

Financial Picture Bright for G.I. Students in France

Herb Penny, writer of the following "letter from France," is an ex-Emerald worker who has been studying this year at the University of Grenoble. He left Paris shortly after writing this letter, and is expected to arrive in New York Friday.

By HERB PENNY

PARIS, April 4—Spring in Paris is traditionally a lovely time and the season is disappointing no one this year, but there is really little change from the last few months, which have been an extremely mild winter. Although anyone, like myself, who has to watch his budget rather closely, can note that food prices here have risen sharply since the first of the year, still, reports in the press give great promise that there will be a good harvest this year, which may ease the food situation as much as Marshall plan aid.

Harvest time is still some months

off, however, so the largest stories in the papers recently have concerned the government's anti-inflation program. Among the measures taken the most important for foreigners was the devaluation of the franc, from 119 to the dollar to roughly 300. Although it is true that most foreigners were circumventing the legal rate, everyone I meet now changes his money at the bank. The American Express office here is an extremely busy place today.

GIs Rich

American ex-GIs, soon to be getting 75 U.S. dollars per month, will have an income of about 23,000 francs, which is more than double the basic French salary. Thus, while not living in the lap of luxury, the vets are able to live on their subsistence checks, in contrast, perhaps, to Stateside conditions. As a word of warning, however, to vets rushing to buy a tick-

et to France, I must add that, in spite of their income, vets here must conform to post-war French living standards, which are hardly comparable to the States.

On a trip to Marseille and Nice I have had a chance to see the southern invasion region, parts of which, especially Marseille and Toulon, were badly hit and still show effects of bombing. I was informed that Marseille was in a mess for a long time with large sections of the town completely bombed out. It is much improved now and life seems to go on very normally there.

British Missed

Nice, strictly a resort town, has had a bad time this winter chiefly because of British travel restrictions which struck a heavy blow to European resort areas in general. The largest percentage of visitors to Nice have always been British and, with the recent easing

A LETTER FROM FRANCE

of the travel restrictions, the tourist trade in Nice is looking forward to a much better season this year.

Reports from America indicate that the possibility of war is a burning topic there. I must confess that it is not the overwhelming subject of discussion here. If any subject can be said to predominate, it would be the increase in prices, which in January and February were truly astronomical. Many food items are up from 100 to 300 per cent. On some items the government's anti-inflation program has had some effect. For example I noted that on January 1 eggs and 15 franc apiece and at the end of February 37 to 40 francs, whereas today the price is 17 to 20 francs. But on the majority of items there has as yet been little appreciable reduction, and the French housewives whom I have met have been extremely vocifer-

ous in their complaints against the cost of living.

Although I sometimes hear the possibility of war mentioned, especially after the Czechoslovakian coup, which was one of the few items in foreign affairs which could be said to have received wide attention in the French press, such talk is generally on a philosophical plane. One Frenchman, for example, whom I spoke with in the little town of LaRoche seemed to feel that the world would be destroyed anyway, if not from natural causes then by "les hommes-memes." Such pessimism is not an unusual here, where the possibility of war is so unthinkable in the present misery as to meet with utter despair when the subject arises.

Italian Election

Another topic of conversation here is the coming election in Italy, (Please turn to page three)

Get With It

Friday is registration day. Observers estimate that there are still some 500 eligible voters on the campus who have not yet registered to vote in the May primaries. That they have not registered is not owing to any lack of opportunity, for registration booths have been open in the Co-op since early in the term.

Deadline is April 20. That's Tuesday. The campus Young Republican group has designated Friday as "registration day," and workers will be in the co-op all day Friday to sign up potential voters. You don't have to register GOP.

If all the eligible voters actually register, and then if even some of them actually vote, the University of Oregon will wield more power next May than many a small Oregon town.

The issues are large ones, well worth the attention of any student. There is the presidential primary, the choice of a candidate for governor, one senator, new congressmen, the question of liquor across the bar, Lane county's proposed "county manager plan," and the millrace issue. That's a lot of decision, and students should put in their two-bits worth, to use a favorite cliché.

But you can't vote unless you register. So get with it.

Readers Want 'Super Cup'

A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor

We have many awards, ranging from recognition of outstanding freshman to cups to houses for participation in various events.

Yet, there is no award to a house or living organization that is outstanding in its all-round contribution during the year. A scholarship is awarded, it is true, to the house with the best GPA, but grades are not everything.

With this in mind, we believe that trophies awarded to the men's and women's living organizations which have contributed the most to the University during the year needed. Such awards are presented at other universities and the decisions of a faculty judging committee are based on scholarship, activities, social, and athletic achievement.

There is little question that such awards would be the "top" trophies on the campus. Living organizations would be shooting at them every year.

Admittedly, the setting up of such awards has its problems. A faculty committee would have to be appointed, requirements drawn up on a point basis for judging, and a fair judgment made of the houses contributing the most to the University.

The trophies should be open to all living organizations, with two trophies awarded, one to the outstanding women's living organization and another to the outstanding men's group.

If accepted, the rules and desired requirements for achievement would be known to every house and in attempting to reach the level of attainment that would put them in competition for the trophy, each house would in its own way automatically improve its members, itself, and the University.

Bob Chapman
Al Pietschman

Clinging Vines Return to Campus

Everybody knows. It's not what the calendar says. It's the ivy that brings spring to the University of Oregon.

Linked with tradition, the vine-covered walls of greying buildings on both the old and new campus always prove winter is gone.

Men strolling over the campus Tuesday found one of these walls with the first really green—not sickly pale, but genuinely green ivy. Today it may be water-soaked, but it is still there.

It's on the south side of Fenton hall. Why the ivy greened first for the law students?—nobody knows.

Initiations Sandbagged Glee

By FRED YOUNG

Unfortunate situation arose when many initiations kept freshman from attending their own class dance—insuring the debt suffered by the freshman class, and illustrating a general lack of interest in school dances. The oversight or uncooperative attitude displayed might be willingly interpreted as a tendency to bite the feeding hand.



An informal poll conducted among several of those good enough to attend the school's dances had interesting results. Freddie Keller was placed along with Dick Jurgen's ork as the best music on the campus so far this year. Strangely, you could hire Keller for half a day if you give him the price Jurgens receives for an evening.

Interesting to note, that much of Keller's fine music is penned by Milt Kleeb recent of arranging for Boyd Raeburn. Mrs. Kleeb, singing with F. K., topped the poll as the year's prettiest vocalist. Dave Clark, ex-Bobby Sherwood trombone, was handling jazz solos, and Rosey Rosenlund, ex-Artie Shaw, led the reeds. Keller's music was a great reward for the ambitious.

Victor and Columbia have been virtually dormant the last month with little music of note being issued.

Capitol features Benny Goodman pianoman Mel Powell highlighting spots of "Black Magic." Also, a new idea is King Nat Cole singing "Nature Boy" and "Lost April" with Frank DeVol's modern orchestral backing. Predicted to be a great seller.

Probably the record that has arrived possessing the most music lately is Charlie Barnett's new Apollo release of "Deep Purple" and "Jubilee Jump." Picturesque Purple is pleasingly performed although both sides bog under Charlie's soprano and alto. "Jump" is an original tune that does it nicely, as Clark Terry's facile trumpet deftly lifts the record from the familiar category.

Columnist Awards Scallions

By LARRY LAU

Herein, we'd like to present our annual Scallion Award, to the person who's done the most to create dissension and hysteria in the United States the first three months of the year. The winnah!

A man who has taken it upon himself to nag, berate, deride, ridicule, sneer, and occasionally (because he's big-hearted) advise, the president, the state department, the congress, the army, navy, and air forces, the atomic energy commission and the nation's press on almost every conceivable subject.

A man with millions of readers and listeners who prattles continually about the responsibilities of the press, radio and movies, and who consistently fails to practice what he preaches. An ax-grinder who serves his facts so heavily syruped with emotion the result is often an unpalatable hash. A man who is at his best a Broadway gossip monger, not as an international oracle.

A man who has a tremendous effect upon public opinion. A man guilty of adding to the hysteria that may sweep us into a third world war. A ham actor wearing a journalist's sheepskin. The Scallion Award to you, Walter Winchell. Take your skin balm and go home!



Side Patter



By SALLIE TIMMENS

The campus thought spring had arrived . . . 'cause of the longer skirts and the shorter hair. However, this low, overhanging mist

has the more cynical students in doubt. But the tradition of spring term pin plantings and engagements is not to be halted by weather hazards.

After a long courtship of Sunday suppers at the Spee house, Theta Ann "Birdseed" Burgess, a senior wheel, has announced her engagement to Sig Ep Bob Heestand. The news was revealed as the Thetas munched on cookies the other night and found paper hearts inside the cookies.

KKG Marge "Moo" Cowlin came down to the campus to tell the girls about her engagement to SAE Bob "Soup" Campbell. Delta Zeta Dorothy Thorsell has set the date with Levy Angest of Eugene, Alfa Gam NancyLou Stevens is featuring a sparkler from Sig Ep Bud Smith, and Delta Zeta Phyl Feiring is engaged to Bob Pulfer.

Sigma Chi Joe Bennett, president of the Midget Club is still having his Friday afternoon beer (at the Side, of course . . . of course) with AOPi Bobbie Fulmer who is now wearing Tom Cowley's Theta Chi pin.

Al Zurfluech, president of Phi Kappa Sigma, or the Skull house, has set a June date with Barbara Beals, grad of Kansas U, who is now working as admissions clerk in the registrar's office. This marked the first engagement announcement in the new Skull house.

Over the vacation AOPi pledge Dolores Stenerson took the sword and shield of Phi Delt Jim Howard; Delta Zeta Mariann Battey has Bob Zeller's Sig Ep pin, and Alfa Gam Jackie Weise is wearing the white cross of Willamette Sigma Chi Dale Broder. DG Mary Sherman

(Please turn to page three)