

U.S. Wonders Thrill Gafni

By ANITA HOLMES

"Isn't it wonderful—everything here in America!" was the exclamation of tenor Miklos Gafni when he was shown parts of the campus Saturday afternoon. The youthful singer and his accompanist, Max Rabinowitsh, arrived in Eugene Saturday and presented a concert before more than 2700 townspeople and students Sunday afternoon.

Although Hungarian-born Gafni has been in the United States only a year, he said. "There is nothing to compare with it." He has had an opportunity to see much of this "nicest country" because his first concert season has carried him to most of the major American cities. New York's Central park contained his largest audience, 300,000 people, on "I'm an American" day.

When asked about the number of concerts he has sung, Gafni said that the Eugene appearance would be his sixtieth since he left Europe in 1947. During one nine week period, he sang 34 concerts, averaging more than four performances a week.

He sang in France, Italy, and other European countries, but American audiences pleased him more than others. He said there was a warmth present here that Europeans didn't possess. College students make up his favorite audience because they are his own age.

His earlier life as medical student and then as slave laborer for Hungarian Nazis furnished many interesting questions. The medical career is not entirely forgotten because Gafni considers returning to medicine. He turned to singing after release from the prison camp where he received his first voice lessons.

The three former musicians who discovered his talent while they were all prisoners were very good friends of his. He said they became attached to him because as a 21-year-old student, he was younger and more cheerful than the other prisoners. They taught him fundamentals of music and even gave him their food because they were so sure of his future. Gafni said he had only been a drummer in high school and was not interested in serious music until he was in the camp. He still enjoys all types of music.

Since the war's end Gafni has become the tenor of the day, but is sure it is "more difficult to stay on top than to reach it." He is now studying with Dr. Herz in New York and hopes to enter opera af-

ter several years of concert work. Already he has made a movie feature for Columbia pictures and plans to make a full length picture soon. When asked about movie work, the tenor said he preferred the concert stage where he is close to the people.

The friendly Gafni speaks English exceptionally well and knows at least five other languages. He was pleased with Oregon and said it was "beautiful, very nice."

Rabinowitsh has just been with Gafni during the west coast tour.

Wholesome Gal...



This is film dancer Vera Ellen, who according to information received with the picture, has been selected by Artist Nathan H. Glick as the "All American Girl." Glick intends to make a full-length painting of her.

His background includes ten years as accompanist for Chaliapin, the Russian singer.

Sidepatter

(Continued from page two) now wearing Don Leedom's brass, and a most attractive couple is Zeta Sinclair and Bill Rau, and Zeta wearing said Beta badge.

Not as current, but equally as interesting is the pinning of DG Phyllis Morgan to Beta Jerry O'Leary. (Note to Beta house pres., Bud Cobb. Why don't you hold your house meetings at the DG pillars?)

Big scoop is the planting of Mike Mische's Fiji jewelry on Chi Mariel Means, also Wayne Rocher's Sig Ep pin which is now the property of Ruby Bienert of the ADPi house, who was this year's Miss Vogue.

Theta Florine Engels, who lives in The Dalles, spent most of her Christmas vacation in Portland. The reason? ATO Pete Miller. Speaking of people named Miller, Theta Joan Edwards is now dating Beta Johnny Miller. Ironic touch, though, is that Johnny is living out this term with Sigma Chi Augie Johnson, to whom Joan was pinned last year.

Delt Norm Morrison is forever, not mixed up in a triangle, but an octagon. What is this boy's charm besides the fact that he rides the Beaver? Parting thought for the day—Who is the big Indian chief in the Chi Psi lodge?

Have lately been imbibing coffee at the Side. New feature is fresh chocolate donuts, if you like chocolate donuts. If not, they have wonderful soup. Drop in once in a while. The place may be crowded, but just think of all the people you'll see! —(Pd. Adv.)

Tyler Studies

(Continued from page one) scores follow the GPA for both groups as follows men, A—190, 73; B—197, 77; C—217, 79; women, A—224, 75; B—226, 72; C—269, 90.

These figures clearly show that the third group, composed of students who returned to college after the war interruption, is significantly superior by both these criteria to the groups which did not come back.

Faculty who have felt that their 1946-47 student groups were superior to previous classes are probably correct in their judgment, Miss Tyler indicated. There seems to be a real tendency to make up in quality, as well in quantity of students, for the slump which occurred in higher education during the war.

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