

The Distaff Point of View

Jerry Wendt
Woman's Editor

"Saint Patrick's Day, we'll all be gay," so the saying goes in the Emerald Isles. Irish people like Caesar's ancient Gaul, are divided into three parts.

First there are the red-haired, freckled skin Irish, the true Celts, who are known in our country as the Boston Irish. These are the most well known and usually figure in the standardized version of Old Erin's sons.

The Spanish Armada, which good Queen Liz had scuttled when it hove in sight that long ago morning on the British Isle had many handsome Spaniards who swam to safety along the coast line of Ireland. They settled there and raised the brood of dark-haired, dark-eyed folk who are known as the "black Irish" — these boast the blood of Spanish aristocracy along with their Irish blood.

In olden times the Phoenicians were the traders of the world. The voyages were long and perilous, the shores of Ireland green and lush and some "jumped ship" and settled there to raise the dark-haired, fair skinned, blue eyed Irish (the Colleen of song and dance).

Whatever our origin, all of us Irish have many common characteristics. We are a fiercely proud race. We love our families, our country, and our God. And what Irish people love, they talk about or sing about.

For the men, politics is their natural estate. From the great Patrick Henry whose voice was heard in our very first government, the House of Burgesses in Williamsburg, Virginia, to President Kennedy, they have figured in the growth of America. Their broad backs built the railroads that took the first travelers in this great land.

For the women, they as a rule do not aspire to careers. They are great mothers, and their sons their greatest reward.

Irish are not disciplinarians, but very indulgent parents, and oddly enough, there is very little juvenile delinquency in Ireland.

They are a tremendously clean race. They take to the sea in droves. Vice flourishes little in Ireland. Paradoxically, although green is their color, it has painful memories for them. Green was the color of their first flag but it symbolized the bloody years when Ireland fought for her freedom. When it was achieved, the free flag of Ireland is now white.

My relatives, all over the country will be making Irish coffee on St. Patrick's Day. No one has ever truly discovered the "nectar of the gods" but this may well be it. Black coffee is poured into a crystal mug, over a dram of true Irish whiskey. This is topped with a dollop of thick cream not whipped, and a dusting of sugar. In it, they say, the leprechauns in the brew and if you drink more than two mugs, you'll surely think you see them.

St. Patrick was a great saint, because he brought religion to the people when they were a pagan country ruled by fighting war lords. After his lifetime, the black-robed figure of the priest became a familiar sight to the land.

St. Patrick made the shamrock Ireland's flower because he said the three leaves of the shamrock represented the three members of the Trinity. That the stem was symbolic of the Godhead, and of the Three-in-one.

I'll bet you didn't know that March 17 is not St. Patrick's birthday, but the anniversary of his death in 493. All will do him honor on his day as it was written hundreds of years ago.

"No saint is so good, Ireland's country adorning. Then hail to St. Patrick, today in the morning."

Hill And Dale Club Plays Garden Bingo

Playing "Garden Bingo" not the season, then presented the only was fun for the handicapped children in the four schools where they attend but also proved to be educational as well. Most of the children had to pronounce the color of the game and declared that it would be used repeatedly in the classroom as it taught the children a great number of useful things. The members of the Hill and Dale Garden Therapy Group will visit the schools March 16 and they had to call out "Bingo." Members of the Hill and Dale Garden Therapy Group, who supply the idea and the materials and the last project of the program.

Mrs. Vernon Vickland was the project captain. Most of the teachers in the schools where the members visited on March 2, were enthusiastic about the game and declared that it would be used repeatedly in the classroom as it taught the children a great number of useful things.

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REDFORD TOWNSHIP DEMOCRATIC Women's Committee will hold a card party on March 30, at 7:30 p.m. in the Lola Valley Masonic Temple, 25215 Five Mile Rd. The committee is charge are (left to right) Mrs. Angelo Bonmarito, Mrs. Nate Banks, Mrs. Robert Shively, Mrs. William Hutton and Mrs. Glenn Hartzell. For reservations call KE 5-0772.

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PATRICIA CHOPP
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony G. Chopp, of Wayne, announce the engagement of their daughter Patricia Ann to Thomas D. Kessler, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank E. Kessler, Detroit. Patricia is a 1961 graduate of Wayne Memorial High School, and a 1964 graduate of Borgess School of Nursing. She is presently employed as a R.N. at Wayne County General Hospital. The future groom is a 1959 graduate of Bentley High School. He has served four years in the U.S. Navy and is presently employed with the Ford Motor Co. A June 25 wedding is planned.

RITA GOLD
Mr. and Mrs. Neal Simpson Gold, of Detroit, announce the betrothal of their daughter, Rita to Thomas Edward Ripoldi, of Farmington. A May wedding is planned.

KAY LAWRENCE
Mr. and Mrs. Leslie H. Lawrence of Farmington Township, announce the engagement of their daughter, Kay Ruthann to Luis R. Soto, son of Mrs. Lucy Doris of El Paso, Texas. The bride-elect is a 1964 graduate of Farmington High School and is now an employee of Clohecy Pontiac. The groom-to-be is an employee of Ford Motor Co. now serving in the Armed Forces at Fort Sill, Okla. No wedding date has been set.

Farmington Hills Republican Women Meet March 21
Republican Women's Organization of Farmington Hills will hold regular monthly meeting on March 21, at 12:30 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Frank Depodesta, 22885 Walsingham Dr. in Farmington.
Robert J. Huber, (Hist. Enc.) State Senator for the 15th District will discuss legislation covering the organization of school districts, a subject vital to every tax payer. Prospective members and guests are welcome.
Hostesses are Mrs. Walter Pekio, 21107 Oxford, Farm. Mrs. Frank Depodesta, 22885 Walsingham Drive, Farmington. Mrs. Lester Schaeffer, 25000 Middlebelt, Farm. Mrs. Milton Kestley, 27320 Spring Valley Dr. Farm. Mrs. Stewart Rice, 21001 Mahon, Southfield.
For information please call Mrs. Schaeffer (Myrtle) at GR 4-6099.

Missionary Rally To Be Held in April
The annual Missionary Rally sponsored by the Greenfield Church of Christ will be held at Memorial Church of Christ on Tuesday 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday, April 19-21, at 7:30 p.m. The opening session will be the regularly scheduled meeting of the Southern Michigan Christian Fellowship. On Tuesday, William Loft, of the Brazil Christian Mission, will speak.

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