

She's Showered With Letters . . . And Has Many Radio Fans

LETTERS and more letters! Letters from farm women, housewives, the old, the crippled and the blind. Letters from patients in hospitals and sanitariums. Letters written on every sort of stationery, some of them even upon ragged pieces of wrapping paper, or the back of a grocery advertisement. Some of them can scarcely be read, due to peculiarities in handwriting or spelling, or to the fact that the writer's pen has run out of ink, unknown to his sightless eyes. But all very interesting are these letters which Miss Ruth Galvin, popular reader on the daily library program of WOI, Iowa State College radio broadcasting station, receives from her many friends who know her voice but have never seen her face.

Miss Galvin, a slender young woman with dark eyes and a clear, pleasant voice, reads daily installments of new and popular books of fiction over the radio. This reading has caused such a demand for the books used that it resulted nearly 3 years ago in the establishment of the WOI Radio Book Club, which loans new books by mail. At the completion of each novel, Miss Galvin is showered with hundreds of letters of comment upon the story and upon her interpretation of it. The letters come from Iowa, Illinois, Missouri, Wisconsin, Nebraska, Minnesota, Oklahoma, and from North and South Dakota. Occasionally one comes from as far away as Arkansas or even Canada. Now and then Miss Galvin stuffs an unusual letter between the pages of her diary to keep.

SUCH a letter was one from a man who has been a hopeless cripple for 44 years, who has never walked, and can use his arms scarcely at all. However, his philosophy of life as expressed in the letter is one of the most cheerful and optimistic which Miss Galvin has ever read. After expressing appreciation for the pleasure which her readings give him, the man wrote: "You will no doubt wonder how I am writing this without the use of my hands. I am running the typewriter with a device I made to use in my mouth." And another letter, written by a blind man, requested a photograph of Miss Galvin, to place upon his radio.

Many story-hour fans write that they receive much more value from a book by hearing it read in installments with time to reflect upon each part, than from reading it themselves at one or two sittings.

Housewives write that they would be lost without the morning book hour, as it helps them in their ironing, mending and cleaning. A humorous Iowa postmaster wrote a hymn of praise to Miss Galvin,

saying that his wife darned socks as she listened to the program, and it inspired her so that he no longer went about with bare heels.

One woman's husband bought her an extra speaker and wired the house, so that now she hears the book program every morning, whether working in the kitchen, dining room, or laundry. She merely carries the speaker with her and "plugs in" wherever she may be.

Sometimes the books which are read over the air receive comments like this one: "I'm very much pleased to know that the author has one character, a woman that can keep a secret from her husband for 20 years. It proves to me that

women don't tell everything they know, notwithstanding that the men say we do." This particular comment was upon Mary E. Waller's "Windmill of the Dune," which was read some time ago. The writer thought that "Uncle Mich was just like most men, selfish," and she hoped that the author would write a sequel to tell "whether the principal characters made as big a mess of their lives after they were united in France." She also wished that the next book written by the same author would "have the man the villain."

A typewritten letter came for Miss Galvin several months ago, clearly showing the author to be a woman of high intelligence. But in the middle of the second paragraph, the writer's right hand slipped over too far on the keyboard, and her next few sentences read something like this: "I like the story a; ; tje wau

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All About Foreign Graduates . . .

By Regina Kildee

FARM crops and soils was the major of the woman who first received the fellowship now awarded annually by the Women's Self-Governing Association of Iowa State and the Ames Branch of the American Association of University Women.

Since that award in 1919, a foreign woman has been chosen each year to receive this scholarship, which comprises tuition and fees, books, a single room in Margaret Hall, and an allowance of one dollar a day for board.

Until 1925 the scholarship was awarded to French women only. Besides farm crops and soils, their majors included mechanical engineering, chemistry, economic science, and English.

In 1925 the fellowship was given to Catherine Landreth of Dunedin, New Zealand. After receiving her master's degree here in 1926 in home economics education and foods and nutrition, Miss Landreth taught in the Home Economics Department of North Central College, Naperville, Illinois. Later she became a research specialist in nutrition at the University of Washington, and recently she received fellowships at Merrill-Palmer School and at Columbia University.

In 1926, Marja Morzkowska of Warsaw, Poland, won the fellowship, and in 1928 she received her master's degree in foods and nutrition. Miss Morzkowska, after completing her work here, went back to Poland and applied her knowledge to hospital work in Warsaw.

Kyra Klinderova, of Prague, Czechoslovakia, who took her major work here in physiology and textiles and clothing,

was awarded the fellowship in 1927 and a master's degree in 1928. While in Europe a year ago, Dean Maria M. Roberts of the Junior College saw Miss Klinderova, who now has charge of clothing work for the Czechoslovakia Red Cross, which is directly under government supervision and does almost the same work as our extension service. Miss Klinderova, according to Dean Roberts, has been very successful in solving her particular problem—simplifying native costumes and, at the same time, preserving their art.

Kathryn Soth and Regina Kildee, Homemaker staff writers, are conducting an interesting clothing survey among women at Iowa State. They will investigate the amount of money spent for various types of apparel, and the results will be published in the February issue of the Homemaker.

She puts on a clothing exhibit each year, Dean Roberts said, and furnishes patterns for the apparel displayed.

From Vandra, Esthonia, came the next fellowship winner, Leida Adamberg, who in 1929 received her master's degree in foods and nutrition. She took further work in dietetics at the Cook County Hospital, Chicago, and later was put in charge of a special investigation under one of the hospital's physicians. Recently, according to Dr. P. Mabel Nelson, head of the Foods and Nutrition Department here, Miss Adamberg left Chicago to return to her native land.

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League Studies Child Problems

THE college branch of the League of Women Voters has undertaken a study of child welfare for this year.

The discussions in the league include establishment of the juvenile court and its jurisdiction, and procedure used in children's cases is a point considered along with causes for juvenile delinquency. The community in relation to child-welfare is another discussion topic. Even such details as how the judge is chosen for the juvenile court are not overlooked.

Child labor laws and the protection which various states offer to children, as well as the main fields for legislation in child welfare are also part of the study which the local league has included in the year's program.

The meetings, held every 2 weeks in Memorial Union, are open not only to the members of the league, but to anyone interested in the subject under discussion.

Showered With Letters

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tjrpigj." A postscript to the letter said, "Please excuse errors of all sorts as I am blind, and am also getting old and incapacitated." A stenographer was able to decipher the mistakes, by going to the typewriter and placing her right fingers over one key too far on the machine.

Miss Galvin often receives gifts from her radio friends, especially around Christmas time. They are usually handkerchiefs or book marks which may easily be tucked into a letter. Once in a while a box of candy or a basket of apples is sent, and once a woman sent Miss Galvin some honey, which was delivered by her husband.

One listener wrote that in summer she always keeps a bouquet of fresh roses from her garden on the radio. Everyone who remarks on their beauty is told that they are Miss Galvin's roses.

"Take Life Lightly"

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its large orchards, colorful flower gardens, and long avenues. Summer houses have a prominent place on every farm; it is here that the customary 4 o'clock tea is usually served.

Conveniences on the farm, however, are not many. Servants do the work, keeping the lovely houses immaculate and always ready for guests. Old Dutch architecture is the tendency and the Spanish mode of house is general. There are very few double story dwellings. Houses are strongly built, usually of red brick or white stone. Characteristics are the wide porches—the farmer's retreat from the

hot sun and the place where he reads his much beloved newspaper.

What Mrs. Steyn calls home at Ames, is quite different. She has a lovely tower room in Margaret Hall, immaculate and exact. It is not unlike other dormitory rooms, but it somehow has the marks of its resident—it is so clean, so fresh, so chock full of interesting corners, and still so professional—in the same way that Mrs. Steyn is herself professional.

In the summer Mrs. Steyn viewed Iowa State College and its campus, with its gorgeous trees and shady walks, in wonderment. When she returned in the fall the brilliant autumn colors were a novel experience. And now in winter—on mornings when she looks from the window by the tower and sees trees bowing their branches, heavy with snow, the campanile peeping over the very top of a distant tree, and the whole campus dazzling white—she thinks it is the most unique of all scenes.

Mrs. Steyn hesitated about asking for a change in location of scholarships and she thought for a time it couldn't be done. But now she's far from being disappointed in her request. For it was granted, and she's elected to be back at Iowa State for a whole year.

Foreign Graduates

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Marianne Ott, who was honored by the fellowship committee in 1929, came from Vienna, Austria, and took her work here in home economics education. She is now teaching home economics in the schools of Vienna and trying to bring about, through the school children, the use of more green foods in the daily diets of the people.

Gabriella Krueger of Berlin, Germany, was the next to win the fellowship. In 1931 she received her master's degree here after taking her major work in the Household Equipment Department. Miss Krueger is now teaching household equipment in the University of Berlin, according to Dr. Louise J. Peet, head of the local Household Equipment Department. In addition to her teaching work, Miss Krueger is in charge of the extension work in her field and does much writing and broadcasting for the benefit of women all over Germany.

Last year Hsi Fan Chao, a fellowship winner, received her master's degree here with a major in sociology. Miss Chao's home is in Harbin, China. Many will remember her anxiety when that city was raided by the Japanese last winter. She is now going on with her work in sociology at Washington University, St. Louis.

This fall, as nearly everyone knows, Ruth Stjerner of Stockholm, Sweden, was awarded the fellowship that she might go on with her work in Botany begun at the University of Stockholm.

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