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January 10, 1949

of

Number 1

Agriculture

Department VELFARE ASSOCIATION

Volume 6

THE NEW AGRICULTURE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA held its organization meeting in the Jefferson Auditorium at 6:30 p.m. Friday, January 7. Several violinists with extensive professional and amateur experience were among those present. Two members of the original Agriculture Symphony orchestra, Frea Gould who had been one of its organizers and J. Robert Boatman, Jr., who had been its librarian answered the call to the new orchestra.

Others who appeared had previous experience in playing with orchestras in other cities such as the Dallas Symphony and symphonies from New York City, Boston, Cleveland, and here at home in the Alexandria and Arlington Civic Orchestras.

All Agriculture employees with an interest in playing symphony music as well as the members of their families will be welcomed at the rehearsals to be held on. Friday evenings from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

The Conductor of the Orchestra, Dr. Frederick Fall, has many years of conduc-ting experience with both symphony and opera organizations in Europe. Dr. Fall came to the USA in 1937 and has been in charge of an impressive number of symphonies, choral, and operatic productions in several cities since that time. For some years he was vice-president of the Southwestern Conservatory of Music and Fine Arts in Dallas, Texas.

NEW SERIES OF BRIDGE LESSONS - beginning Tuesday night, February 1st at 6:30 p.m. a new series of 10 lessons in Contract Bridge will be given in the 4th wing cafeteria. Mr. Charles A. Lyons will again be the instructor. The price for the series is only \$5.00. Classes will be limited to 60 students in order to permit personalized instruction. The fee is payable in advance at the Employee Activities Office, Room 1011-S. It is estimated that more than 250 employees have graduated from Mr. Lyons' beginners bridge classes. Call Ext. 5611 or 6229 for further information if you are interested in improving your bridge skill.

TALENT SHOW- To introduce Agriculture employees to the professional type talent around them, and to promote personal appearance opportunities to artistically skilled persons in the Government, a talent show will be held during the early days of March.

Auditions for this talent show will be held in February. If you are a gifted person and are seeking an opportunity to make yoursclf known or need public appearance experience, now is the hour. This concert of artistic gems is open to the entire government thereby permitting your friends in another agency to compete. Our prediction is that this will be one show that you cannot afford to miss. Call Ext. 5611 or 6229, or come to Room 1011, South Agriculture Building and register yourself or your group now.

GRADUATE SCHOOL- Spring semester coming. Registration begins, January 29th and classes open the week of February 7th. In addition to all the opportunities for professional studies there are plenty of cultural courses in the arts, social sciences, psychology, photography, public speaking, readable writing, and world politics. Did you ever stop to think how lucky you are to be located where the graduate school is so easily accessible to you?

***** SANTA'S HELPERS - The employee Activities Office became a very active Christmas party supply room in December. Santa Claus suits wore used 17 times, pianos were moved for about a dozen parties, public address systems, record players, and albums of Christmas records were loaned for eight parties. About twenty records got lost or broken but were replaced later. Various other properties, song books, song sheets, reference books, containers for coffee, etc., were in frequent demand. Christmas comes but *****

SCOTS LASSIES

LADS A' O' ye what hae a love for Bonnie Scotland gi'e a wee bit O' tam tae R. R. Smith of PMA. The St. Andrew's Society of Washington is having a "Bobbie Burns" dinner Tuesday the twenty-fifth of January in the Grand Ball Room of the Mayflower Hotel. Tickets may be secured from R. R. Smith, x2444, Room 0726.

MORE NEWS FOR SQUARE DANCERS - On Jan. 28, in the District Armory, Ed Durlacher, nationally famed square dance caller, will open a series of Friday night square dance events which will put more sets of dancers on one floor than have ever before been seen in Washington. If you love square dancing you are going to stop right now and reserve the Friday hights on your calender from January 28th onward for several weeks.

LOG LODGE DANCE- the next square dance of the A.R.C. employees association will be held Friday night, Jan. 14 at the Felts-ville Log Lodge. Eb' N' Ely will be thore as callers with their orchestra. Attendance of at least 200 is predicted. The A.R.C. employees have issued an invitation to the square dance enthusiasts among members of the other AERA groups. Admission will cost about 60¢. Come and join the fun.

How about hiring a bus and making this a big evening? Transportation for 40 people can be chartered for about \$1.00 each, round trip, leaving the Agriculture South Building at 8 p.m. and returning at 12:30 a.m. Call x-5611 or x-6229 if you want to get in on this party and want transportation.

***** CHRISTMAS GIVING- even those of us who keep our feelings of compassion buried under armor plated layers of insulation most of the year have found that we can't help opening our hearts and generously giving during the Christmas season.

A listing here of all of the examples of generous giving would overflow this issue of the E.N.B. so we will only mention one or two. The PMA Employees Recreation Association decided to try to help some needy families. Mary Cannon Chairman of their Welfare Committee says that the contributions filled 38 large Christmas baskets with food and there was money for additional purchases. The 38 families that received them would have had a pretty slim Christmas if it hadn't been for the generous co-operation of these folks in PMA.

Mambers of the new OFAR Employees Association started out to have just another Christmas party. Then several people suggested that a lot more good might be done if the party costs were used for welfare purposes. FIR folks have more first-hand knowledge of the needs of folks in European Countries than most of us and so they quickly collected over \$175.00 and had the CARE organization cable it to Europe for them so that CARE packages could be delivered before Christmas to needy European families. WANTS ROTATOR

- RIDES WANTED C. Mae Polyanski,x4447, 403 Garland Av Tk. Pk, Md.
- howard Mandel, x5457, Brentwood Village (13th & K.I. Ave., N.E.)
- Marguerite Williams, x6192, 5421 Branch Ave., S.E. (Camp Springs)

Mrs. Smith, x2102, 1225 Emerson St., N.E. Mr. N. Pahigian, x4538, 2600 blk R.I. Ave., N.E.

- Frank Wettengel, x6392, Templeton Wanor Apts., E. Riverdale, Md.
- Helen B. Crisman, x3391, Washington Blvd Westover, Va.
- Mrs. Jutras, x4128, Holly & Eastern Lve Tk. Pk, Md.
- C. J. Waldron, x4758, 600 Elm Av, Tk. Pk, Md. (near Ray Rd, & New Hamp. Ave.)
- R. W. Schlie, x4758, 1223 Jeff. St. NW
- Jane Peterson, x5750, 18th & Burke St. SE

Mrs. Curren, x2351, Hawaii Ave, & N.Cap

Mrs. O'Connell, x5327, 3719-12th St. NE

RIDE OR ROTATOR WANTED

K. E. Goodger, x3028, 34th Av, Hyattsville, Md.

Edna Thompson, x2949, 6991 Livingston Rd., S.E.

RIDERS WANTED

- Hazel Creighton, x2060, 1057 W.Broad St Falls Ch., Va.
- C. T. Myers, x5711, Cheverly, Md. Mrs. Staves, x6293, 4523 Gladwyn Dr., Bethesda, Md. (Wisc Ave, 43d St., Mass Ave.)

Al Cohen, x4170, Fairfax Village, S.E. WANTS ROTATOR

Mrs. Custer, x4270, 1758 No. Troy St., Arl., Va.

COPMUNITY CHEST WORKERS FETED - Nearly 400 employees who had held key positions in the recent community chest drive in the department were agreeably surprised to be invited by the Secretary of Agriculture to attend a reception in their honor at the Administration building Patio, on Friday p.m., January 7th. trio consisting of Herman Weihe, violinist, Richard Been, cellist, Charlotte Eisler at the piano, all of them are department employees, played a brief concert which gave the event a festive spirit.

Brief speeches of commendation were given by under Secretary, Albert J. Loveland and Assistant to the Secretary William A. Minor. Refreshments which were served by the staff of the Welfare Association were provided at the expense of the AERA council.

**** TO THOSE WHO HELPED THE USDA RED CROSS

UNIT - Nearby hospitals for servicemen and veterans received television sets and public address systems for their patients as Christmas presents as a result of your cooperation. Tickets purchased for the three holiday season shows held in the Jefferson Auditorium on December 11th, December 16th, and 17th gave the USDA Red Cross Unit a total of \$859.00 to hand to the D. C. Red Cross Chapter to pay for the presents. The boys in the hospitals would thank you if they could.

Mrs. Custer, x4270, 1758 N. Troy St., Arl., Va.