



Ready for the boutique

Florence Smith (at left) instructs Lottie Moore in completing her gingham flower basket in one of the workshops now going on in readiness for the North Farmington Garden Club's first boutique. The boutique of all hand-crafted items will run from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. June 13 in Orchard United Methodist Church. (Staff photo)

Down to earth

It's no wonder poets liked the Vienna Woods

This is the year to visit the good old U.S.A. If you have the urge to travel overseas, cool it. You can pay \$5 for a piece of chocolate cake and \$4 for a beverage.

The only way to know how much a trip will cost is to go with a charter group and then take twice as much money for miscellaneous as you planned. U.S. money is not well received and many places won't take travelers checks. You have to plan ahead and hit a bank on a weekday.

Now that cold water has been thrown and you have been encouraged to travel in the U.S.A., I will share with you my recent experience cruising down the Danube, flying to Munich, going to Passau, Germany to take a Russian ship, and stopping at Durostina and Vienna, Austria; Bratislava, Czechoslovakia; Budapest, Hungary; Belgrade, Yugoslavia; Bucharest, Roumania; Ismail, U.S.S.R.; and by ocean liner to Istanbul, Turkey.

Vienna has many, many beauty spots but a trip I will never forget was in the Vienna Woods. Such beauty in the springtime with wild flowers, beautiful trees, streams, and lush rolling hillsides. No wonder the poets and composers relaxed there for inspiration. There are many small inns and spas to welcome you, but get up in the hills and say, "I am glad to be alive."

The Danube with its many locks and beautiful rural country, provides a memory to bring out frequently. The Danube is narrower than the Detroit River and the water looks like that of the Detroit River, not blue. What views there are as you pass the narrow locks and try to seal the scenery for recall in your mind. The M.S. Volga is a beautiful boat, spotless and operated by the Russians.

The passport routine was something else. As most of the time on shore was

behind the Iron Curtain, your face was constantly looked at to see if it matched the passport. We were awakened in the middle of the night to see if our faces matched our passports.

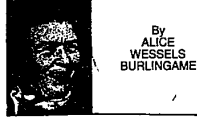
At Ismail, we boarded the ocean liner for Turkey. That Black Sea can surely kick up its heels. You have to decide who is going to win, the rough sea or you.

Istanbul is a city to study as it unfolds history. If you aren't interested in art, pretend you are and assimilate the grandeur of buildings teeming with tiles and glass windows with colors unmatched today.

Women there received equal rights in 1928. The city was founded in 638 B.C. and today has a population of four million. The Greeks and Turks are constantly at loggerheads over oil. There are over 40,000 students at the University of Istanbul and education is free. They have to pass tests to be eligible for the free education.

The primary religion of Turkey is Islam, and after cleansing themselves the communicants pray five times a day. So much for quick sentences to sketch the setting.

The mosques with their minarets rise above the city with its many hills and buildings with bright tiled roofs.



By ALICE WESSELLS BURLINGAME

The topography reminds you of Rome with its many hills but in Istanbul they have winding waterways with floating boats of sundry sizes passing over the surface.

The Grand Bazaar is famous with over 4,000 shops, like an enclosed city, with a labyrinth of passages. Goods are there from all over the world waiting for those who enjoy bargaining.

The Topkapi Palace is the highlight for visitors to Istanbul. After the country was proclaimed a republic there was a law turning the palace into a museum. So today you see diamonds by the hundreds, glistening treasures of the past Sultans, representing five centuries of acquisitions. Priceless porcelain from Japan and China, and many art objects from before the time of Christ.

As you study the dome of St. Sophia which is nearly 217 feet high you wonder how they constructed it in 537 A.D. Where did the material come from? Where did they get the color for tiles, all so perfect in form? You can't help but feel humble when you enjoy the work of artisans who by their daily efforts of perfection enrich our world of today. Hopefully, we will leave our individual contributions of today for the people of tomorrow.

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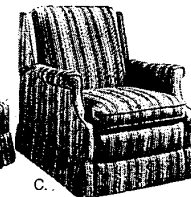
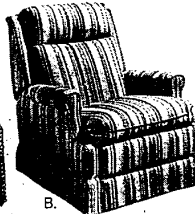
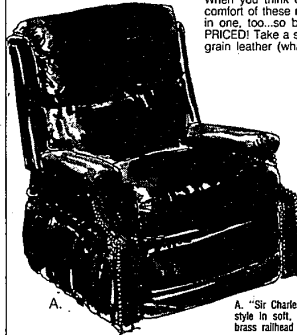
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