

Progress Report on Freshmen

Mid-term grade reports for freshmen women are nearly twice as low as they were last fall.

Figures released from Mrs. Wickham's office show that 32 per cent of last fall's freshmen women were below average in at least one subject at mid-term. This year the percentage is 61.



MRS. GOLDA WICKHAM
Too Many Activities?

Si Ellingson, counselor for men, said he believed that freshmen men's grades were about the same as last year—approximately one-third of the class is failing. However, his office keeps no record of men's mid-term grades, and freshmen men living off-campus do not fill out grade cards. More off-campus freshmen fail to make their grades than men living in dorms, Ellingson said.

Why are women's grades so much lower?
It evidently is not caused by lower intelligence. The Counseling Center reported that freshmen this year had slightly higher stanines than last year.

Due to the Sophomore Honors program and a more effective counseling system, it was hoped grades would rise.

Mrs. Wickham believes the trouble lies in an extra-heavy activity schedule. The Student Affairs committee is now considering curtailed activities for 1953-54.

Ellingson thinks it may be caused by three home games in the three mid-term weeks, with one game in Portland.

Laura Olson, counselor for women, who has talked to all of the 61 per cent, suggested that freshmen don't know how to study, to take effective notes, and to concentrate. This may be true, but does not explain why grades are lower this year.

Mid-term statistics do not necessarily indicate the number of freshmen who will fail to make a 2.00. Miss Olson believes that only about 50 women will do so. Freshmen women usually get better grades than men.

If this is so, many plaudits will be due to mid-term grade cards, Miss Olson, and the counseling system.

But it is likely that more freshmen women will fail to make their grades this fall than last, and perhaps more men. (H.J.)

Switzerland Clings To Neutrality Plan, But Builds Army

By E. A. Van Natta

Ever since the end of World War II and especially since the rupture between the United States and the Soviet Union, Switzerland, like most countries of the world, has been confronted with an ever-increasing amount of problems in the field of foreign affairs.

This little country has, however, continued to face the international enigma with a great deal of consistency and resolution—chiefly because the Swiss government, in attempting to solve its international problems, has been guided by the deep-seated desire to maintain the principle of Swiss neutrality.

Shirking Obligations?

Most of the Western European countries have in part tried to understand the Swiss position regarding neutrality although parts of the foreign press, both in Europe and in America have from time to time expressed the idea that the Swiss are shirking their international obligations by not paying full allegiance to the concept of collective security as found in the United Nations Organization.

Others feel that Switzerland is clinging rather blindly to a neutrality which only disperses even more the potential forces of the Western camp which is itself menaced by an ideological and political bloc which does not know the meaning of the word neutrality.

To be neutral for most Swiss means to remain on the sidelines in case of a future war between East and West. It doesn't mean that Switzerland desires complete isolation from the rest of the world. Her geographic and economic endowments alone make such an idea unthinkable because she must have foreign trade in order to prosper.

Wants Commercial Relations

Switzerland is most eager to establish commercial relations with the greatest number of nations possible. Since the war she has made trade agreements with the USSR, Rumania, Bulgaria, Poland and China plus the major countries of Western Europe and America.

Although not a full-fledged member of the UN, Switzerland does participate in several of the special organizations attached to this body such as Unesco, the International Labor Organization, the World Health Organization, etc. Switzerland feels that she has a great responsibility to the peoples of war-scarred Europe and has, during the past seven years contributed over 177 million Swiss francs to various devastated countries.

Switzerland is taking part in the present world-wide armaments race having appropriated over one and a half billion francs for a three-year build-up of its defensive forces. The Swiss believe that a policy of neutrality must have a sufficient military power to deter any nation or group of nations from encroaching upon Swiss territory or independence. The Swiss people show a very earnest will to resist all foreign aggression and are more than willing to make considerable sacrifice for the upkeep of an army.

The question of whether or not Switzerland will be neutral in the next war won't depend so much on her intentions for neutrality or army but rather on the whims of the belligerents. Should either antagonist deem it necessary to overrun the little country it will probably be done, even if at great sacrifice. But in the meantime one can't help but admire Switzerland for its attempts to be its own boss.



Note to the Editor Critical of France's Indo-China Action

To the Editor:

With regard to Miss Janine Etchepare's attack on Mr. Van Natta, published in the Emerald, Nov. 19, 1952, I wish to express the following sentiments. To me, Mr. Van Natta's analysis was very fair. His criticism of the French administration in Vietnam was so mild and reserved that I thought he was a Frenchman or that his article might have been censored by French government.

The conflict in Indo-China is not a new one as it superficially appears to be. There was no peace in Indo-China even before Communism was known to its people; for, peace can be built upon only human freedom. Where there is no real human freedom, there is no peace. The present conflict in French Indo-China is merely an outburst of 80 years struggle of people for freedom, which has so far unfortunately been denied by the French colonial administration. More immediately the present situation stems from the Declaration of the Independence of the Viet-Minh Democratic Republic in September, 1945, following the fall of Japan.

Nothing But Hatred

Eighty years of French occupation produced nothing but a great and living hatred which was compounded of many things—the dull and weary sense of unrepaid toil, the chronic injustice never articulated, the racialism, though not of the American variety, but just as much resented. The great French libertarian tradition was never carried to Vietnam; for libertarianism is not among the exports of an imperial nation.

Colonialism inevitably brings with it exploitation and oppression. In Viet-Nam, as elsewhere, it dislocated the adjustment of peasant population to their resources. Its worst consequence was not so much that wealth was drained off but that the productivity of neither soil nor man was used to the fullest because the demands of foreign trade outweighed all other considerations, both economic and social problems. Viet-Nam is endowed with coal and other minerals as well as abundant vegetation; and yet its people have never had enough to eat.

Independence After War

The military superiority of the French was effectively used to control the Indo-Chinese but proved a little less than adequate when the Japanese drive for continental conquest reached southward into the French domain. The French, representative of Vichy government, cooperated

with the Japanese and then surrendered without a struggle on March 9, 1945. After Japan's surrender, the Indo-Chinese nationalists, the Vietminhs, took advantage of the political vacuum and declared their independence.

The Viet Minh League, whose leadership was dominated by a firmly entrenched Communist minority, nevertheless, represented a broad coalition Vietnamese nationalists who had worked with the Allied powers in the struggle against the Japanese aggression.

Agreement in the North

As a result of the Potsdam Conference, the British were allowed to occupy southern Indo-China, to disarm and repatriate the defeated Japanese army. However they took this as an opportunity to assist and enable the French to regain control of the south. This led to an outbreak of fighting between the Viet Minh and the occupying forces in the south. An agreement was reached in the north between the Chinese occupying forces, the French and the Vietnamese. They agreed that the Chinese would return to the Mainland; the French would re-enter Northern Indo-China, recognize the new government and leave after five years.

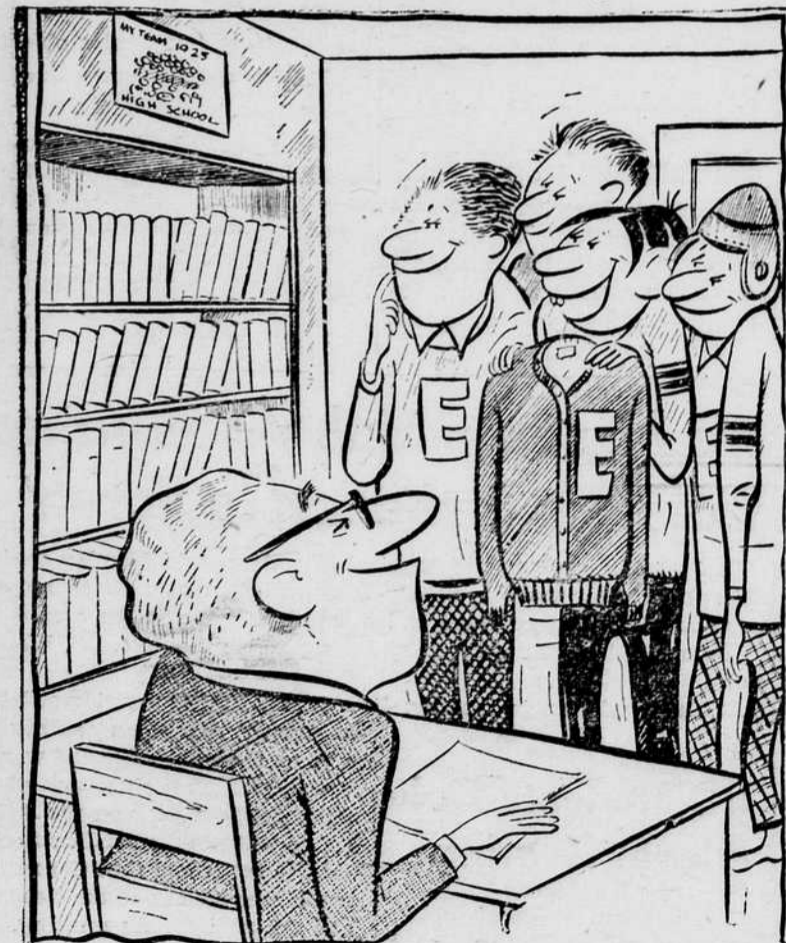
Subsequent negotiations failed and the result was the outbreak of fighting between the French and the Indo-Chinese. With the outbreak of this war, the Communist party which led the League of Independence, seized this opportunity to convert the lesser parties to their view. To the suffering Indo-Chinese, the Communists came with a false deliverance. They talked about the inalienable rights of the man to be free and promised to help them attain it by overthrowing their foreign rulers.

Turn To Communists

How were these newly awakened and ignorant people to know that Communist promises were false and impossible of fulfillment? Even if they knew, fighting the French to rid them of colonialism, they believed, would certainly be a great step toward freedom. And since under the present situation, it is only the Communists and nobody else that are willing to and can help them, they have turned to the Communists. They are using exactly the same method as the United States did during the W.W. in her alliance with Soviet Russia when faced with the immediate threat of Japanese imperialism. And if the U. S. could win the gamble, Vietnamese, conjecture, think the same.

Sincerely yours,
Mitsugu Sakihara
Barrister Inn.

Just One of the Boys



"You passed so many of us during football season Prof, the awards committee says you earned a letter-sweater."

Oregon Daily EMERALD

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LARRY HOBART, Editor SALLY THURSTON, Business Manager

BOOK REVIEW

'New Tales of Space and Time'

By Michael Lundy

Despite the sneers of the as yet unenlightened highbrows and pseudo-intellectuals, we are going to review a science-fiction anthology this week. "New Tales of Space and Time," edited by Raymond J. Healy and reprinted by Pocket Books, is an excellent introduction to that fast growing and stimulating field of writing known, by aficionados, as SF.

To those who say, out of ignorance or intolerance, that SF is nothing but the cowboy and cow-

girl story dressed in rocket ships, we can cite the case of a Phi Beta Kappa in Philosophy we knew, who, when asked by the Rhodes scholarship committee what he did for relaxation, answered "I read science-fiction." He got the appointment and is now at Oxford.

Something Rare

"New Tales of Space and Time" is something rare in anthologies of SF, for it prints all new stories. The usual collection contains at least five stories (Please turn to page three)