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Toward One World...

UNESCO Combats Nationalism; And It's Not a Biscuit, Either

Editor's note: This is the first of the spring term series of weekly articles submitted by the One World club designed to stimulate student thought on a national and international scale. This article was written by Flora Furrow, senior in journalism, who shortly will join the Emerald staff as a weekly columnist.)

(Editor's note: This is the first of the spring term UNESCO is not a biscuit. Neither is it a type of caffiene-free postum for sleep pursuing coffee drinkers. It is not a secret formula for the construction of the atomic bomb. UNESCO is UNESCO.)

UNESCO, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural organization, is an autonomous group of national states' representatives who meet in Paris at 19 Kleber Avenue. Its charter, (ratified by many governments including the United States but not Russia) and members dedicate themselves to effecting the proposition that "since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defenses of peace must be constructed." Significantly, peace is not to be constructed in the minds of men but "the defenses of peace."

Nationalism

Though its charter does not say so in direct terms, and its members (i.e., national state governments) would swoon at the suggestion, UNESCO is undeniably dedicated to the extinction of that nasty old thing called nationalism.

Nationalism is the emotional condition brought about when children are taught "Our flag is the best in the world"—even though its intrinsic aesthetic value may be no greater than that of a hammer and sickle projected on a red background. (I am not a communist.) Nationalism makes people say, "We don't like the Russians," when they mean "We don't like the Russian form of government" or "Lavrenty Beria." Nationalistic thinking is such that it conceives the state as an entity and does not distinguish between a country's people, (as people, i.e., humans. You know: men and women, boys and girls?) its political system; and its political leaders. As

consequence it puts greater importance on political systems than on human life and many otherwise nice people are killed in each war, dying for the chimera of state sovereignty.

Reaction or Reproduction

This is true also because nationalism has a quality of living organisms. It reproduces its own kind—through reaction, (a neat trick for living organisms). Around 1860 the Italian principalities were united as a reaction against the Austro-Hungarian national state and Bismarck brought the German states together to counter-act the "power" of a united England, France, and all the other national states. Now the Viet Nam republic is striving for the characteristics of national statehood, and India, Burma and all the other little and big countries of the world cling to independent, sovereign, national government visions—of political self-determination. Independence is related with this political self-determination in the public mind. In the United States, we relate democracy with the independence or sovereignty of our nation. (Thank you, Dr. Dull.)

Nationalism is a reasonable condition insofar as it recognizes the interdependence of political and social institutions within a country, and presupposes that people with the same language and customs don't want an outsider dictating what those institutions shall be. (A kind of legislation without sufficient representation idea.) However, nationalistic thought falls short of recognizing that the system of national states' sovereignty is a system of anarchy—especially in a world which has effected Einstein's theory of the relationship between energy and matter.

Join the Parade

UNESCO is trying to construct a bandwagon flashy enough so everyone will want to ride. That bandwagon will consist of an exchange; UNESCO will try to introduce people as people. If its plans work, the peasant will trade homilies with the peon and the flunkey, and American kiddies can play skittle while Chinese follow Batman's exploits. Canadian gourmets will talk curry powder with Punjab sikks, and Guatemalians will talk turkey with Egyptians.

On the State of Disunion

- REDS KILL 5 MARINES IN CHINA
- PHONE STRIKE HANDICAPS NATION
- MOLOTOV DENOUNCES GREEK AID PLAN
- TRUMAN SAYS WE WILL FIGHT COMMUNISM
- U. S. REDS PLAN COUNTERATTACK
- MORE KILLINGS IN INDIA

These are our current headlines. And the overall picture is nothing like the "brave new postwar world" we heard so much about. So what can we do about it?

The most constructive step we in the Northwest have taken to "do something about it" is the Pacific Northwest College Congress.

Why?

Because the first prerequisite of constructive action is constructive thought. Through the activities of PNCC, university students are encouraged to analyze and criticize the movements, trends, thought, and history which are responsible for the state of disunion today. Through PNCC students are stimulated to form intelligent opinions, the basis for intelligent action, and are enabled to express their opinions for whatever they are worth.

And evidently the opinions of America's up-and-coming generation of college students is worth quite a lot. At least Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt and Senator Warren Austin think so. It seems they realize that we are the characters who will take over the reins when they climb out of the saddle.

Other schools of higher education in various parts of the country are saying nice things about PNCC. Stanford and the University of Chicago were so impressed with the work being done by the Northwest students that these schools are now planning to establish similar institutions.

It is evident, therefore, that this idea of sounding the thought of college students is just beginning to take hold. There's no telling how far it will go. Opinions on PNCC's resolutions expressed on the 75,000 ballots returned to PNCC by the students of the Northwest will be codified and sent to Warren Austin and the United Nations.

The maturity and comprehension of those opinions will help determine the attitude of United Nations officials, not only toward the students and schools of the Northwest, but also in some measure toward the whole body of American students to whom the world must look for future leadership.

Perhaps this movement begun by PNCC doesn't look like definite action yet. It won't stop the Reds in China or the building of atomic bombs by Russia. But it does furnish a foundation for future action which will.

No Number, Pliz

That modern man is a slave to his inventions is an old observation, dating from the day when some caveman hollowed out a log and floated down stream. The truth of the statement was demonstrated clearly yesterday morning when all manually operated phones conked out, leaving Eugene, save only the campus exchange, without its most used medium of communication.

Alexander Graham Bell, the man who started all this, was born a scant hundred years ago—a fact of which we have been reminded many times lately in all the better magazines.

How, one wonders, did our ancestors get along without the telephone? How did Horace Greeley's boys cover New York? how did Grant's army fight their 1860 version of the "Battle of the Pentagon?"

The obvious answer, of course, is that they walked.

Such reflections do nothing to solve the problems which brought this strike about. They do nothing to hasten our com-

munication. We still must jolly well walk when we would otherwise call up.

But they may serve to sharpen the sense of humor, to replace the snarl with a chuckle or a wry smile, to soften the acrimonious commentary about the union or about the company, to take these minor inconveniences "philosophically." Such an attitude, mixed with a proper amount of curiosity as to causes, is a recipe that should work if we are to live to respectable old ages—with or without telephones.

Editor's note: Lack of space prevented giving credit to the authors of the fragments of verse used in the Easter editorial "Renaissance" (Emerald, April 5). In order of presentation the poetry was from: "The Hollow Men" by T. S. Eliot; "Aftermath," Siegfried Sassoon; "Spring," Edna St. Vincent Millay; "Hymn," Stephen Crane; "The Hollow Men," T. S. Eliot, and "Spring Morning," D. H. Lawrence. Complete poems may be found in "Modern American and British Poetry" edited by Louis Untermeyer, published by Harcourt, Brace, & Co., New York, in 1942.



Side Patter

By BOB WHITELY

Just how long does this "April showers bring May Flowers" business going to last? With softball season here, everyone wants to get going out to the meadows and pitch. A couple of cannon shots to the newly tapped Phi Delta Phi men of the law school . . . "Chief" Schiller, "Lover" Combs, Richman, McDonald, "Balding Doug" Hay, Hess, Brophy . . . et al. The next time Norm Weener comes up to the Tau house for lunch, the whole group will make a hurried exit out the first door. Weener, whose class is

listed in the gaslight era, circa 1900 . . . is still in law school, and heaved Doug Hay in the tub for his recent honor . . . Being a choosing offense, and Hay's class being '42, the whole house hit the tub with the exception of Henry Kavanaugh, whom the freshman thought was a guest. The Alpha . . . Chis . . . Barbara . . . Twiford is carrying more brass than a plumber's helper . . . Lee Eden of the Spee Eden's hung his heart . . . or should that read "hanged his heart on her." The jolly Deegees had a momentous week of legalized romances. Engagement notices came like first editions. . . . Bece Williams and Nigamanoo Sprague Carter, Pat Keck and DU Bob Wren . . . and Tau "Ox" Wilson put his romance on ice with Marilyn Stratton. Chuck "Joyboy" Beckner is obviously confused, and quite wrought up over DG Ellery Ferson and Joan Herron. Odds at the SAE house are about even . . . and no one will take the daily double. Several of the SAE's are shedding a salty tear over Wayne "Lubbo" Strowhecker who is getting pin priveleges minus the formalities of hardware. Mary Fairchild flipped his pin back . . . and the boys are hoping that Lubbo can make it to meals in time now. . . . New Endearing Charms Dept. . . . Wot's in a name? Hhatsziz about Lovestruck Tamale" Adams of the

SAE Adamses cooing into Kappa Molly Moores pink shell-like. . . . "FAWN - EYES" . . . that's the straight poop from the groop. Keep your eyes peeled for a large announcement from the law school as to the theme for their weekend. They have the Johnson office on fire . . . Social note: The Inside Straight and Thanatopsis Club will hold their weekly meeting tonight at 8 in Wine Cellar No. 2 . . . tunnel 5. Cool morning is coffee time . . . coffee time is any time at Jim and John's emporium, de Side. . . .

—Pd. Adv.

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