

Will Play for "Island Interlude" . . .

Jurgens' Band Career Began with a Firing

By Gretchen Grondahl

One way to start a dance orchestra is to get fired from the high school band.

That's how Dick Jurgens, whose orchestra plays Saturday night for the annual Senior Ball, happened to organize his first dance band.

Theme for the formal ball, scheduled for 9 p.m. in the Student Union ballroom, is "Island Interlude." Decorations, programs and promotion will carry out the South Seas-Hawaiian motif.

Secret Band Formed

The high school band? It was on our own West Coast—Sacramento high school in California—and Jurgens and several other members occasionally doubled in a secret dance orchestra. When the classically-minded school bandleader accidentally walked in on a rehearsal of a "jazz" number one day, he fired all the players, Jurgens among them.

The rebuffed Jurgens immediately organized his own dance band and the following summer played at a Lake Tahoe summer resort. There the manager of San Francisco's St. Francis hotel heard Jurgens and his boys, offered them a job, and they were on their way.

Jurgens Starred as Trumpeter

But Jurgens didn't start out as leader; it took another weird accident to put him in that spot. He was working as a sideman trumpeter when he was involved in an auto accident. Result: a smashed lip that took over two years to heal, and the end of trumpet-playing for awhile. Undaunted, Jurgens exchanged his trumpet for a baton.

"There was nothing intentional in my method," says Jurgens. "I'm not grateful for having been in that accident. But it was responsible for my taking the leap, so I'm not sorry it happened."

Family Formed Orchestra

Jurgens' interest in music dates way back to the days when he, his brother and sisters had their own family orchestra. Reminiscing Sacramento residents claim they could hear the Jurgens kids two blocks away—and Jurgens admits today that their first musical organization made up in volume what it lacked in virtuosity.

In those days, some 25 years ago, Dick played trumpet, his brother Will doubled on saxophone and clarinet, his sister Ruth played violin and sister Elsa was at the piano.

Marriage, Job Break-up Group

Will has long since given up the saxophone to take over the full-time job of managing Dick's band; Ruth and Elsa, still in Sacramento, gave up music to marry an undertaker and a florist, which they consider a much more satisfactory arrangement.

Music wasn't the only interest in the bandleader's life, however; football and radio engineering gave it a close race. Jurgens had been a star at Sacramento Junior

College for two years, and was about to enter the University of California (primarily to play football, he confesses) when he was offered the band job at the St. Francis. Music won out.

Broken Skylight, Retired Radioman

The radio idea suffered an early setback in Jurgens' junior high school days. As a part-time worker in a radio store, he was installing an aerial in a customer's home while precariously balanced on a shaky ladder. The ladder gave way and Jurgens fell through the skylight into a clothes closet on the floor below.

The closet was locked from the outside and young Jurgens was a prisoner until the tenant of the apartment returned several hours later and released him.

Radio Technician in Marines

At the instigation of his mother, Jurgens temporarily retired from the radio business. He never got over his liking for radio, however; and his knowledge of it came in handy during the war, when he served in the Marines as a radio technician.

When he got out, he constructed his own recorder and public address system, valued at \$7,000, which he uses on the road, for auditioning new talent and to test new recording arrangements.

Tickets for the ball are now on sale in men's living organizations through the social chairmen and will go on sale in the Co-op and Student Union Wednesday.

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NIGHT STAFF

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Honor Committee Finds Students Favor Totality . . .

(Continued from page one)

basis of a conversation with three friends at Stanford, that the system wasn't working there, in that (1) students were still cheating, (2) the code was violated in "take-home" tests, (3) students wouldn't report on each other and (4) students weren't admitting that the system didn't work because they

didn't want to lose their opportunity to cheat under it. as soon as possible.

Stanford Survey Due

Committee members thought the opinion of three students an inadequate sampling of the Stanford student body.

A survey on cheating is being taken at Stanford at the present time and results of that survey will be mailed to the committee

The long-awaited final report of the honor code committee will be in the hands of the senate for approval or disapproval at its next meeting, Feb. 28. The committee was appointed late last fall term to investigate the possibility of installing an honor system at Oregon.

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