

Miss Lucy Tandy, '30as, '32M.A., right, who is visiting in the home of the famous Spanish author, Ernesto Gimenez Caballero in Madrid, Spain. Below is a picture of Senor Caballero, Miss Tandy and Elena Caballero, five years old, who Miss Tandy is teaching English

## A Spanish tribute

BY THE EDITOR

IT is the kind of thing you dream about. And it happened to Miss Lucy Tandy, '32M.A., brilliant Sooner language student.

Miss Tandy, as a result of work she did for her master's degree in the modern language department of the university, was invited by Ernesto Gimenez Caballero, famous Spanish author and leading exponent of surrealism, to be the guest of his family in Madrid.

And last November Miss Tandy sailed for Vigo, Spain, on an adventure which comes but rarely to any American university student—to enter, as if by magic, the salon of a nation's literary world. For such indeed was Señor Gimenez Caballero's invitation; for his home in Madrid is a center where many of the famous intellectuals of Spain gather.

Miss Tandy, working with Antonio de la Torre, brilliant member of the Spanish faculty of the university, did the most complete biography in any language on Gimenez Caballero. That extraordinary figure, recalling in his prolific vigor of writing Lope de Vega, although a far different kind of writer, co-operated. And when the work was finished, so pleased with it was the subject of the biography, that the unusual invitation came.

The trip on the *De Grasse* to Vigo, the trip by train from Vigo to Madrid, and the arrival at an hour not expected by the hosts, all were filled with charm and adventure for the young Sooner.

At Vigo Miss Tandy found the Spanish hospitable and curious about the United States.

"You have a new president—Roosevelt," they remark. Then one adds: "Roosevelt will dispense with the gangsters..." For gangsters have made their imprint into international terminology and you will find that word in German, French or Spanish. It is one of our trade-marks.

It is a new world but an interesting one. The waiter at the hotel expresses his astonishment at his guest not drinking wine. "We have excellent wines,"



he adds, with a slightly injured air.

Across northeastern Spain, through beautiful mountainous country, to Madrid. Then, a taxi to Señor Gimenez Caballero's home. Her host is still awaiting word of the hour of arrival and is pleasantly surprised to see her. There are four in the family—Señor Gimenez Caballero, his wife, an Italian, and two daughters Elena, aged five, and Maricela, aged one. It is a pleasant reception and the first day augurs well for a happy visit.

November 12, the first full day in Madrid, is used for a tour of the city. On the street corners vendors are selling yo yo tops. At the parks you can rent tricycles for the children. It promises to be an interesting visit. There is the Rector of the University of Madrid who speaks of Miss Tandy's thesis done at the University of Oklahoma. And from day to day, there are the leading literary figures of Spain to be met.

Shortly after Miss Tandy's arrival in



Madrid, Señor Gimenez Caballero left for a lecture tour in Italy, and was received by Mussolini. In the meantime, Miss Tandy began teaching Elena English, while she herself gained sureness in her pronunciation of Spanish. After several days, Señora Gimenez Caballero came to the study where her guest and daughter were studying and announced that she, too, wanted to learn English.

When the author returned, he plunged into his daily work of writing. He works with great energy, forgetting everything while he is at it. Then, the work done, he returns to the life of the family with zest and enthusiasm. He is witty and usually introduces humor into even the most serious conversation. His father is a publisher and Señor Gimenez Caballero aids in the book publication. The author also wrote a daily column for *El Sol*, Spain's leading liberal daily, until the publication of his book *Manuel Azaña* evoked a ministerial rebuke, and ended with the column being suppressed.

Surrealism, the author declared at one discussion, is new to the world in general but is really a kind of mysticism which is very old in Spain. There are three planes of writers in Spain today, Unamuno who represents the group generally designated as the "Generation of 1898," José Ortega y Gasset who represents the generation which followed, and Gimenez Caballero who is the spiritual leader of the young modern generation. His first book brought him trouble, dealing as it did with Morocco. Later, he began the publication of the stimulating journal *La Gaceta Literaria*, some issues of which he wrote entirely by himself. The *Gaceta* was suppressed by the

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cation is not the acquisition of facts, but learning to make facts live."

The second gives is a bit of idealism that will bear rich fruit if observed. "No man has earned the right to intellectual ambition until he has learned to lay his course by a star which he has never seen, to dig by the divining rod for springs which he may never reach."

If there is need to guard against intolerance might we not consider this one: "Whether we know it or not we are fighting to make the kind of a world that we would like, but that we have learned to recognize that others will fight and die to make a different world with equal sincerity and belief."

If inclined to be dogmatic and to be governed by prejudice this one would be a good antidote: "Certitude is not the test of certainty. We have been cocksure of many things that were not so. But while one's experiences thus make certain preferences dogmatic for oneself, recognition of how they came to be so, enables one to see how others, poor souls, may be equally dogmatic about something else."

To Justice Holmes life is a battle—not with men, but with ideas. How much misery this world would be spared and how much easier the solution of many problems would be if this fundamental principle were always observed!

This wrestling with an idea, Justice Holmes expressed in a figure of speech of which I have become very fond. He says: "When you get the dragon out of his cave, on the plain and in the daylight, you can count his teeth and claws, and see just what is his strength, but to get him out is only the first step. The next is either to kill or to tame him and make him a useful animal."

To me the one quality or characteristic that outshines all of his many virtues is his humility, not the kind of humility that is conceived of as a sign of weakness, but true humility, which as you know portrays great strength of character and calls for moral courage of the finest sort. It has nothing of egotism in it, is ever tolerant of others but does not underrate the power to achieve.

Justice Holmes looked upon himself as a soldier to whom the divine plan of battle may not have been fully revealed. In this battle, however, he has been fighting according to his highest sense of right.

You will remember that on his ninetieth anniversary, last year, radio addresses were delivered by Chief Justice Hughes, the dean of Yale law school, the president of the American Bar Association and others, and that after listening to these eulogies he was asked to make a response. I shall conclude this address by quoting those memorable words:

"In this symposium my part is only to sit in silence. To express one's feelings as the end draws near is too inti-

mate a task. But I may mention one thought that comes to me as a listener-in. The riders in a race do not stop short when they reach the goal. There is a little finishing canter before coming to a standstill. There is time to hear the kind voice of friends and say to oneself, 'The work is done. But just as one says that the answer comes, The race is over, but the work never is done while the power to work remains.' The canter that brings you to a standstill need not be only coming to rest. It cannot be, while you still live. For to live is to function. That is all there is in living."

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### A SPANISH TRIBUTE

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 164)

Spanish government. His "futuristic" style won him international recognition and Gimenez Caballero is today one of the principal exponents of surrealism. His biography of Azaña caused the government to intervene, but later, Señor Gimenez began a column on *Informaciones*. One day Miss Tandy saw the manuscript of *Manuel Azaña* and asked what he did with his manuscripts. The author replied that he destroyed them and intended to destroy this one; then he asked whether Miss Tandy would care for it. "And did I!" Miss Tandy wrote friends in Norman. "Now I have it proudly tucked away in my trunk."

Miss Tandy is impressed by the attitude of the Spaniards toward "the stress they put on the development of human talents; let them be a hundred years 'behind the times,' they are hundreds of years ahead of the Anglo-Saxons in the conception of beauty, tranquility, contentment, happiness."

She received her B. A. degree in the University of Oklahoma in 1930 and two years later her M. A. She was secretary to Dr. J. W. Shepherd, director of the extension division and was a popular favorite in that division, where her co-operative spirit such as shown toward the community institute and other enterprise won her many friends. Her high scholarship is attested by election to Phi Beta Kappa. She was one time president of the Spanish club. She is a member of Kappa Gamma Epsilon, modern language fraternity, and held a modern language fellowship.

How small is this world was indicated one day in the Museo del Prado. Miss Tandy met Mr and Mrs Wells M. Sawyer. Mr Sawyer is an artist whose work sometimes is used for *Literary Digest* covers. In the course of the conversation Mr Sawyer mentioned that a brother lives in Lawton, Oklahoma. Mr Sawyer recalled visiting Tulsa thirty-five years ago, "before you were born," he remarked to Miss Tandy, his eyes twinkling.

Miss Tandy plans to return to the United States sometime this year. Mrs Louise Postlewait of Norman is a sister.

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