

Oregon Student Recalls Year Of Enjoyable Study in France

By CORALIE NELSON

On the ship which sailed from New York City for Paris at midnight, August 28, 1948, was Elizabeth Kratt, senior in French, who was to spend a year studying in one of the richest cultural centers of the world.

"The French have to study too hard in many ways. Their program is very difficult," commented Miss Kratt, comparing French and American educational systems. "They are ready to major at 18 with a good liberal arts background. Competition is more difficult, and they've just got to be good."

Miss Kratt spent her junior year in France under the program sponsored by Sweet Briar College in Virginia. Courses at the Sorbonne began on Nov. 2 and at that time, she enrolled in classes in Renaissance literature, seventeenth and twentieth century literature, and Middle Ages. At the Ecole de Louvre, she studied history of French sculpture and history of nineteenth and twentieth century painting.

ADJUSTMENT TAKES TIME

Members of the Sweet Briar group were placed in French families all through Paris. "In spending a year there, you learn to know the place and the people a little—much more than just traveling through. It took at least half the time to get adjusted. What I liked about the city and what was different about it was easier to observe, once I was settled somewhat," Miss Kratt said.

She enjoyed her visit to the Louvre, with its incomparable collection of paintings, and going to concerts, the theater, opera, and the Comedie Francaise. A course in contemporary French literature, given especially for the Sweet Briar group, enabled them to see a

play a week, which they discussed in class.

Picnics were held from time to time at Fontainebleau, Versailles, Chartres, and Chantilly Castle, which has a big park and race track.

CASTLES IMPRESSIVE

"The castles along the Loire are very impressive, said Miss Kratt, listing the carved wood plaques, tapestries, paintings, and painted tile floors to be found in many of them. "All of the castles are furnished by one, and people are living in some of them. And the guides—oh, what characters," she said.

"The weather is a lot like Oregon in many ways," she claimed. "Spring is lovely and it gets warm early. The people blossom too—fishing along the rivers, sitting in the parks. There are cats on the windmills sunning themselves."

She observed that French men never fail to have neck scarves tucked inside their suit jackets, no matter what the weather.

OTHER COUNTRIES SEEN

Miss Kratt found an entirely different atmosphere in Switzerland and Italy, where she spent one week and two weeks, respectively.

A \$500 foreign study scholarship was awarded her from her sorority, Kappa Kappa Gamma, which has a program of supporting exchange students.

"For a French major, it is an incomparable chance to study the language," she said. "The most important thing to me was the opportunity to be in what is perhaps the richest cultural center of the world. The city is very picturesque, exciting and thought-provoking." She described the colorful gardens of Luxembourg and Tuileries, and small parks with perhaps no more than three trees which dot the city.

Messiah Set For Sunday Presentation

By MARGARET EDWARDS

Handel's oratorio, "The Messiah," will be presented by the University Choral Union of 700 voices and the 70-piece symphony orchestra at 8 p.m. Sunday in McArthur Court. The oratorio was given last year by the group.

Solo parts will be taken by students from the School of Music. Theodore Kratt, dean of the school, will direct the event, for which no admission will be charged. Station KUGN will broadcast the program.

"The many requests for a repeat performance of 'The Messiah' explains its presentation again this year," Kratt pointed out. "Last year 7000 people jammed McArthur Court and 1500 had to be turned away for lack of room."

SOLOISTS FEATURED

Soloists for the event will include soprano Dorothy Gangnath, sophomore; Dolores Kletzing, sophomore; and Louise Leding, junior. Lucille Olson, sophomore, and Barbara Detrick, sophomore, will sing the alto parts with James Kays, senior, and Evan Skersies, senior, singing the tenor solos. The basses will be Robert Roberts, senior, Phillip Green, junior, and Walter Martin, sophomore.

This will be the third presentation of "The Messiah" since Kratt organized the choral union in 1939. It was presented in spring, 1941, as well as last year in December. Oregon had previously had no musical programs on such a large scale, the dean declared.

The choral union practices twice weekly during fall term for the two-hour event.

WORK WRITTEN IN 21 DAYS

The oratorio which tells the story of the birth of Christ was written by George Frederick Handel in 1742. It was sketched and scored within 21 days. The oratorio is a form of religious music with chorus, solo voices, and orchestra, whose themes and text are usually derived from the Bible.

Handel, who had earlier become famous for his operas, turned to the oratorio because in this form he was able to give scope to his genius for choral writing and to revive that art of chorus singing which is the normal outlet for English musical talent.

KING STARTS TRADITION

The tradition of the audience's standing during the singing of the "Hallelujah Chorus" was started by King George III and his court in 1744 when the oratorio was presented before the court. The king and his attendants rose during the moving chorus.

"The Messiah" was first sung in the United States in 1818 when it was presented in Boston Christmas Eve.

The choral union included only 300 in its first year when it presented "Elijah." The following year it presented "The Messiah" for the first time. Later presentations by the group were "King Arthur" by Purcell, "The New Earth" by Hadley, and "Drum Taps" by Howard Hanson.

During the war years the choral union was discontinued for lack of male voices but last year saw the revival of the choral union and "The Messiah."

Entry Blanks Due

All intramural team managers have been asked to turn in their "A" and "B" basketball entries to the intramural office before the Christmas holidays. Qualified officials are also asked to contact the IM office.

Constitution, Name Adopted By Junior Interfraternity Council

Oregon's Junior Interfraternity Council is now organized under its new constitution and ready to take its place in campus activities, President Bill Carey stated after the group's meeting Tuesday night.

Formerly called the Freshman Interfraternity Council, the JIFC is an organization composed of fraternity pledge class presidents. The new name was adopted as part of the revamped constitution.

One of the group's bigger tasks this term has been the organization of the Frosh Bonfire for Homecoming. JIFC members, in cooperation with dormitory freshmen, worked out the program for guarding the fuel pile from marauders.

Fred Van Horn, president of Interfraternity Council, "big brother" to the JIFC, commended the junior organization for its active interest.

"This interest in campus affairs will prepare them for future responsibilities at the University of Oregon," Van Horn asserted.

It is said that more people get hurt in golf than in any other sport yet caddies keep right on whistling

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