thought you might like to read the story, anyway.)

THE Terrace Club plays host to another A. A. U. sponsored Championship Swim Meet to be held in the Pool the night of Friday, March 27th. The list of entrants sounds like a Who's Who of metropolitan water sharks.

Toni Redfern, speed-mad mermaid of the Shelton Dolphins, will again tangle with Mavis Freeman of the Women's S.A. in the women's scratch 100 yard free style. Miss Freeman will be in there fighting to avenge her defeat by Toni in the last meet. Just to make matters more exciting, another entrant is Dorothy Forbes of the Broadwood A. C., Philadelphia. It looks like a good, bang-up struggle.

Joseph Lockman of the Terrace Club, Junior metropolitan champion of 1935, and record-breaking P. S. A. L. champion, starts off the year by defending his laurels in the men's scratch breast stroke which will go 200 yards. He will tuck his head into the water against some keen competition.

Another breast stroke contest will be the 100 yard metropolitan championship for women, with Mrs. Petri defending the title. She will be opposed by a couple of Women's S.A. stars, Margaret Burne and Anna Nerich.

Dorothea Dickinson, metropolitan 220 yard free style champion, will have to keep her ears pinned back to hold her title intact. Present to try to take it away from her in the 220 yard event will be Dolores Smith, who takes nobody's backwash, and Susan Robinson, national long distance champion. Both these latter lassies swim under the colors of the Women's S.A.

The men's metropolitan championship one meter low board dive

contest is designed to inject plenty of spice into the evening's proceedings. Johnny Zahanak, defending champion, is strutting his stuff against such experts as Bill Reveto, of Columbia University and Intercollegiate champion, Stanley Dudek and George Blackmere.

The men's free style and backstroke events, which always come through with some fast and furious surprises, will round off the program.

All the contestants have their eyes fastened on that matter of Olympic Games representation, so there will be no fooling around. Toenails and eyebrows are pared down for streamline competition and spectators are assured of an evening of memorable spray-fanning.

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MEN AND WOMEN

LADY - AT - LEISURE

As I promised, I have managed to get around since last we met and here are a few of my discoveries. Number one is the solution of what to do with all your plates. Instead of piling them on top of each other and struggling with the ones that are always on top of the ones you want, you place dinner plates "bread and butters, saucers and others" (no extra charge for the poetry) standing up side by side, rather than piled up or spread out side by each. This is done by means of an ultra-ultra plate rack which is illustrated in this column. You can get them



at McCreery's or possibly by the time you read this, Mr. Martin will have them in stock at the Book Store. They cost only half of one dollar and I'm enjoying mine immensely.

Another item which I desire to discuss is not a new idea but a good one I think—broadloom carpeting. An illustration used in an advertisement recently, caught my eye. It depicted the optical illusion created when a line is carried straight from one end to another, unbroken as it is when you cover your entire floor space instead of only part of it. There are other advantages too, one being the smartness of carpeting now, especially in rich dark shades of brown or egg plant AND I can't miss this opportunity of mentioning how grateful your neighbor below will be if he hears the tack, tack,

tack of the old hammer which means that there will be no more tap, tap, tap of the old high heels on the uncovered floor above. It deadens radio and other disturbing noise too, so everybody in favor of this idea raise their hands and then lay a carpet. I hope that's not too bad a pun to pass the News censoring department.

The Lingerie Shop has turned up with a few style items indicating that spring wear for the ladies will be flip, gay and tangy. The knee-length self-supporting stockings which proved such a boon to freedom of the limbs last year are riding the crest of popularity again. Reactionaries might term the colors gaudy, but reactionaries are notoriously uninformed where feminine psychology is concerned. It is our guess that the green, burnt orange, copper and orchid shades of this spring hose will have the girls clapping their hands with delight, especially when the hands are encased in the smart gloves which are available decked out in colors to match.

Speaking of gloves a popular number is the string affair. It comes in a profusion of pastel shades suitable for any mood from demure to raucous.

Helpful friends have contributed the following recipes and I have tried them with some success. The following two work out nicely on the same menu, as you use the juice of a can of crushed pineapple for one and the pulp of the pineapple for the other. Here they are: Cut deep dashes in a thick "center slice" of ham. Place in baking dish and rub in 2 tablespoons of flour, 4 tablespoons of brown sugar and pour over this the juice of a No. 2 can of crushed pineapple. Bake for an hour. The other recipe is this: Cut a Hubbard squash into diamond shape pieces. Boil until tender. Scrape out the shells and add 4 tablespoons of butter, 1 tablespoon of sugar, salt and pepper and ½ cup of drained, crushed pineapple. Re-fill shells. Re-heat in oven.

And here are the latest "Diamond Points":

A man wandered into a tennis tournament the other day and sat down on the bench.

"Whose game?" he asked.

A shy young thing sitting next to him looked up hopefully. "I am," she replied.

Mistress: "I saw the milkman kiss you this morning, Jane. I'll take the milk in myself after this."

Jane: "It won't do you no good, mum. He promised not to kiss nobody but me."

"D'you know, Mrs. 'Arris, I sometimes wonder if me 'usband 'as grown tired of me."

"Whatever makes you say that, Mrs. 'Iggs?"

"Well, 'e aint been 'ome for seven years."

In closing I would like to greet an unknown admirer (?) (or at least he thinks he is unknown) but I recognized your green ink, Mr. H. H. G. and I will answer you properly at an early date. Signed Annie Howe.

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Movies

The weekly Terrace movies smashed into the hit column with the first showing on the evening of February 17. A capacity house packed the Penthouse Club with so many turned away due to lack of space that it was decided to move to a larger "theatre." The spot finally selected was the second floor of the 405 Building, formerly used for the Leather Craft School. A return showing was booked for March 2, which played to a much larger capacity audience.

From now on, there will be a different program shown every Monday evening at 8:30. Mrs. Dudensing of Travel Associates is sponsoring the films, which consist of feature attractions, short subjects, travel pictures and novelties. One novelty, "Sportographs," had the spectators howling for more. It was a combination film and game involving a volunteer investment of ten cents, with rewards to the lucky winners ranging up to several dollars. More of the same sort of entertainment is promised. Line forms on the right.

Flowery Thoughts

The flowers that bloom in the spring, tra-la, have a lot to do with the case along about Easter time. The Florist Shop these days is nothing more or less than a welter of color and pleasing scents. Potted plants, cut flowers, daisies from the meadow, orchids from wherever they come from, breath-taking varieties of lilies, corsages ornate and simple for any occasion, trailing vines, button-hole accessories, blossoms, bulbs, moss, ferns—Nature; raw cultivated, arranged or disarranged.

There is nothing like a few posies around and abouts to put the Indian sign on any lingering hanger from a long, chill winter. The Florist Shop deserves and is getting the call from beauty lovers.

LONDON TERRACE NEWS

SHE SINGS AT THE MET

**Thelma Votipka shares spotlight
glamour with famous stars in a
calling, which though arduous,
offers enviable compensations**



SINGING roles at the Metropolitan Opera is fine work if you can get it. Thelma Votipka got it and found out that the word "work" exactly fitted the job. It is hard strenuous work, but Miss Votipka doesn't mind it because it is work she is used to; the kind she has always done, the only kind she has ever enjoyed. Long hours of rehearsals, the learning of new parts, the strain of many performances, does not leave much time for champagne suppers or being drawn through the streets in a carriage.

This young lady from the middle west wouldn't enjoy such fold-erols, anyway. They would interfere with her work. Besides, it is the fault of her own unusual talent that she is kept so busy. Anyone who can, with credit, sing Frasquita in "Carmen" one night and Mistress Benson in "Lakme" the next, is bound to be in demand around an opera house. Backstage at the Met she is known as the "salt" of the musical menus. A dash, or perhaps a good handful of Votipka is necessary in each one.

Nothing of the traditional flighty skittishness of the opera singer is apparent in Votipka's manner. Spirit is there, of course. Spirit is an essential in her work, but her's is a spirit tempered by a stubborn courage; a calm attitude of facing facts, of knowing

what she wants and going about to get it.

She is the girl who lived around the corner back home and made good. What is more, she made good in a profession where the going is as treacherous as walking a tight-rope over Niagara Falls. A great many American girls would like to be opera singers. One in a thousand knows what it is like to stand on the performer's side of the Met foot-lights.

Now that she is there, Votipka doesn't have much time to sit back and revel in the fact that a life-long ambition has been realized. She has seen too many young singers flash across the operatic sky for a season or two, only to sink back into obscurity. She won't say so but one senses that she feels that the qualities which have put her where she is will keep her there. She has a sense of the solidity of her musical background as well as that of her character.

Nothing was thrown in her lap except a love of music and an aptitude for singing. She was born in Cleveland of Czecho-Slovakian parents. Her mother and father saw her through high school and gave strong encouragement to her talent. From then on, her fate was pretty much in her own hands—or vocal cords.

She put herself through the Oberlin Conservatory of Music by church singing, an occasional concert engagement and teaching young hopefuls the elements of musical expression. From there she went out to get practical theatrical experience. She toured in vaudeville, sang every sort of part in small operetta or musical

comedy companies, went out on one night stand concert engagements.

This experience, she feels, far from rendering her unfit for the rarified atmosphere of grand opera, gave her a confidence, an assurance, a knowledge of audiences that have been invaluable.

When her first big chance came—an audition for the Chicago Opera Company, then under the benevolent patronage of Samuel Insull—she won instant favor. She had the voice, the proper musical education, which included a knowledge of French, German and Italian, and stage experience. She sang with the Chicago company for three years. The Insull crash came, a realignment loomed. She decided to head for New York.

Here, she continued studying, picking up occasional engagements. Last spring the new regime at the Met sent out word that it would welcome young American singers. She answered the call. Her engagement followed.

She thinks the chances for young American singers are greater now than they ever have been—if they can deliver. The greatest drawback to their success is the fact that the chances for practical operatic experience are slim. Few companies operate outside the big cities. Young singers with splendid voices and adequate education often find that these qualities are not enough to enable them to make the grade at the Met. Thrown into the spotlight with seasoned veterans they simply do not know enough tricks of the trade. What tricks they do know often as not, fade

from them in stage fright and a wilting self-confidence.

Public interest in good music has been given a tremendous impetus, Vopitka feels, through the medium of the radio and screen operettas. If the hurdle of high box office prices could be surmounted, the opera business would boom, particularly on the road. More American singers, more operas sung in English would contribute mightily to the renaissance. The new policy at the Met is aiding this, but it needs to be extended further; to the people who at present haven't the chance or the money to go to the opera.

She enjoys speculating upon these larger problems, but there really is not much she can do about them. Her own work keeps her too busy. She is married to a business man. Their London Terrace apartment looks out high over Twenty-third Street to the river.

In moments of relaxation she likes to watch the liners moving in and out of their berths. She is not yet restless with her success, but confesses that it is fun to imagine riding a ship out of port, bound for the famous opera centers of Europe, there to know the plaudits of old-world audiences. For the present, however, the Met suits her very well.

One thing she wants to do that she has never done; sing the role of Eva in "Die Meistersinger." One doesn't doubt that she shall.

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Palm Science

There is more in the palm of the hand than meets the eye—the inexperienced eye that is. The jumble of fine lines running around on the surface of your palm may be a bunch of hen scratches to you, but to an expert they are a biography, a psychiatric reading and a forecast of things to come.

It has remained for the present Age of Science to put the art of handreading on an efficient, professional basis. People now go to school to learn it as a profession just as they learn law or medicine. When they get through they can take a good long look at a man's hand and tell him he'd be happier married to Mae West than Shirley Temple.

All spoofing aside, this business of scientific handreading has been pretty well acknowledged to have a good basis of fact and reason. The structure of the hand and fingers, the various bumps and hollows, the way a hand reaches for things—or doesn't—all tell their stories about the personalities, characteristics and inclinations of their owners.

Many vocational experts assert that the hand is a fairly sure guide to the sort of profession or business or recreation suitable to a person. They say that if parents were to be guided in a general way by the things a child's hand tells a scientific handreader, there would be far fewer misfits in the world.

There is no doubt that it is a fascinating subject and the way has been opened for Terrace residents to look into it if they so desire. Miss Helen Anne Ocksley, handreader, lecturer and vocational analyst, is prepared to do any amount of comprehensive work on character analysis as revealed by the hand. People who are puzzled concerning their own lines of endeavor or who would like help in guiding their children, are especially invited to consult Miss Ocksley.

The traditional procedure of

getting in touch with the editor of this publication will insure anyone interested of a more detailed account of Miss Ocksley's contemplated activities.

Question Mark

Newly-installed residents have replied cheerfully and at considerable detail to the questionnaire presented to them by the Management concerning their reasons for selecting London Terrace as a home. The replies have been so interesting and informative that the Renting Office has decided to get really ambitious. It is going to get in touch with older residents; those who have been here for a year or more, so that a more complete picture may be obtained.

Before long you will probably be interrogated by some member of the Renting Office staff as to the why, when and how you came to be a tenant. Cooperation will be appreciated, the fuller the replies the greater degree of appreciation.

BRIDGE

PENTHOUSE CLUB

470 West 24th Street

Special Notice

The Wednesday afternoon Duplicate Bridge has been changed to Friday afternoon, and will continue every Friday afternoon until further notice.

DUPLICATE BRIDGE SCHEDULE

Tuesday evenings... 8:00 and 8:30
Thursday evenings... 8:00 and 8:30
Friday afternoons... 2:15
Saturday afternoons... 2:15

Beginners' Duplicate

Friday evenings... 8:15

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TIMELY TIPS

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The Swim Class Mon., Wed. at 3:30. Mother's class at 4, same day.

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Novel way to entertain your active friends. Call Mr. Johnson at Pool Office for party rates for couples, foursomes or hundreds. No extra charge for water you swallow!

THE ROMANS HAD THE IDEA!

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Good Works

The first organized meeting to promote the work in behalf of needy Chelsea district families developed a good deal of enthusiasm. It was held on Tuesday, February 27, in the Penthouse Club. Fifty women residents were served tea and listened to an informative talk by Doctor John Elliott, who has devoted a lifetime to social problems.

The London Terrace-Chelsea Neediest Families Committee was formed to supervise the work of distributing clothing and being of aid to the families who were selected during the Christmas Party investigation as being most in need of help. Plans for gathering and distributing discarded clothing were developed and endorsed by all those present.

It was decided that the simplest and most effective method of handling clothing contributions would be to have them left at the Uniformed Service desk in the lower corridor of the 435 Building. From there they will be taken to the Penthouse Club to be sorted. Regular days will be set aside for this work. A careful record has been kept of the families to be aided; the number in the home, ages, needs, sizes and so on, so that the sorting and distributing can be carried out with efficiency and to the best advantage of the most people.

All the cooperation possible is needed for success in this very worthy undertaking. Contributions of clothing are, of course, of paramount importance. More residents who are willing to give a small amount of time each week would be of great help. Anyone interested may get in touch with either Mrs. Nugent or Miss Bieber for more details.

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Church Directory

We are pleased to list these churches in the London Terrace Parish, for the guidance of readers:

✕

Baptist

North Church
252 West 11th Street

✕

Episcopal

St. Peter's Chelsea
346 West 20th Street
Church of the Holy Apostles
9th Avenue and 28th Street

✕

Lutheran

German Lutheran Church of
St. Paul
312 West 22nd Street

✕

Methodist Episcopal

18th Street Methodist
Episcopal Church
305 West 18th Street

✕

Presbyterian

Chelsea Presbyterian Church
214 West 23rd Street

✕

Reformed

The Marble Church
Fifth Avenue and 29th Street

✕

Roman Catholic

St. Columba
341 West 25th Street

✕

Practically all the churches listed above will have services every Wednesday evening at 8:00 P. M. during Lent with special services on Good Friday, April 10th and Easter Sunday, April 12th.

Mais Ouis

With the growing prevalence of foreign films on the screens of this cosmopolitan town of ours, the poor goof whose linguistic ability is limited to Americanese, or even English, is denied a lot of first-rate entertainment. Likewise, those sons and daughters of the capitalist class who are inconsiderate enough of the rest of us to be planning trips abroad this summer, may or may not be assailed with trepidation at the prospect of obtaining a helping of corned beef and cabbage in Paris, for instance.

Mlle. Heaton Junod has come to the rescue with an invitation to residents to study French with her. She plans classes in practical phases of the language.

A glance at the record of Mlle. Junod discloses that, among other things, she is a member of Institut Francais, calls Paris and Neuchatel her home territories, is a graduate of Ecole Superieure, Neuchatel, with a Professeur diploma and is head of the French

department of Whytehill School, New York.

A phone call or note to the editors will be productive of results concerning the French classes. The password is oo la la if you can't think of a better one.

Healthy Expansion

Miss Constantine, unlike the ladies under her exercise supervision, is expanding. Not physically, however, but in the matter of the activities under her guiding genius. In addition to the Exercise Room and the Women's Swimming Classes, she now has charge of the Massage Studio.

The Studio has been completely redecorated, new equipment installed and the various appliances for keeping fit rearranged, so that the place is a marvel of efficiency, scope and comfort. This is a development which cannot help but be a boon to those who desire systematized scheme of body building under the expert tutelage of Miss Constantine.

Home Town Stuff

In New York it is a distinction to live in London Terrace. In the "back home" newspapers, conceivably, it is a distinction rating as interesting news. It is a curious fact that John or Mary Jones, as long as they stick to their native bailiwick, have to set an altitude record in a balloon or entertain the Duchess of Newcastle-on-Tyne to get their names in the home town papers. But as soon as they light out for New York they find they are news, and it has been demonstrated that a story that they are living in the largest apartment house in the world often makes them front page characters.

In addition, items sent to home town newspapers are apt to result in welcome renewal of old friendships. A case in point is that of Mrs. W., who hails from Atlanta, Georgia. She receives her Atlanta papers regularly. Recently she was pleased to read that a former schoolmate of hers was married and living in London Terrace. Neither she nor her friend had known the other was in New York. A phone call and a reunion followed.

For the convenience of residents, particularly new ones, who would like to keep the home town acquainted with the fact that they are doing nicely in New York, we have inserted below a form. All you need to do is to fill it out, turn it in to the Management and it will be forwarded to the designated newspaper.

Name

Building..... Apartment.....

Home Town Paper

Society Editor (if possible).....

.....

Name of Home Town.....

Comments

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London Terrace Management

announces the following

RESIDENT PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

MEDICAL

ROBERT E. FRICK, M.D.

445 West 23rd St., Apt. 1B
CHelsea 3-6677

B. M. SHALETTE, M.D.

425 West 23rd St., Apt. 1B
CHelsea 3-1224 and 1225

ALFRED C. DUPONT, M.D.

455 West 23rd St., Apt. 1B
CHelsea 3-1894

DENTAL

PAUL ROBERT JACOBS, DDS.

415 West 23rd St., Apt. 1B
CHelsea 3-5858

BARNETT M. WARREN, DDS.

425 West 23rd St., Apt. 1E
CHelsea 3-6434

OSTEOPATHIC PHYSICIAN

DR. J. B. CULBERT

460 West 24th St., Apt. 1E
WAtkins 9-4761
By Appointment