

Girls Lead Juniors

Two Smith College Juniors from the Birmingham area have been elected president of their college dormitories. Patricia Hoey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry D. Hoey of the Cranbrook School, Bloomfield Hills, has been elected president of Martin Wilson House. Barbara Neal, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James L. Neal of 1115 Brookwood, has been chosen vice president and social chairman of Gaudinier House.

Name Ellen Adams To Mademoiselle Guest Editorship

Ellen Adams, who lives on Rathmore road, Bloomfield Hills, has been named a guest editor of Mademoiselle magazine. The daughter of the James Adams, she is a senior at Northwestern university and is one of 20 winners among 700 under-graduate members of the magazine's national college board at colleges and universities across the country who competed.

The editors will be taken to New York City for four weeks, May 31 through June 29, to help write and edit the magazine's annual August college issue. They will receive round-trip transportation from their home cities and be paid regular salaries.

EACH GIRL will be assigned to the magazine job suited best interests and training, will interview a celebrity in her chosen field, and take field trips about the city. They won their appointments on basis of reports on campus trends in fashion, arts, class studies and outside activities.

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Amateur Gem Cutters Do Jewelry

An unusual ring set with a piece of petrified palm root or Mexican dinosaur bone and earrings with a plume agate or petrified green lace stone are some of the items done by Dr. and Mrs. Edward D. Conner in their hobby of "gem cutting".

These residents of South Miller Way in Bloomfield township can often identify the place a stone originated from its color and appearance.

Dr. and Mrs. Conner get all their gems in the rough rock form by picking them up along the lake or sea shore, in quarries, the desert, or through trading of boxes.

Most of their vacations are spent at spots where some type of gem they want may be located.

AMONG MICHIGAN stones collected by the Conners are Thomsenite, Green Stone, Lake Superior Agate, Chrysocolla and Potosky stone. One of the Potosky stones Dr. Conner found in the gravel of his own drive way.

In their collection are numerous examples of jade in its varying colors such as black, green, yellow, lavender, white or blue and coming from such diverse places as Burma, Alaska, Wyoming, California, New Zealand and Japan.

Conner comments, "Although we hear much about Chinese jade it is not a natural product of that country and all jade cut in China has been imported."

IN ADDITION to these natural materials, gem cutters often use synthetic materials relatively free of flaws and much cheaper.

During the interview with the Conners little known facts about gems were told. Often apparently unrelated minerals are members of the same family. For instance the beryl family consists of four major colors. Hence Beryl when dark green is called emerald; blue-green beryl is aquamarine; pink beryl is Mozambique and white beryl is Goshuite.

IN ADDITION to gem materials Mrs. Conner has been interested in collecting fluorescent specimens. Some of the most promising appearing natural stones display vivid colors when exposed to the ultra-violet lamp, she says.

In his workshop Dr. Conner has many tools necessary for lapidary work. Stones may be cut in one of three ways, he says: the "cabochon" with original shape retained but surface polished; the "faceted" cut in conventional form (such as circle, oval, diamond,

heart or cross) and with rounded surfaces; lastly the "faced" style with multiple flat surfaces, usually reserved for transparent stones such as diamond, emerald, ruby, etc.

In the cabochon style cut the rough rock must pass through at least six steps in becoming a gem that may be mounted as a piece of jewelry, he explains.

BEFORE ANY ACTUAL cutting in done the stone must be studied carefully for flaws, and for fullest utilization of size and shape. Moreover much planning is necessary to properly orient the stone to bring out its best color and physical structure. For instance a blue sapphire not properly oriented may appear green when finished thus losing much of its value.

Next step consists in cutting a slab or slice from the rough rock with a slabbing saw. The steel saw blade has commercial diamonds embedded in it to cut through hard rock.

IN CUTTING PRECIOUS materials such as ruby, aquamarine, emeralds, topaz or sapphires a paper-thin blade is used to avoid waste. Frequently the most unpromising appearing rock may show beautiful markings when cut.

The desired shape is marked with a bronze or aluminum pencil on the rough slab, the stone is then roughly trimmed to shape with a small diamond saw.

In the rough grinding process the gem is faceted with a special wax to a wooden top stick and shaped, free hand, by holding against a carborundum or diamond cutting wheel.

SCRATCHES ARE REMOVED from the gem with a sanding wheel—first coarse then fine.

It is then polished for the sixth step—polishing. The secret of good polishing, Mrs. Conner says, is careful completion of each of the previous stages. A felt wheel impregnated with cerium oxide powder is used for polishing most materials, among numerous combinations or polishing compounds and laps or wheels.

DR. CONNER HAS been experimenting with many combinations, for instance diamond powder embedded in wood, diamond on copper and sapphire powder of saron or muslin laps.

Until a couple of years ago, jade had been one of the more difficult and tedious gems to polish. After much experimentation Conner found that sapphire powder on muslin lap solved in a jig time.

DR. AND MRS. CONNER have many pieces of jewelry set with their own gems. The mountings are both hand wrought, by the Conners, and commercially made and purchased by them. They often use their gems as gifts for friends.

Dr. and Mrs. Conner are members of the Michigan Lapidary society which consists of about 100 members who meet once a month to swap ideas and materials.



DR. AND MRS. EDWARD CONNER CUT GEMS.
Bloomfield townshippers work on stones

THEIR PROGRAM usually in of anesthesia at Beaumont includes a talk or movie on lapidary art. Dr. and Mrs. Conner, with daughter Kathleen, seventeen months, make their home at 3826 S. Miller way.

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Dr. Peters Is Nursery Speaker

Final parent education speaker to the Bloomfield Cooperative Nursery school parents was Dr. Mildred Peters, professor at Wayne university's college of education.

She spoke on "The Aggressive Child" at the 8:30 p.m. Tuesday meeting at the Baldwin Public library.

A 7:45 business meeting preceded the talk, with refreshments after it.

NEW OFFICERS of the school are Mrs. George Maxted chairman, Mrs. Raymond Flynn, vice-chairman, Mrs. Gordon DeBoard, treasurer, Mrs. Arthur Stimmens, recording secretary, Mrs. Leon Hart, corresponding secretary, and Mrs. Dorr Lovett, admissions.

Birthdays, anniversaries, guests, births, parties are all news—the society editor about them.

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