

## \$40,000 Necklaces

# A Fortune In Pearls

By KAYE ROWE  
Sun Fashion Editor

Last summer in New York we went to see three strings of pearls, very much in the same spirit as people go to the Metropolitan Museum to see a newly-acquired Rembrandt.

The three single-strand necklaces represented a decade of searching, collecting and composing by the Imperial Pearl Syndicate. Their price tags amounted to \$120,000 translating roughly into \$40,000 for one necklace.

Named in turn, Goddess of Paradise, of Bali and of Mandalay, the South Sea pearls owe their appeal to color, size and shape. The experts indicated professional aspects of the darlings with phrases such as "fine smoothness of skin" and "pale rosea shimmer" or "extreme thickness of nacre."

Clasps of diamonds and pearls further enhanced their charms.

Few women in the world will be biting their fingernails to the quick hoping for a "Goddess" pearl necklace tucked in a Christmas stocking. But a hint dropped here and there, in the right quarters could deliver a third cousin of a Goddess in-cultured pearls at more modest jolts to the family life savings.

Cultured pearl necklaces available locally range from \$30 up to \$300 for a single strand. The price varies, depending on the same qualities the Imperial pearl experts talked about so glibly plus the workmanship of the clasp.

Pearl enthusiasts rarely feel properly dressed without them. The versatility of the necklace makes it correct with a tweed suit or a ball gown. For the

health and well-being of the pearls—they sleep in them!

One of Great Britain's largest firms specializing in pearls issues this astonishing advice. Oil from the human skin can be absorbed by the pearls to lend the rich, mellow patina that comes with constant use. Women with very dry skins should loan their pearls occasionally to a friend—a very reliable friend!

Pearls left for long periods in a jewel case go "dead," as more than one jeweler has discovered when the irate owners complain. All they need is a little loving wear.

Never spray with perfume in the neck area when you wear your pearls. The aromatic gums used in better scents can cause pitting in the gems. Clean them by gentle rubbing with a piece of soft chamois leather. Store them in a velvet box or soft silk bag away from contact with other jewelry. Once every two years have them checked for the durability of the stringing by your jeweler who will also give them a professional bath.

### THE SLY IMITATIONS

The perennial demand for pearl beads as costume accessories has set the manufacturers scurrying into fancy processes and improved phonies. Several lines of the frankly fake pearls defy detection even at close range. Vendome dips beads into 16 repeats of nacre finish, achieving a "fine, smooth skin" and depth of mellow tone that needs an expert to distinguish the finished result from the real thing. Single strands retail as low as \$5.

Clasps on pearl bead necklaces were the give-away of no status in the past. Hand-knotting between each bead is another

factor. Now the market is flooded with sly imitations of the real thing, with clasps of semi-precious jewels, of fake, flawed emeralds or metals in fine workmanship. Each bead is hand-knotted in place to insure against loss of the beads in cases of string-breakage.

### SUIT YOUR FACE

It matters not what type of pearls you wear—real or fake—so long as you choose the right styling of necklace to suit the shape of your face. The petite woman with a short, chubby neck should never wear a choker of rather large pearls; a longer string of smaller pearls, graduated as to size, looks more graceful and gives added length of line.

Similarly, a long face and neck appear even longer with a lengthy string. Vertical ladies can look dramatic and lovely in grape-sized pearls around the base of the neck. Or they can effect several strands caught at one side with a large, decorative clasp. The vertical types are also free to choose multi-strand necklaces decorated at both sides with large, important clasps.

The girl with thin neck and shoulders finds flattery in the bib styling. High on the neckline, it fans out to imply broader shoulders and more meat on the bones.

Pearl earrings can add or subtract from a woman's appearance. A round face is flattered by the long line of the drop pearl earring. A thin face is given apparent width by large button earrings.

The most-photographed women in the world are most-often photographed in pearls. Queen Elizabeth II is rarely seen without her pearls. (I wonder if she sleeps in them?) Mrs. Harrison Williams (her new name escapes me!), winner of the "Best-Dressed Ten" for time out of mind, was always in pearls. The Duchess of Windsor has favored the single strand, large choker until it has become a personal signature. Ingrid Bergman dislikes jewelry—except the single strand of pearls. Mayor Charlotte Whitton? She probably wears them to break at moments of council crisis.



A FORTUNE IN PEARLS — Three masterpieces in gem quality cultured pearl necklaces, the Goddesses of Paradise, of Bali and of Mandalay as shown in New York by the Imperial Pearl Syndicate. Their total value, \$120,000.

## Spectacular New Uses For A-Energy Forecast

WASHINGTON (AP) — Spectacular new peacetime applications of atomic energy in the next 20 years, both on earth and in outer space, are forecast by Dr. Glenn T. Seaborg, chairman of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission.

They range from a possible manned expedition by nuclear rocket to the planet Venus or Mars to conceivable limited colonization of polar regions on earth.

But Seaborg also declares that unless a controlled ban is achieved on nuclear weapons tests, the same two decades will also see the development of "pretty frightful" nuclear weapons.

Presumably including both the United States and Russia in his weaponry forecast, Seaborg said in an interview that in a world lacking a test ban, the next 20 years would see the cre-

ation of weapons having "much larger (explosive) yields per weight of material" than even today's fearsome nuclear arms.

Seaborg reiterated some predictions he has made about possible spectacular developments in other fields, due to the fast pace of technology.

The next 30 years, he says, might see the development of paper to the extent that "durable and fashionable clothes made inexpensively of paper will be widely worn."

Also, such things as self-lubricating metals . . . home-style electronic computers capable of figuring income taxes and family budgets . . . other computers capable of translating almost any foreign language automatically . . . and "great progress in predicting storms, earthquakes, and other natural hazards."

Super long - lasting batteries

for automobiles, charged with nuclear-generated electricity, might be developed and possibly even "fuel cells" for automobiles—that is, energy-producing chemicals that could propel a car for a certain period, then be revitalized at a nuclear power station while the car owner used a rental cell.

Seaborg forecast that electricity from the atom could be made economically competitive with conventional fuels throughout most of the U.S.

GIFT TO B.W.I.

MONTREAL (CP) — The local branch of the English-Speaking Union Ranfurly Library has sent 17,000 books to the West Indies since last October.

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