

Serenade of Bells Climaxed Here
GERMAN GIRL WEDS S.R. SOLDIER
Love That Blossomed Overseas Fulfilled With Marriage

Wedding bells rang in Santa Rosa Wednesday to culminate the romance of a Santa Rosa and his bride which began to the accompaniment of church bells in a war-torn German town.

Exchanging marital vows were Staff Sergeant Dean Christensen, 24, of Santa Rosa, and Fraulein Martha Helwig, 20, late of Mannheim, Germany.

Martha, a comely, dark-haired girl, arrived here only last Sunday, just two weeks after leaving Bremerhaven. She was met in Oakland by Sergeant Christensen and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Christensen, 118 Sebastopol road.

It was the first time since Dean left Mannheim in October, 1946, that he had seen his fiancee—and it was her first glimpse of the state and countryside which will be her home.

Within the next few days the couple will leave for Fort Lewis where Dean is currently stationed. He will be discharged in November and will return to Santa Rosa to make his home and to continue his study of music.

An excellent pianist, he is now busy at work on several musical compositions including a ballet, an operetta and a piano rhapsody.

Dean first met his bride in Mannheim when his outfit, the 118th Infantry, was sent there to do police duty. He was billeted in the home of Martha's parents. A common interest in music, electrical and radio technique and church led to friendship which ripened into love.

The sergeant blushing admits most of his courtship was conducted in church—and it was in a Mannheim church, while the bells were pealing, that he received his first kiss from the girl who is today his bride.

He proposed, she accepted, and after his return home, he worked hard and saved his money to raise the \$500 necessary to send for her. There was more delay while State Department red tape was cut.

Martha speaks English, having studied the language before she met Dean three years ago. She is "almost" an electrical engineer, having been employed by Siemens, the German equivalent of General Electric for many years, since she was 14 years old.

She has been thrilled by the clothing and food available in America and by the Sonoma valley country.

"It is so much like the country around Mannheim. I won't feel too strange here," she said.

"You won't ever feel strange if I have my way," the tall, good-looking sergeant at her side assured her.

Nicholson Court Case Postponed
 SAN RAFAEL, Feb. 5 (AP) — Arraignment of Ann Cooper Hewitt Nicholson and her disc-jockey groom, Frank (Rodeo Roy) Nicholson, was postponed today.

The pair were scheduled to appear in superior court tomorrow morning on three counts of perjury—two against Ann and one against Nicholson, growing out of



Sgt. Dean Christensen and his bride of one day, Martha Helwig—recently arrived from Germany—pose for a picture in Santa Rosa, their new home. Sgt. Christensen's parents live in this city.
 Staff Photo



Dean Marius Christensen and Martha Helwig Marriage Article

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