

English Dancer Organizes Demonstration Group

The University will have a dance demonstration group this year thanks to an English dancer who made a quick decision to come to Oregon last fall.

Jean Cook, who arrived in Eugene a year ago Wednesday from England, didn't decide to come here until three weeks before school was scheduled to start. She had always wanted to see dance in the United States, so came when she heard of an opening on the teaching staff of the University of Oregon women's physical education school.

This week Miss Cook announced plans for a dance demonstration group to perform at the dance concert in March, at schools in the area, and whenever called upon.

Students Should Join

Students minoring in dance are forming the organizing group, but all students, men or women, who are interested in participating are encouraged to join. The first meeting will be Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. in the Gerlinger dance room. The group will assemble every Tuesday evening thereafter.

The group will "aim to present an artistic form of dance," said Miss Cook, who will advise the students. The choreography will be done by students, some of whom are taking composition courses and others who have ability and interest.

"Some selection may be necessary, but the main qualification is a keen interest," emphasized Miss Cook. "It is hoped that anyone who is not selected for performance immediately will come to train and use their other talents in costume designing or accompaniment."

Ann Stearns will accompany the group at the piano. Other types of accompaniment may be needed such as reading of poetry, singing, or playing of other instruments.

Impressed by Enthusiasm

Miss Cook is very impressed by the enthusiasm of the students here as compared with colleges in England. She received a

Dr. Foss Heads Executive Confab

Dr. Phillip O. Foss of the political science department is the leader of a conference on Executive Improvement being held in Salem. The conference has been held during this week, today being the last day.

The purpose of the meetings is to determine ways executives of the Oregon State Civil Service Commission might improve their positions.

diploma in physical education from London University, where she studied as much dance as she could.

The vivacious, dark-haired, dark-eyed instructor was a pupil of Rudolph Laban before coming to the United States. He is known in America for "Labanotation," a way of recording dances. She had studied earlier under a pupil of his at Bedford College of Physical Education.

Miss Cook's home is at Peterborough, located about 90 miles north of London. She has taught at schools in Cheltenham.

Oregon Opening

"I was home three weeks before school started last year getting ready for a vacation in the north of England when I heard of an opening here and came," explained Miss Cook. "I still haven't seen the Lake district in England, but I visited seven Canadian provinces and 18 American states this summer."

The petite dancer was away from Eugene nearly two months touring Canada and the Northern United States. A highlight of her trip was the American Dance Festival at New London, Conn., where she saw Jose Liman and his dance group. He is recognized as one of America's greatest choreographers.

During her trip, Miss Cook also met Marian North in Hamilton, Ont. Miss North was a visiting lecturer here during spring term, but is back in England now.

This is Miss Cook's last year at the University of Oregon, as she plans to return to her home country next summer. She will return via the southern states.

"When I get home, I want to visit my family and friends for one or two months, so I can tell them all about America," Miss Cook said. Then she hopes to return to Laban's studio to study new ideas in dance.

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