

Oregon Daily EMERALD

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What About the Asian Question?

"Sure, but what can we do about it?"

A lot of you were probably asking that question Tuesday after leaving Dr. Paul Dull's talk on Asia. You'd just heard him say that we Americans must become aware of the state of Asia — its nations and their peoples—if we are to survive. His words, "we cannot ignore Asia and survive," must have made an impression in your minds.

You will agree with Dr. Dull all right. And then you'll go about your daily studies, your bridge-playing, your eating and sleeping. . . without much more thought. Some of you because you feel Asia is very remote and not within your interest orbit, others because you're "University students."

To the first category we'll do no preaching. Stay in your own little orbit. But we have an answer to those in the second, who are willing to recognize the problem, but think it's a matter only state department officials and economic advisors can do anything about.

Take a look around you sometime when you're walking between classes. You'll see students from India, from Pakistan, from Japan, from Singapore, from the Philippines—all Asiatic countries. These are the people who can—and will—inform you on the state of Asia just for the asking. You don't have to spend hours heading books and magazine articles. . . just talk for a while with them over a cup of coffee, go to an International Relations club meeting, or to Cosmopolitan club.

Remember, they want to be informed on the state of the United States too. And that's part of the cooperation Dr. Dull stressed.

When Dr. Dull said Americans must be aware of Asia, he didn't mean just a few officials. We're sure he includes the American students. And well he should, for who will be running this country in a few years? You. . . today's college students.

You can do plenty about learning the state of Asia. Just DO it.

On the Screen...

Hoffmann Tales Artistically Done

By Leonard H. Frey

(Ed. Note—"The Tales of Hoffmann" will be on the screen of the Mayflower theater, starting today. Frey, the reviewer, is a graduate assistant in the Department of English.)

"The Tales of Hoffmann," Jacques Offenbach's last and greatest opera, has for its explicit and obvious subject-matter three more or less improbable yarns told by the 19th century German arch-Romantic, E. T. A. Hoffmann. The three stories, connected and framed by Hoffman, (the mature artist reminiscing about past experiences) abound in magic, black and otherwise, in strange, dreamlike violence, and in obscure, unnatural ellipses of thought and deed. They are truly the stuff of "fantastic opera."

But beyond the obvious dramatic level of Hoffmann's three tales, there exists, I think, an ambivalent, yet simultaneously resolved aesthetic problem: the artistic quest for a personalized and at the same time valid style, and the exposition of the artist's growth in relation to the whole complex of existence — "The Growth of a Poet's Mind," as it were. It is this dual problem, perhaps more than each of the tales in itself, which warrants consideration in terms of the form and content of the opera.

It may be noted that the first half of the problem is solved in terms of the second. Hoffmann's four loves, the doll, the courtesan, the singer, and the ballerina, are all denied him, and always through the agency of one designated in the prologue as "Lindorf, sinister opponent of Hoffmann throughout his life." This opponent assumes several guises,

that of a puppet-maker, a sorcerer, and a demonic physician; and the uniformity of identity becomes explicit only at the end of the opera.

Likewise, the doll, courtesan, and singer merge into the ballerina, Hoffmann's present love at the time of his narration. All his frustrated love and the opposition that has frustrated it, then, come together; parallel strains of past experiences all inform the present because they have become, in a sense, the present.

When Hoffmann loses the ballerina, "three women in one," he has nothing left but the very frustration which becomes the subject-matter of his art. His "tales" are uniformly tales of loss; success in any of them would make their narration pointless because Hoffmann would then cease in his quest (like Goethe's Faust who owned power as long as he refused to embrace and become static in any moment of experience). In short the act of telling the tales has given Hoffmann his idiom.

Beyond this there is the problem of explaining the opposition personified in Lindorf. The historical figure Hoffmann, a highly unsteady individual, would doubtless be called schizophrenic by modern psychoanalysis. I do not propose to push the point very far here, but in Lindorf there is a suggestion of Hoffmann's own repressions.

Offenbach's great opera stands as a challenging aesthetic experience, as well as a thing of beauty. Its transference to the screen seems to me to be a major artistic triumph, and I strongly urge everyone to make an effort to see it. It may confuse, but it will not bore or disappoint.

Rest in Peace

Emerald Editor:

"No petitions yet for assistant handshaker for the SU; deadline extended." Tsk, tsk. "Who wants to be chief general assistant chairman of the annual whooptdeedee weekend?" No one. The great and glorious university is rapidly going to pot. I am sick and tired of hearing gripes about student apathy concerning student government and those glamorous activities. To my way of thinking, this apathy is a healthy sign that university students are tired of foolishness and expect of this institution three things: intellectual stimulation, cultural emphasis and GOOD recreation.

Why do we need such a large, involved and red tape bound organization for a student body of less than 5000? One would think we were handling affairs of state for a nation of at least 500 million. How about a complete shakeup. Let us quit trying to force everyone into student government and activities. A few capable, willing, non-partisan selected persons could handle the essential aspects of student government and activities.

I would suggest that instead of the ASUO officers, senate, etc. we have a board of five (selecting their own chairman) to represent the student opinion to the administration. Topics they might concern themselves with include: honor system, telephone dispute, vacation periods, etc. One persons could easily handle any of the Student Union committees. As far as the Y's, AWS and WRA go—well let them go out the window.

Give the students good movies, good lectures, good music, good dance orchestras and good discussion groups. Then if they don't take advantage of them, it won't be because they don't appreciate them. It will just be that they are too busy or so darned tired that they would rather sit and drink coffee—and I don't blame them.

But please cease mourning the death of the activity hounds. May they rest in peace (and let us rest, too.)

Melissa Millam

Rah, Rah, K. K. K.

Emerald Editor:

Phillip Johnson, you nasty, nasty man, — taking underhanded kraks at our fraternety and so-rority seestem, the pride of Oregon, and I dun't meen the gas eeder! What do you mean by ure reemarc that the greak houses wun't tak in students wita different colar of skeen odder dan wite. You r wong. Eetz not

-- Letters to the Editor --

dat the phrats and their femail counterpats wun't have these studints, but radder as one hoose president tool yours trolly; "they just woulnd'n be happy living in our house." Who no's, maybee da house has worms!

Besides dat, wood u wun't your seester to have immaterial relations with an off-color wite?.. Or am I wong?.. Hmm?.. The nex ting, you radical, yu'll wun't to let deeze students eet in r 1st

rat resterants and sleep in our 2nd rat motels... (dare ain't none 1st rat motels in Eugene)

After all, deemokrasya is a goot ting, but letz nut overdu it! Lung live the K.K.K., Govnor Talmadge, and the fraternety and so-sorority seestem!

Pleeze excuse my riting dis in crayon, cuz dey wunt allow me to have sharp instriments ware I iz.

(Name withheld upon request)

From the Morgue...

30 YEARS AGO

Jan. 16, 1922—Petitioners who had requested that the university do away with the ROTC today decided not to present their petition to the regents. They feared it would damage the university's reputation.

20 YEARS AGO

Jan. 6, 1932—"Webfoots" is chosen as the name for Oregon athletic teams.

15 YEARS AGO

Jan. 16, 1937—Huge crowds attended a Duke Ellington concert here last night.

The Atomic Age

Why Build Carriers? There are Reasons, But Not Valid Ones

By Phil Johnson

The Navy's plans to build ten new 60,000-ton super-carriers at a cost of more than two billion dollars probably will meet with some opposition from national legislators.

The admirals will be asked to state the reasons for the construction of these ships, and they will probably supply the customary answer—that the 'flat-tops' will be used for attacks upon enemy submarine bases and facilities.

The submarine, they say, must be attacked at its base—before it leaves to fulfill its deadly mission.

This leads to another question: why cannot land-based planes, which cost much less than a fleet of carriers, carry out the strategic bombing attacks which are being preserved for naval assault?

It does not appear that a carrier-based plane has any inherent advantage over its land-based

counterpart.

On the contrary, the carrier aircraft actually is inferior to the land plane because certain special characteristics are needed for landing upon and leaving restricted flight decks.

Nevertheless, the admirals might assert that carriers must be sent overseas in time of war in order to provide fighter protection for friendly bombers. Fighters from North America, according to the admirals, can't fly to Europe and return without refueling.

This argument ignores the fact that the primary purpose of the proposed flattops, according to official Navy statesmen, will be the housing of atomic bomb-carrying bombers, not fighters.

Actually, if carriers are needed for transportation of fighters, much smaller and cheaper ships could do that job. The necessary bombers could fly from continental bases.

The navy's argument also ignores the possibility of aerial refueling of fighters based upon continental fields.

A third basic fact also is overlooked. The United States already has a number of airfields in Germany, Africa, the Near East, Asia—all of them capable of handling fighter planes.

In this picture, carriers are merely expensive added ornaments.

Resources consumed in the construction of flattops might be better utilized if devoted to the strengthening of our regular air force. The region of military decision, the air, must be controlled by the United States if we hope to avoid disaster in the event of war with the Soviet Union.

Carrier construction is an extremely expensive method of gaining air power.

During World War II, Major Alexander P. de Seversky, a noted aerial expert, estimated that a single aircraft carrier cost as much as a land-based aerial unit with a striking power 25 times as great. And this estimate did not include the cost of numerous carrier escorts — battleships, cruisers, destroyers, etc.

The task force is a freight truck doing a wheelbarrow's job. Carriers have many other defects, including vulnerability to submarine attack, lack of defending strength against massed land-based air power, easy neutralization by damage to the flight deck, etc.

There may well be good reasons for the launching of these white elephants. If so, they haven't been revealed.

Sense of Humor, or Revenge?



C-07

"It must have been one of your students with a sense of humor. The note says 'Prof. Snarf, your window is broken.'"