

Friends Gather for Christening of Small Kelvin Vanderlip Jr.

BY CHRISTY FOX

It would be hard to imagine a more heart-warming scene than the christening of little Kelvin Cox Vanderlip Jr. in the gardens of the Vanderlips' beautiful Palos Verdes estate at Portuguese Bend. Elin and Kelvin, handsome parents of the not-quite-2-months-old baby, standing to one side during the ceremonies, could not have known there was hardly a dry eye in the group of some 60 friends as Dr. Hans Staensness, pastor of the Norwegian Seamen's Church in San Pedro, spoke his simple and moving words.

And little Kel, in the arms of his grandmother, Mrs. Frank A. Vanderlip, was as interested as anyone. Mrs. Vanderlip Conway, who is his godmother, was unable to come West for the occasion so Mrs. Vanderlip took her place. Two godfathers said their pledges—Elvon Musick and Theodore Geisel (he's the well-known Dr. Seuss who illustrates children's books).

New Colffure

Lovely Elin Vanderlip, mother of the baby, looked very young in a soft, blue organdy off-the-shoulder frock that was ankle length. Her slippers were in a gay American beauty shade. It was the first time I have seen her

dond hair swept back and upward in a new and becoming coiffure.

Several members of the families rallied about for the big occasion. Dr. and Mrs. G. N. Brekke, Elin's parents from Washington, D.C. were there. Soft-spoken Dr. Brekke and his charming wife planned to leave immediately after the festivities on a motor trip back to their eastern home. But San Bernardino looked far enough for that first night's stop. Col Frank Vanderlip Jr. was there too, (Kelvin's brother) and was explaining what he called his "schizophrenic existence" for the past 10 months—living in Washington and having his business in New York. His wife is in the East now adding those last touches to a New York home where the family is at last moving.

No Exception

The Vanderlips' guests were no exception to the rule that every one is doing something these days—coming back from a vacation going away or building a house. The Elvon Musick's (who were nice enough to drive Rupert Hughes and me down to Palos Verdes) just checked in from another Honolulu trip. Mabel has 59 flower leis bedecking her when she arrived—they have many friends there.

The christening day is one the Musicks will never forget because it also was their 34th wedding anniversary. Their house was overflowing with flowers from well-wishers.

Incidentally, Rupert Hughes has my vote for the guest everyone should have at her dinner party—what a wit and conversationalist!

But back to the christening... the Robert Fishers (he's one of SC's executives) were there at

planning a gypsy trip to see some of California, they've had so little time since their arrival two years ago... John T. de Blois Wack was down from his Hope Ranch home in Santa Barbara, but his wife (the former Ethel Du Pont Barksdale) was in New York on a trip... Lola Mae (Mrs. Tharpe Smith was on hand with Beulah Koelch and her son Phillip Koelch (a Navy man who dashed up from his ship in Long Beach for the christening). Lola Mae and her daughter Carol leave Aug. 15 for Grosse Pointe, Mich., for the Sept. 4 wedding of Pegg Zeder, daughter of the Fred Zeders (he is chairman of the board of Chrysler, you know).

No Telephone

It was fun to see Fay and Welton Becket who are ensconced in their beach house at Malibu where they are blessed with no telephone. Not far away at Malibu are the Hyatt Dehns who are deserting the beach for a four-week trip—just somewhere—and they also are building a house. More on the architectural front: Welt has been toiling double since the Walter Wurdemans have been in Europe. But after the christening the Beckets and the Dehns headed for the airport and waited in the Flight Deck restaurant for Walt who was due in by plane from New York.

Some of the others who stayed at the Vanderlips' for a Norwegian buffet supper and champagne reception after little Kel's christening were the John H. Robertsons, who are making plans to build a new home, Mrs. Joseph Chadwicke (in my favorite color of green), Harry Benedict, the Frank Arthur Menkens, the Frank Roger Seavers, Mrs. Fred Bixby, surrounded by friends, and Norwegian Consul Kaare Ingstad.