

Dancing Alumna

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JANEY PRICE went to New York to study modern dancing, but she came home to learn the Lambeth Walk.

And she learned it from her mother while she was on vacation from 11-hour days of studying and practicing difficult dance routines.

Janey is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Harry P. Price, 2160 E. Thirty-eighth st. Last September, she went to New York, with the promise of a three-year schooling with Hanya Holm, internationally known exponent of the modern dance.

But sophisticated New York soon noticed Janey, and within two weeks she was receiving checks instead of sending them.

After two weeks instruction in general class work, Janey was promoted to Hanya's professional group, which is made up of 12 girls who are next in line to the understudies of Hanya's concert troupe. Then when five girls were selected from the professional class to demonstration work, Janey was again included.

Janey left Thursday night for New York.

"I began to like New York as soon as I got used to the subways," she said. "That took only two months."

Janey and another of the girls in Hanya's understudy group share an apartment in Greenwich village. They do their own housekeeping and cooking, which Janey admits, consists of coffee for breakfast and "something out of a tin can" for dinner. They never have time to prepare lunch.

Each day of their week, except Sunday, begins at 6 a. m. They start classes and practicing at 7 and continue until 6 p. m., with only a subway ride at noon to break the monotony.

"Of course that doesn't leave any time for lunch," Janey said, "but it does help balance the budget." Once in a while they'll grab a sandwich, but Janey hasn't yet mastered the art of eating sandwiches on crowded subways, she admits.

Janey enjoys the lights, excitement and night life—in moderation. "There is so much to see, I'm afraid I'll miss something," is her only regret. She is glad that her dancing course will last three years, for she feels she'll need at least that much time to see the city.

Janey is now working hard for promotion to the understudies group, then to the concert troupe, which assists Hanya Holm on tours.

She is especially looking forward to a tour of Massachusetts colleges which the demonstration group will make soon. On this trip the five girls will demonstrate



Janey Price, '38fa.

the principles of the modern dance and will not use music for their arrangements but only cymbals, tom-toms and other percussion instruments.

This new trend in dancing is original with this class and is worked out by the girls along with the dances which are also their creations. Sometimes a flute is used for accompaniment, but Janey has tried this instrument only behind the closed doors of her apartment—"and not for long," she confided. "Everyone threatened to move out."

Janey expects to live in New York as long as she has a career. "In New York audiences are ready for interpretive dancing, but in Oklahoma modern dance is in a pioneering stage," she said. "It's too hard to gather an audience."

The hardest thing she has ever had to do was to teach a class in front of Hanya Holm; the biggest thrill was instructing students at the University of Oklahoma on her way home for Christmas vacation. Janey took her first instruction in modern dance five years ago at the university. She was graduated from the university last spring and was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority.

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Author on program

Phyllis Bentley, well-known English novelist and author of *A Modern Tragedy* and *Freedom Farewell*, among other books, is slated to address members and guests of Theta Sigma Phi, honorary and professional fraternity for women in journalism, at a dinner March 9.

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