

**SYNDICATES**

# NEA's Jean George Is "Quick As Camera"

By Helen M. Staunton

CLOSE to a dozen lensmen clustered around Mayor LaGuardia's desk and clicked their shutters, moved around and clicked again, then again—while off to one side NEA SERVICE's Jean George pushed a swift pencil over her sketch pad and recreated the scene in which LaGuardia agreed to cooperate with Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., and his veterans in providing housing for them in New York.

Curiously a cameraman pushed closer and looked over Jean's shoulder "Gosh, she's almost as quick as a camera," he praised.

Jean George is an almost unique syndicated writer because she covers news feature stories with both art and text. Recently, when she covered the return of some fleet units for NEA, the returning GIs almost buried her in a shower of candy bars while she sketched swiftly and jotted notes in the upper left hand corner of her drawing sheet.

She nearly got caught in an outbreak of violence during the longshoremen's strike.

"When a photographer goes with me (sometimes Acme covers the same story), he can only get the groups as they arrange themselves," Jean explained the advantages of her art to EDITOR & PUBLISHER, "but I can work them all into a sketch that tells the story."

To her delight it's those sketches that tell the story, that are "artistically satisfying" to do, that get preference from NEA over the drawings that are more photographically accurate.

Most of this week Jean has been working on a story of interest all over the country, veterans' housing. She has watched at the Commodore Hotel where the returned soldiers have frequently demanded a chance to tell of their needs, and she has inspected some of the standard coldwater flats, which are the only type of housing not at a premium in the city.

As young Roosevelt followed his agreement with the mayor by an informal press conference, Jean did a series of rapid sketches, then shifted to brush and ink, each sketch page bearing its quota of story notes: "3,000 vets to N. Y. per week," "300 units in Queens," "good neighborhoods," etc.

When Jean gets back to her office after a story, she has two jobs to do: finishing the sketches and writing the story in a chatty feature style, and she isn't sure which she likes better.

Jean developed her sketch-text technique during the year she worked for the *Washington Post* after two years of cubbing and reporting for INTERNATIONAL NEWS SERVICE in the capital. For

a number of months she worked in the art department at *Pageant*, then recently joined NEA.

## New Syndicate, Features

LEE MYERS has started a new syndicate entitled the LEMMERS NEWSPAPER SYNDICATE at R-8-Bx. 529, Toledo 12, Ohio, and is offering a news chuckle feature and serials—"as soon as the paper shortage eases up." The first is designed to get a laugh out of the day's news regardless, the second to build circulation. The syndicate looks to weeklies and small dailies.

That feature for small businessmen McCURE SYNDICATE was trying out for demand got the demand and became a regular feature for sale this week. Temporarily Elmer Roessner, editor-in-chief, is bylining "Small Business Today," and the feature appears six times a week. . . KING FEATURES offers girls "A Super Figure in Short Order" through a three-weeks series by Ida Jean Kain, B.S. in nutrition and M.A. in corrective exercise. Beginning Jan. 7, the feature promises to save the day for some of the wives and sweethearts expecting servicemen who expect moderate curves. . . Dorothy Roe, AP NEWSFEATURES' woman's editor, was guest of honor this week at the ceremonies inaugurating a four-year course in apparel design at the University of California. . . BELL SYNDICATE reports an increase in monthly pattern sales based on July figures from 4,159 in 1939 to 13,307 in 1945.

## Author Too

MOST NEWSPAPERMEN and women write books sooner or later, but Sheila John Daly has written hers sooner. The world's youngest syndicated columnist—she's only 17—she came to New York last week to see her publishers, Dodd, Mead & Co.—her first trip away from home alone, her first plane ride, her first book, her first publishers' conference, she told E. & P.

Her column for teenagers, "On the Solid Side," is "easy," she said, compared to her freshman year courses at Rosary College, Chicago. She inherited the CT-NYN column some months ago from an older sister, Maureen, but has been writing since she first broke into *Woman's Day* with five articles at the age of 11.



Jean George

Her first novel will have to wait, she told E. & P., until she's more mature, and she'll continue writing her column while she can retain the teenage point of view. By then her niece (now in the toddling stage) may be able to take over—"She's awfully bright."

## Cartoon Chat

THE STATEMENT by Mme.

Ninon Talon that comic books would not be included in her Treasure Chest committee's book chests to be sent abroad because "comic strips will give a wrong impression of this country to European and Chinese youngsters" has drawn fire from Mrs. Adelaide Waldo, president of McCURE SYNDICATE, who wrote Mme. Talon asking her to reconsider the case of wholesome comics.

Frank Tinsley is discontinuing his McNAUGHT SYNDICATE comic

"Captain Yank" as "too associated in the public mind with the war" and is planning another Sunday page to be released through another syndicate. He has counted 15 "scoops" on the news in his feature's five-year life. . . Proceeds of the 1945 sale of the "Picture Stories from the Bible" comic book will again be distributed to religious organizations, according to M. C. Gaines, president of Education Comics, Inc., which produces the feature syndicated through GEORGE MATTHEW ADAMS SERVICE. . . Release of the "Joe Jinks" strip showing whether Curly Kayoe or Dynamite Dunn wins the World's Heavyweight championship has been withheld by UNITED FEATURES temporarily on grounds that "heavy bets are being made on the outcome." . . Gus Edson's son Russell has just won the Kimon Nicolades memorial scholarship to the Art Students League. The late Nicolades introduced the "Gumps" artist to his wife.

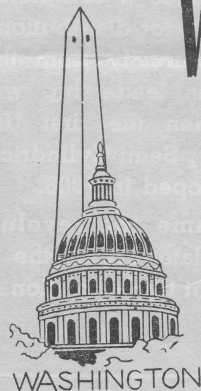
## Gets Editorial Award

G. W. Barrette, editor, *Peoria (Ill.) Journal-Transcript*, has been awarded a \$100 victory bond by the the Gaines Dog Research Center, New York, as author of the "best editorial on a dog topic appearing in an American newspaper during the 1945 National Dog Week," it is announced. Mr. Barrette's editorial, titled "A Dog's-Eye View," appeared in the *Journal-Transcript* Sept. 17.

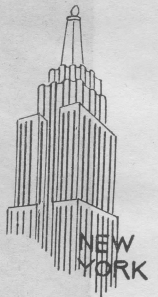
Another  
Birthday



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