

Flemming: A Leader in Higher Education

On most Friday afternoons during the academic year, a strange phenomenon takes place at the University. Groups of students are seen filing into room 110, Johnson Hall without appointment to see the president of the University.

This tradition of "open" office hours is just one of many begun by Arthur S. Flemming since he became University president four years ago.

20 Years With Government

A tall, silver-haired man of 60, Arthur Flemming brought to his present job over 20 years of experience in government, including a cabinet position and nearly as many years in educational institutions.

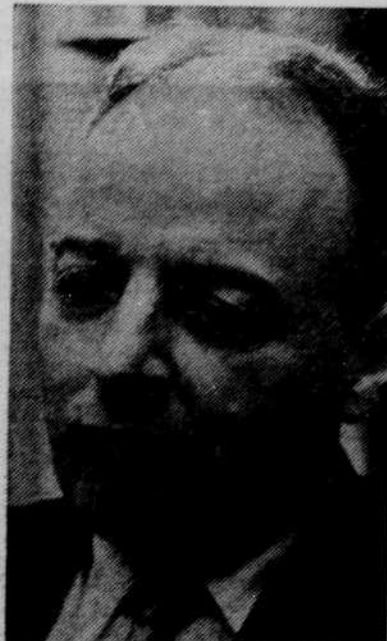
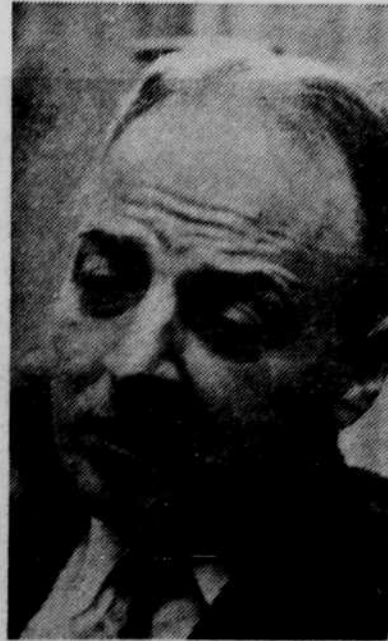
Flemming has provided himself to be a liberal in the literal sense. He has stood squarely behind the principles that underlie the spirit of a true university — academic freedom, civil liberties, and free discussion of ideas.

He has been so tolerant, in fact, that conservative groups around the state have attacked him for positions he has taken.

Hall Controversy

The stormiest controversy erupted in 1962 when Flemming reaffirmed his policy of free speech and permitted Gus Hall, general secretary of the American Communist party to speak on the campus. Hall was allowed on only one other campus in the Northwest—Reed College in Portland.

The president got so many phone calls during the Hall affair that his home telephone was



UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT ARTHUR S. FLEMMING

temporarily disconnected.

A similar incident took place in the spring of 1964 over an issue of the Northwest Review, student literary magazine, which some persons charged was obscene. The Oregon Grange demanded Flemming's resignation.

But during the controversy and afterwards, the president has restated his belief in the right of University students to entertain discussion of any sort on the campus.

Open Hours

Despite his hectic schedule, Flemming manages to maintain

his open office hours from 3-5 p.m. each Friday, a time when anyone may visit him to discuss issues concerning him. The president continually stresses the importance of keeping open the channels of communication and has achieved this goal to a great degree.

Born on June 12, 1905, in Kingston, N.Y., Flemming was the son of Harry H. Flemming, well-known New York trial lawyer. Arthur went to get a B.A. degree at Wesleyan University, an M.A. at American University, and a law degree at George Washington University in 1933.

He was an instructor in government, a debate coach, director of the School of Public Affairs and executive officer at American University.

He also served as president of Ohio Wesleyan University.

Journalist 4 Years

He worked for four years on the editorial staff of the U.S. Daily (now U.S. News and World Report), in Washington, D.C., and covered former President Franklin D. Roosevelt's press conferences.

He entered government and worked his way through various offices under the administration of Roosevelt, Truman and Eisenhower.

of some contaminated cranberries across the nation in 1958.

Held Many Offices

During his years in the federal government he was director of the Office of Defense Mobilization, a member of the U.S. Civil Service Commission, War Manpower Commission, National Security Council, a committee chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, and an advisor to the Retraining and Reemployment Administration of the department of labor.

Flemming is a Methodist and is a vice president of the National Council of Churches for Christ.

While he was in Washington, D.C., Harper's magazine described him in an article as a "durable do-gooder who is perhaps the clearest exemplar in public office today of a new professionalism... he is a man whose instincts for uplift are agreeably balanced by common sense."

President Flemming is also somewhat unique among college presidents in that he teaches a class, in Education, Welfare and National Security Policy, a three-term sequence in political science.

Dart Given Grant For Nepal Travel

Francis Dart, professor of general science at the University, has been awarded a Fulbright-Hays travel grant for two months of research in Nepal, a remote Himalayan kingdom situated between India and Tibet.

The professor is currently on sabbatical leave. He is a senior specialist at the East-West Center at the University of Hawaii for the 1965-66 academic year.

The Fulbright-Hays grant will enable Dart to continue a study in Nepal of the interactions of western science with non-western cultures. The study is aimed at developing better materials for science teaching in the developing countries of Asia.

Has Trained Volunteers

He will work in Katmandu and several villages where Peace Corps Volunteers are teachers. Dart has participated in a number of training programs for Peace Corps Volunteers and is a Career Consultant in Science for returning Peace Corps Volunteers.

Dart became interested in the problems of the developing countries and the effects of science on them when he first visited Nepal eight years ago. At that time, in 1957-59, he spent two years there as a member of the University's contract team which helped Nepal establish its first college of education.

During his present stay in Nepal, he will also be chairman of the Conference for Young

Asian Leaders, set for September 22-30 under the auspices of the American Friends Service Committee.

40 Leaders to Attend

Nearly 40 leaders from a number of Asian countries, representing a variety of professional and academic interests, will come to the conference for informal study and discussion on current problems.

Dart has served on a number of national and international projects of the American Friends Service Committee and is a member of its board of directors.

His interest in the problems of developing countries has involved him in a number of projects in recent years.

He spent a year at the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, D.C., administering the Academy's international study and research grants.

In Asia Six Weeks

Dart was in Asia for six weeks during 1963 to make a study of science laboratory teaching in India, Pakistan, Thailand, Malaya and Taiwan for the National Academy of Sciences.

He was awarded the Seiner Specialist Award, which he now holds for study and research at the East-West Center, to continue his study of how western science affects non-western, developing countries, and of the problems these countries face in teaching science.

His highest post in government was his three years as secretary of health, education and welfare under President Eisenhower. Many persons will remember him as the man who banned the sale

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