

POND'S DANCE PROGRAM

January 27, 1933

Description: Eleanor Roosevelt gives a speech on Pond's Dance program about how a mother should manage their children's independence and how she should treat her children and children in laws when her son or daughter gets married.

Participants: Eleanor Roosevelt, Basil Ruysdael, Lee Wiley, Leo Reisman

RUYSDAEL:

The Pond's Program...presented by the makers of Pond's Cold Cream and Pond's Vanishing Cream...under the direction of Lee Reisman!

FALLING STAR

ORCHESTRA

RUYSDAEL: (Over music at Reisman cue)

One of the more imaginative of the currently popular dance melodies – "Falling Star."

And may I offer now our greeting to Mrs. Franklin Delano Roosevelt, wife of the president elect, who will speak to the Pond's audience later in the program.

(NUMBER IS CONCLUDED)

RUYSDAEL:

"Playing with Fire"...Irving Berlin's most recent creation, interpreted by our official interpreter...Miss Lee Wiley!

PLAYING WITH FIRE

WILEY

ORCHESTRA

RUYSDAEL:

Another new fox trot, and a pleasant sample of Mr. Reisman's genius for dance arrangement... "Look Who's Here!"

LOOK WHO'S HERE

ORCHESTRA

RUYSDAEL:

We present William Scholtz! His song is heard now for the first time on the air...it's called... "Close to My Heart."

CLOSE TO MY HEART

SCHOLTZ

ORCHESTRA

RUYSDAEL:

~~From the tuneful score of "Music in the Air" Leo Reisman offers "I've Told Every Little Star." That is all that matters to me.¹~~

~~I'VE TOLD EVERY LITTLE STAR~~ That is all that matters to me.² ORCHESTRA

RUYSDAEL:

Now isn't this true: every woman listening either uses Pond's Face Creams herself or knows someone else who does. Why is it that sooner or later almost every woman comes to or comes back to using these famous creams? It must be that women find by experience that Pond's Creams are more beautifying than any other.

Pond's Creams do so many different things for the skin. Pond's Cold Cream is more than a cleansing cream...the pure delicate oils float the dirt out of the pores and at the same time lubricate and tone the skin. And Pond's Vanishing Cream is more than a finishing cream...it gives your skin a satiny surface and provides a perfect powder base...and then in addition keeps your skin from becoming coarse or chapped...it forms an invisible shield that protects your skin against the wind and the sun.

~~Illegible~~ Pond's creams are so effective they're preferred by many wealthy women who don't have to think about price...yet these creams are so reasonable they're within the reach of everyone. Why don't you let the two Pond's Creams begin right away to make and keep your complexion lovely...ask for and see that you get Pond's Cold Cream and Pond's Vanishing Cream...it costs you little or no more to get the genuine.

5. 6⁴ AFTER YOU

ORCHESTRA

RUYSDAEL:

Ladies and gentlemen...we are proud to be able to introduce to you Mrs. Franklin Delano Roosevelt...wife of the president-elect. The topic of her informal talk this evening..."A Mother's Role When Sons and Daughters Marry." Mrs. Roosevelt!

(CURTAIN UP – APPLAUSE – THEN CURTAIN DOWN FOR MRS. ROOSEVELT'S SPEECH.)

MRS. ROOSEVELT:

Perhaps the greatest test of a mother's life comes when her sons and daughters marry. Up to that time in all probability, she has felt herself entitled to claim much of her children's time and attention and she has taken the lead in their lives. If they were ill, they naturally came to her, if they were happy or sad, they naturally turned to her, and there is nothing in the world as gratifying as feeling that those whom you love, not only love you, but need you and expect you to share whatever touches their lives.

A wise mother, however, will begin very early to face the fact that she cannot possess and control every moment of her children's lives. She will encourage the brothers and sisters as they grow up, to depend upon each other realizing that often two people of the same generation can be more helpful and understanding of each other than can anyone of the older generation. She will encourage her children to have friends, real friends not acquaintances, and while she will always try to share their joys and sorrows, she will not want to do so to the exclusion of everyone else, and just as soon as the physical care of her children and her home makes it possible she will begin to build up interests of her own so that she will not be entirely dependent upon her children to fill her hours of leisure.

I believe very strongly that it is better to allow children too much freedom than too little, it is better for them to get their feet wet than to be told at the age of fifteen to put on their rubbers. They should be old enough by that time to take care of themselves and if they prefer to get their feet wet, they should be allowed to do so.

I think a great many mothers who nag their children about little things would find their relationship improved and their advice sought in more important things if they could remember that the five-year olds they dressed and undressed and fed have grown to independent manhood and womanhood.

The line, of course, between interest and prying curiosity is sometimes hard to draw, but once the children are grown, while I would always be willing to listen if they wanted to talk, I think it is best to do very little questioning. You are apt to know a great deal more about your children if you let them volunteer their own information than if they think you are trying to check on all they do.

When it comes to marrying, there is little that you can do. You can welcome the girl or boy that your boy or girl is interested in, let them come into the family and see how they show up in the family circle. Give them, under your supervision, all possible opportunities to see and know each other before they take the important step, but when they are once married, leave them alone. The first year of married life is bound to be a year of adjustment. No matter how well two people have known each other beforehand [*sic*], meeting every day across the table over the breakfast coffee is a degree of intimacy which brings out many unknown traits. Again you must retain a receptive attitude, but try to make your son-in-law or your daughter-in-law feel that you are not trying to shape their lives. Young people need help but they do not need criticism or interference.

The older generation when we were young thought it their duty to advise us, but it doubt if we were any more really affected by it though we listened more attentively than would our children today.

Each generation must learn by its own experience and though it may be hard to watch our children go through the same mistakes which we went through, it will do no good to pursue them with warnings drawn from our own experience. All we can do is to be worthy of their confidence and to refrain

from criticism and recriminations and then in the words of the scripture we will be “a very present help in time of trouble.”

(CURTAIN UP – APPLAUSE)

(ORCHESTRA AT KUHL CUE)

6.7⁵ I’LL NEVER HAVE TO DREAM AGAIN

SCHOLTZ

ORCHESTRA

RUYSDAEL: (Over music-REISMAN CUES RUYSDAEL)

In order to have a fund at her disposal which she can devote to the relief of those suffering from unemployment this winter, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, wife of the president-elect, has consented to give us this series of talks on matters of great interest to all – The Pond’s audience, both in the studio and on the air appreciate having Mrs. Roosevelt on this program.

(NUMBER IS CONCLUDED)

RUYSDAEL:

My personal choice for the finest popular song of the season...Cole Porter’s “Night and Day.” from “Gay Divorce.”⁶ And the singer...Miss Lee Wiley.

7.8⁷ NIGHT AND DAY

WILEY

ORCHESTRA

RUYSDAEL:

~~Leo Reisman offers a rhythmic [sic] statement of “That’s All That Matters To Me.”~~

8. ~~THAT’S ALL THAT MATTERS TO ME~~

~~ORCHESTRA~~

9. “I’ve Told Every little Star” – Music in the air⁸

RUYSDAEL:

The times are good for Pond’s Face Creams...more women are using Pond’s Creams than any other brand...as women have found out, the Pond’s Creams are actually more beautifying than many costly creams...and you only need to use the two Pond’s Creams because these creams do so much for the skin. Pond’s Cold Cream is more than a cleansing cream. Its pure delicate oils have a very beneficial effect on your skin at the same time they float the dirt out of the pores. And Pond’s Vanishing Cream does more than give your skin a velvety finish and hold your powder on...it also forms an invisible shield that protects your skin against the coarsening or chapping effects of the sun, wind or cold.

Why don’t you begin tomorrow to use this easy, economical way to have a lovely complexion...but make sure you really get Pond’s --- Pond’s Cold Cream and Pond’s Vanishing Cream.

You’ll find Pond’s now have a face powder. Something new and intriguing...It gives you the finest quality of three different powders, each famous for some one thing—the costly fragrance of one, the perfect skin tones of another, and the light texture of a third. It’s like these famous powder in everything except price. Pond’s powder has been put up in lovely crystal jars, as all fine powders should be.

9.10⁹ ~~Every Little Star [Illegible] Music in the Air~~¹¹

ORCHESTRA

Baby¹²

RUYSDAEL: (Over faded signature – at cue from Kuhl)

Mrs. Franklin Delano Roosevelt will be with us on the Pond’s Program again next week. Next Friday Mrs. Roosevelt has selected as her subject “A Mother’s Responsibility As A Citizen.”

The musical program next week will include new features by Leo Reisman and his orchestra...songs by William Scholtz and Lee Wiley. This is Basil Ruysdael speaking.

(CURTAIN UP AND STAYS UP FOR APPLAUSE – MUSIC FADES

OUT UNDER APPLAUSE)

(APPLAUSE CUT ABRUPTLY – NOT FADED AT 9:59:55)

ANNOUNCER: (At 711 Fifth Avenue)

This is the National Broadcasting Company.

Transcribed by: Staff at the Eleanor Roosevelt Papers Project

Proofread by: Ivana Mowry Mora, Lee Febos, Meg Swenson, Matt Girardi

Proofread: Ikerighi David and Andreas Meyris

Transcribed from a script held in the Eleanor Roosevelt Papers at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library.

¹ “That is all that matters to me” is a handwritten interlineation.

² “That is all that matters to me” is a handwritten interlineation.

⁴ This is a handwritten interlineation.

⁵ This is a handwritten interlineation.

⁶ “From ‘Gay Divorce’.” is a handwritten interlineation.

⁷ This is a handwritten interlineation.

⁸ “9” through the word “air” is a handwritten interlineation.

⁹ This is a handwritten interlineation”

¹¹ “Every” through “Air” is a handwritten interlineation.

¹² This is a handwritten interlineation.

The Eleanor Roosevelt Papers Project