

POND'S DANCE PROGRAM

December 23, 1932

Description: "Are we coming back to chaperones?"

Participants: ER, 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 Leo Reisman!

VAGABOND KING MEDLEY

ORCHESTRA

RUYSDAEL: (Over faded music)

A medley of Rudolf Friml inventions from the score of "The Vagabond King." And may I at this time extend our greetings to Mrs. Franklin Delano Roosevelt...who is listening to the Pond's program in Albany this evening. She will speak to the Pond's audience a bit later from the Governor's mansion there.

(ORCHESTRA UP)

RUYSDAEL:

Miss Lee Wiley! And a characteristic ballad of disillusion called... "Ah, But I've Learned."

AH, BUT I'VE LEARNED

WILEY - ORCHESTRA

RUYSDAEL:

Most effective of the Cole Porter's tunes from "Gay Divorce," in Mr. Reisman's expert opinion, is this one... "Night and Day."

NIGHT AND DAY

ORCHESTRA

RUYSDAEL:

The song..."Anheleo." The composer...Anna Case, celebrated operatic prima donna and in private life, Mrs. Clarence Mackay. The singer...William Scholtz. And the gentleman whose baton impatiently awaits my cue...Leo Reisman. Your move, Leo.

ANHELEO

SCHOLTZ - ORCHESTRA

RUYSDAEL:

It's a woman's privilege to change her mind...but many, many women don't change their minds about what face creams to use...Year after year they go on using the same two creams, the two Pond's Creams.

It stands to reason...thousands of the loveliest women in the world keep on using these creams because they have found by experience that the two Pond's Creams are most beautifying.

The two Pond's Creams do so much for your skin...all that other good creams do and then extra things beside. Pond's Cold Cream does more than cleanse your skin thoroughly. At the same time the pure delicate oils are floating the dirt out of the pores, these oils lubricate and tone your skin...make it more flexible and alive. Pond's Vanishing Cream gives your skin a velvety finish and makes your powder go on evenly and stay on for hours...and then in addition forms an invisible shield that protects your skin against the wind and sun and so keeps it from becoming coarse and chapped.

Why put off getting the lovely complexion you might just as well have...begin tomorrow to follow the Pond's Method...use Pond's Cold Cream and Pond's Vanishing regularly and you'll find out why so many distinguished women use these two creams and none other.

THIS IS NO DREAM

ORCHESTRA

RUYSDAEL:

We introduce now Mrs. Franklin Delano Roosevelt, wife of the President-elect, whose informal talks on the Pond's program have attracted widespread attention in the press and a huge volume of favorable comment from our listeners. Her topic this evening - "Are we Coming Back To Chaperons?"

Mrs. Roosevelt's voice comes to us from the study of the executive mansion in Albany. (switch – 3 seconds – away)¹

MRS. ROOSEVELT:

The question of chaperons which was much discussed in my day is much discussed today. Youth never does like supervision and always feels entirely confident that it can handle any situation that arises. Why should it need any assistance from the old fashioned and out-moded generation that has gone before it? This point of view is very old and ever new. I hardly think the present generation realizes how much it has to be thankful for. At least they can frankly say what they think to their elders. My generation never felt that degree of frankness possible. There was a tradition of affection and respect which was quite unrelated to facts, and it never would occur to us to say as my children occasionally say to me "Oh Ma, we have quite outgrown all those old fashioned ideas." Gradually, however, little by little, chaperons faded into the background. I never went out to dine alone with a young man, nor did I ever go alone to a play and there were no movies in those days. I did occasionally have a young man to tea, but always some time during his stay, usually when he first arrived, an older person would be in the room to lend propriety to the occasion and he was impressed with the fact that there were older people about so that he should be sure to realize that the lady he was visiting was not alone and unprotected and it was made plain to him when the hour for his departure had arrived. Occasionally you could drive or ride or walk with a young man, but somewhere in the offing your chaperon always lurked, and not very far in the offing.

I brought my own daughter up fairly strictly for her day and she had to have a maid take her to evening parties and stay with her through the night and "Connie" became quite an institution, not only for my child, but all the other girls who were her intimate friends, used her indiscriminately and found her very useful. After her first year of mad gaiety, my daughter spent six weeks of the summer as secretary at the Geneva Agricultural Experiment station in New York State, and took a short course in agriculture at Cornell the next winter. I trusted her to play around more or less as she wished with the girls and boys of her age, and she had twice the freedom that I had because gradually it had been dawning upon us that all the chaperons in the world could not keep girls and boys from doing foolish things and that there was only one way to help them and that was through education.

Strange as it may seem, however, there were advantages in chaperons. You can use them very well. My recollections are that when you wanted to be rid of them, somehow or other it could be managed even in my day. Chaperons, real chaperons, do not exist in the same way today. We lunch and we dine and we go to movies and we spend hours on end with any young man or woman who best suits our fancy. We certainly should know them better before we marry them, but whether we do or not, I think is still a moot question.

But I see signs of chaperons returning, to a limited extent. Perhaps it is because chaperons are wiser than they used to be. They do not offer unasked advice, they do not thrust themselves forward[.] The wise ones are learning to be companionable with youth, to listen, to learn and to be sympathetic with it and to criticize as little as possible, and so a different kind of chaperon is creeping back into society but whether we have the old system of great strictness² or one of complete independence does not really matter. I have very little faith in outward restrictions. I place all my faith in the individual development of character. Human nature changes very little. If girls and boys grow up in an atmosphere of frankness and fair play and consideration for others, and with a sense of responsibility towards their own families and communities, then they are safe today as they were when I was young.

Those girls and boys are safe today just as they were safe in my day, if they come from that kind of environment. It really boils down to the question of making home a place where children develop character and standards and taste which will make it difficult for them to do things which either come under the heading of "things no fellow can do", or which are coarse and selfish and therefore repel them, because of the ideals and esthetic sense which has been built up during their youthful years.

It's the old question of having character, and chaperons cannot take the place of character.

(switch-3 seconds)³

(YOU'RE CHARMING _____ SCHOLTZ)

RUYSDAEL: (OVER MUSIC)

A new waltz melody called "You're Charming"...sung by William Scholtz.
(NUMBER IS CONCLUDED)

RUYSDAEL:

~~For dancing purposes if you're in the mood consider "Where I Wonder Where" an excellent fox trot.~~

~~(WHERE I WONDER WHERE ORCHESTRA)~~

RUYSDAEL:

A number new to the wave lengths..sung by Miss Lee Wiley. The title..."I've Got The World On a String".

(I'VE GOT THE WORLD ON A STRING WILEY ORCHESTRA)

RUYSDAEL:

Yes, women are practical..they don't often deceive themselves...they see things as they are. That's why you can be sure the two Pond's Creams are good...more beautiful women use the Pond's Cream than any other brand...you can be sure it's because women have discovered that these creams do more for their complexions than other creams. Pond's Cold Cream is more than a fine cleansing cream...at the same time it cleans the pores, it tones up the skin, make it softer, more flexible and alive. Pond's Vanishing Cream is more than a finishing cream. . it does make your skin like satin and holds your powder on for hours...but beside doing this, it protects your skin against coarsening and chapping....it forms an invisible shield that helps prevent the wind, sun and floating dirt from hurting your skin.

RUYSDAEL:

Why not make use of this experience of other women...use the easy Pond's method of complexion care they have found so effective...ask for and see that you get Pond's Cold Cream and Pond's Vanishing Cream...and also Pond's new delightful face powder.

(SIGNATURE)

RUYSDAEL:

For her topic next Friday evening on the Pond's Program -- Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt announces: "How To Keep Your Husband Happy." The compensation received by Mrs. Roosevelt for her part in our program is divided by her between the unemployment relief fund and private charities in which she is interested.

(SIGNATURE UP)

ANNOUNCER:

This is the National Broadcasting Company.

Transcribed by: Lee Febos

Proofread by: Ivana Mowry Mora, Matthew Girardi, Lee Febos, Natalie Eckl

Proofread by: Ikerighi David and Andreas Meyris.

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

¹ "(switch - 3 seconds - away)" is a handwritten interlineation

² "/" is a typed interlineation

³ "(switch-3 seconds)" is a handwritten interlineation