

A PAPERBACK MOVEMENT

Critic Sees Trend In Literary Sales

By WALLY SLOCUM
Emerald Staff Writer

Even if the material is not read, it is a good "indication of ambition" said Lionel Trilling about the increasing volume of intellectual books and magazines now being sold.

Trilling, an essayist and literary critic, spoke at a press conference Tuesday on such topics as changes in the modern communications media, modern students, colleges, and the new status of professors. He also spoke Wednesday night as the Failing Lecturer.

Literature Sales Heartening

When asked about the status of the "think" magazines and books, he replied that their number and popularity is increasing. However, he added, many of the purchasers do not find time to read all they have bought, and yet they continue to buy more.

Trilling added that the low cost of the "paperback" books adds greatly to the large sales of serious literature and non-fiction. In his own direct experience with paperbacks he said a volume of his essays sold eight times faster in the softbound edition than the earlier hardbound edition.

Bright Spots in Education

Shifting to organized education he said modern students are better than those of the 1920's. They reflect a rise in the quality of college teaching, but that rise has not yet occurred in the high schools he asserted.

"Why the better college teachers?" Trilling replied it may be because they have changed from a former pretentiousness that prompted H. L. Mencken to call them contemptuously "the professoriad."

He also suggested that the improvement in college teaching may have come from the higher

social position educators now hold.

Despite the increase in sales of serious writing and the improvement of education, there is little "intellectual ferment" now said Trilling. He admitted that there were no large, immediate, social maladjustments in the lives of most students (as in the 1930's), but he contended that there are still spheres in which students might well have cause to express themselves.

He referred frequently to his college years in the 1920's and he lamented how much those students who do extensive serious thinking restrict themselves to social problems, rather than political problems.

In response to a reporter's question about the status of contemporary writing, Trilling said that the better English literature simply "is not being written. I sense no great [literary] ferment in the Anglo-Saxon world. Only the poets are perhaps writing anything" that can be viewed now as outstanding.

Kitson Retreat Set by YWCA

The annual YWCA spring leadership retreat will be held this Friday and Saturday at Kitson Springs. Approximately 55 YWCA members will be attending, according to Liz Jollie, executive director of the YWCA.

The group will leave at 5:30 p.m. from Gerlinger Hall and will return to campus Saturday about 4:30 p.m.

The weekend schedule will include discussions on Christian responsibility, Y structure, program planning and membership, plus songs and worship.

All Y leaders are expected to attend the retreat.

Y members planning to attend are to wear campus clothes, and bring a bedroll or sleeping bag, and a sack lunch.

Anyone with a car is urged to contact the Y office. The \$3 cost may be paid at the retreat.

Job Opportunities

The Guy F. Atkinson Company will interview on April 8 and 9 business major candidates for work in heavy construction operations. Candidates should have military experience, and are asked to contact J. A. Ferren.

Lynn Rodney to Head Recreation Committee

Lynn S. Rodney, chairman of recreation and outdoor education curriculum at the University, has been appointed chairman of the Program Planning Committee on Recreation Research for the 40th National Recreation Congress. The announcement was made by Willard B. Stone, secretary of the congress, in New York City.

The theme of this year's National Recreation Congress Sept. 22 to 26 is "Recreation Enters the Space Age." Distinguished leaders in national affairs, science, business, psychology and medicine will be among the speakers.

Rodney and Theodore Deppe, assistant professor of recreation at Indiana University, as his co-chairman for the congress committee will be responsible for planning the Congress sessions devoted to recreation research.

Under the Weather

Confined in the Infirmary Wednesday were Rahles M. Blissett, Sherrill A. Kronsteiner, Nancy A. Barquist, Robert M. Baumgardner, Jerry R. Cunningham, and Jerry W. Green.

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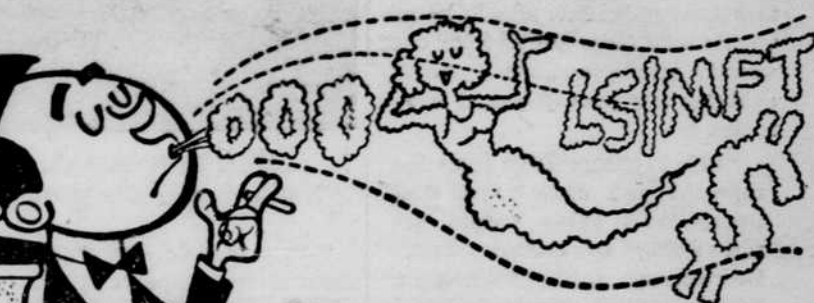
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ROBERT STETTEN, LEHIGH. Mind Grind

Cuban Visit ...

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main so. Although he was originally elected he had become a dictator and used repressive measures to halt any opposition. Execution without any civil trial had become common. Dictators never seem to learn. He fled in 1933.

I enjoyed Havana. The Cubans were so hospitable and friendly to me that I still remember this visit made three decades ago. I hate to think that the tempo of the political tune now being played there will become hotter than any rhumba ever written.

LIGHT UP A light SMOKE — LIGHT UP A LUCKY!