

# OREGON Daily EMERALD

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## Letters About Willamette U's 'International Relations' Meet

### Oregon Club's Statement

To The Editor:

The November 4th issue of the Emerald carried a story concerning an international relations conference at Willamette University. It was stated that two students of the University of Oregon attended as representatives of the university.

The story was confusing in that it did not indicate under whose auspices the Willamette conference was held. We are somewhat confused as to the authority of the students to represent the University of Oregon.

In order to clear up any possible misunderstanding it will be appreciated if you will publish the following statement:

The International Relations Club of the University of Oregon, which is one of several hundred such clubs sponsored by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, knew nothing about and had nothing to do with the recent conference held at Willamette university. Each year a Northwest Conference of International Relations Clubs is held in this region. The 1947-48 Conference is to be held at the University of Vancouver B.C. November 20, 21. The University of Oregon club will be represented at this conference. There is no connection whatever between this conference and the one held at Willamette University.

Bob Allen, President, International Relations Club  
Phyllis McMahon, Secretary

### Peter Linde's Answer

To the editor:

In last Tuesday's edition of the "Emerald" there was an article reporting the International Relations Conference held at Willamette University last weekend, and quoting me as a representative from the University of Oregon.

The next day the lead editorial of the "Emerald" was a strong if not convincing indictment of the men who spoke at the conference.

All this was based, to the best of my knowledge, on a rather brief interview with me by telephone, during which my anonymous feminine interviewer did not tarry long with any one question. Since the resulting articles do not fairly present what I tried to convey to the reporter, and since I do not wish to have my name associated with such a confused version, I would like to make the following statement:

The International Weekend, or "Bundobust", as it was called, was sponsored by the Willamette YWCA. General chairman of the event was Kay Karnopp, a student at Willamette. I did not consciously represent the U. of O. or any organization, but rather the countries Germany and Denmark. I was invited solely by virtue of having lived in those countries for 13 of my 21 years. My main motivation in accepting the invitation was to improve my own understanding of international problems. I am a graduate student of chemistry, not a politician, nor do I yearn to be one.

The statement (emphasized out of all proportion by the "Emerald") that ultimate democracy and ultimate communism are equivalent was made during the panel discussion. To one not highly trained journalistically this statement appears rather difficult to misunderstand. To the worthy staff of the "Emerald", however, it means that Communists and Democrats (usually this word refers to the Democratic Party!) are the same, or that communism in Russia and democracy in the U.S. are the same. Has Russia achieved complete communism? If so, why are the freedoms of the individual citizen still highly restricted? Have the United States attained complete democracy? If so, why does race discrimination still hold sway? Democracy and communism are goals which perhaps will never be attained to the point of perfection.

As regards the general trend of the discussion at Willamette, I find on retrospect that the ideas presented there are remarkably similar to those expounded by Mr. Adamic at his speech last Tuesday (it may be noted here that a group of Willamette University students were present by invitation at Mr. Adamic's speech). It seems incongruous that the "Bundobust" should be attacked while Mr. Adamic in the same issues received an objective, uneditorialized review.

Peter Linde.

# New Tape Recorder Viewed

By MICHAEL CALLAHAN

This week's column goes a little out of the beaten groove to cover what we think is the greatest advancement in the recording field in many a year. The first of the new commercial wire-recorder combinations arrived in Eugene recently, and even after trying one out we couldn't believe it. These sets combine a standard-band radio receiver, a good record turntable, and the wire recorder's machinery all in one chassis.

Instead of the old wire tape, the new combinations use a spool of fine stainless steel wire, a mile and a half of thread-thin steel in a palm-sized spool. One spool of this wire plays as long as 20 10-inch records, and for just one-third the cost. We found that with the flick of a switch the wire would record any program that the radio was receiving while it came through the loud speaker, or any disc on the player, or a "live" program through the attached microphone. And the wire is guaranteed forever, if it should accidentally be broken, it can be spliced together into a neat little knot that will play right on through without any interference.

Imagine a record collection that could be "erased" and changed through the years! The wire-recorder does it.

Because the wire is only electrically magnetized to the vibrations of tone instead of actually being cut as is a phonograph record, we found that any spool or part of a spool can be re-magnetized to a new program with no trace of the old coming through. Surface haze and mush were cut out entirely when a spool recording was made of an old disc, and the fidelity of all the wire-recordings was like perfect FM.

The present price of wire recorders is pretty stiff,

the model we saw cost over \$200. However, if Boss Petrillo's ban on platter-production holds, the big disc companies will be forced into the competition to build cheaper sets. Watch the quality of the "live" radio programs skyrocket when the public tunes in not only to listen but also to record for the future.

Platter lines: Top-rank is the rating for Bing Crosby's release of the month, "Freedom Train" and a reissue of "The Star Spangled Banner," spoken as poetry. At first hearing, Irving Berlin's "Freedom Train" seems a simple ballad, but it becomes more fascinating with each hearing. Berlin set his story of the train bearing the nation's documentary treasures to a strong beat and a jazz tempo. We think that is a symbolic and unusual touch that sets the record apart.

"Hand in Hand" by Sammy Kaye takes over this month's Record of the Month spot among national song mags, replacing Robert Merrill's "Whiffenpoof Song." Kaye's offering is smooth, straight and sentimental, but over it we pick the other side, "Santa Claus for President." "Santa, the little people's choice," is a good novelty number, especially the opening chorus. We don't see the comparison between "Hand in Hand" and the superb "Whiffenpoof Song" by Met baritone Merrill.

Concerto-Master Freddy Martin came up with a glittering arrangement of "Hora Staccato," featuring his own piano theme behind the ork and Gene Conklin's solo whistling. Conk is the real star, his trills and swoops come off perfectly . . . Deanna Durbin has cut her first new album of this year: "Something in the Wind" from the picture of that name. Only two of the selections are above fair, the title song and "The Turntable Song," which was something of a hit on the jukeboxes a month ago.

## Columnist Lau Peers Inside Russia

By LARRY LAU

The Soviet Union is being widely cursed and dis-cused, as was the infant United States 150 years ago; this is probably the only comparison one may make between the two. Very recently University students were privileged to hear a lecture by one of the Soviet's more vocal apologists. We reason that if educational activities went to all the trouble and expense (\$250 in good old capitalist currency) to have us thus broadened, this vermilion-colored political curiosity must be reasonably important. In a burst of enthusiasm we hastened to find the proper books and take a check on this place called Russia. It is big. It is in Europe. But let me go on.

For instance, did you know that Catherine the Great was a German princess, and not Russian at all? We gathered from the footnotes that most of the time she wished she'd never left the royal beer gardens in Berlin. or that . . .

At the time Union troops were reducing Georgia to a heap of magnolia blossoms over the fate of less than two million negroes, the czar of that period, (sort of a 19th century Henry Wallace), freed 40 million serfs with a stroke of the pen. They promptly repaid him by tossing a bomb in his sleigh. They couldn't find anything left of the czar, so they gave the sleigh a state funeral. We understand that sleighs have always been more popular than czars in Russia.

After the revolutionary war, America's naval hero, John Paul Jones, accepted a captain's commission in the Russian navy. Russian officers were so piqued at this affront that many refused to take command of their ships, something the historians say was the only decent thing that happened to the Russian sailors since oars were abandoned for sails.

The czarist governments were so fearful of incoming liberal ideas that American newspapermen

were not allowed in Russia until 1900. A similar situation exists today, only this time it's Uncle Joe who is leary of the Yankee pen-wielders. Many Americans would like to see U. S. newsmen in Russia.

In 1907 a group of bandits with radical tendencies pulled a \$170,000 train robbery and sent the money to Lenin, who was then an exile in Switzerland. The far-sighted bandit leader was named Joseph Stalin. He is one of the few men ever to make robbery a successful profession.

Russia engaged in one war after another to gain control of the Dardanelles because she wished to keep foreign warships out of the Black sea. This was a defensive, not offensive, policy. The Russians, long hungry for the Dardanelles, probably have not lost their appetite. Perhaps oft maligned, but not often fooled, Uncle Sam had this in mind when he dealt Turkey into the Truman Doctrine.

Greatest influence on Russian ideology was a German philosopher named Hegel, who thought of history as a jerky, bumpety, process over which the individual had no control. The Comies maintain that a person may be called free ONLY if he accepts this historical process, which will, of course, culminate in a classless society. We see now why Russia and the rest of the world cannot agree on a common definition of freedom.

All Communists are relativists and cannot (and do not) believe in such absolutes as truth, religion, etc. With everything relative, there are no such things as ethics. A Communist may, therefore, use any means at his disposal to justify what he considers the inevitable end.

Glad we got the straight dope so we won't go on judging the Reds too harshly. We mustn't let a few little things, like ethics stand in the way of a beautiful friendship.

### Coed V-ball

By CORALIE THOMSON

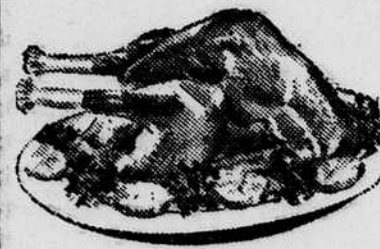
Only two games were played in girls' intramural volleyball last night. The Chi Omega-Gamma Phi Beta game ended in a 24-24 tie. The Gamma Phis led at half, 15-13, using the non-rotation system but the Chi O team caught up in the second half playing rotation.

The Hendricks Bings slaughtered an uninspired octet from Pi Beta Phi 39-10. The Bings, led by Joanne Listerud with 12 points, had a 21-6 half-time advantage.

Alpha Gam became the undefeated champions of league 111 by virtue of a forfeit from the Susan Campbell Corkers.

Pontiac was an Indian chief.

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