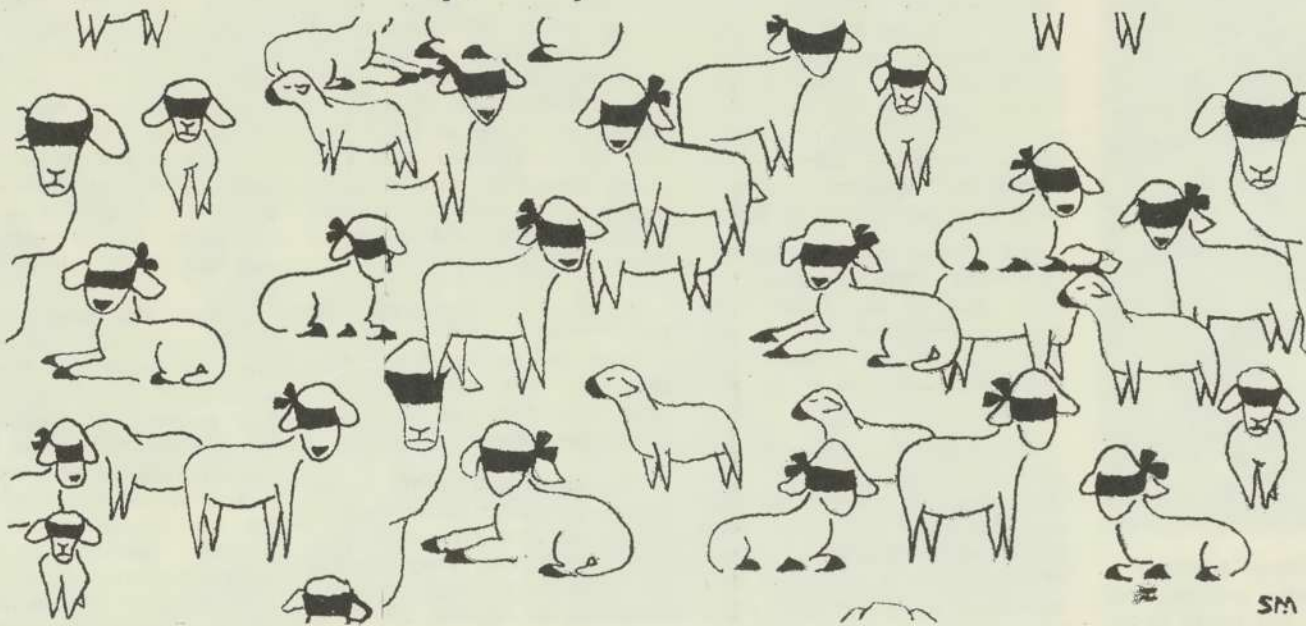


Editorials

Unity, cooperation needed



Good organization, well planned, co-operation from all involved. . . . Seem like a winning combination? It was. The Shakespeare Department's play was a success. Everyone involved was, just that, involved.

Weeks before the play, students were pelted with ticket offers, and news of "a great cast," "good scenery," and "promising rehearsals." Posters were spotted everywhere as were people practicing their lines. It all totaled up to a giant success.

This was not quite the same atti-

tude that was projected by many other activities during recent months. Disorganization and declining participation have seemed to be the keynotes lately.

Take, for example, the upperclass bottle drives, where a few people signed up and even fewer participated. These projects were termed a success only because of the great effort expended by a few.

Remember the great growl over *Memoirs*? Remember how so many were ready to take over the job and

really give it some punch? No more than the normal number of applications were placed.

Or take Spirit Week. What happened to it? Blue and Gray Day? No one knew about it or what it was. Anything that was done was handled almost entirely by the rally.

We do not expect the all-out participation for every activity but we suggest an overview of the techniques now used to be initiated and the methods in which they are publicized also to be scrutinized.

Exchange program explained; experiences, thoughts related

by Yoriko Tanaka

Walk together, talk together
O ye peoples of the earth
Then and only then
Shall ye have peace
(AFS motto)

"Not only do we come to America, but we also can live with American families. We also have opportunities to talk with other AFS-ers from all over the world." This is Wolfgang Warner, from Munich, Germany, speaking about American Field Service.

Today it is very popular in every country to go abroad as exchange students. But all AFS exchange students say that there is no greater exchange program than AFS, and they point out that the difference from other programs is that they can live with families.

AFS stands for American Field Service, which is a private, nonprofit organization. Mrs. Burton Smith, local representative of the AFS chapters in the Portland area, said, "We don't expect any money for our work. AFS is composed of volunteers." AFS was founded in 1914 as a volunteer ambulance corps which served with the Allied forces in both World War I and World War II. The 4000 volunteer members carried more than a million casualties.

In 1947, the former AFS volunteers initiated the Winter Program in which students from abroad came to the U.S. to live for a year with families and study in secondary schools. An AFS publication says, "The motivation for the Winter Program was based on the belief of these men that close, personal associations between individuals of different nations foster understanding and friendship between people, and strengthen the basis for peaceful relationships between nations."

There are over 70 countries which are participating in this program. Mrs. William Swett, of Grant High School, commented on the participants. "I don't know why there are no students from Communist countries. I assume they might be afraid that young people want to be American citizens, they might lose their young people to us but AFS hopes to have students from Communist countries. AFS is a private organization, and our government does not interfere in it."

Yoriko Tanaka, from Tokyo, Japan, described the difference of the system between the U.S. and her country. "Examination, screening and orientation are done by the Ministry of Education, and also the government gives AFS-ers financial aid, so that anyone can apply. Each student has to pay \$300 which includes monthly allowance and insurance."

The Americans Abroad Programs were started in 1950 by the Winter Program students, who once they had returned home, wanted to offer young Americans the kind of opportunity which they had been provided in the U.S. Americans Abroad students participate in either the Summer Program or the School Program.

Barbara Chattin, who went to India last summer on the Summer Program, said, "Sixty-five kids went to India and stayed there for ten weeks. While we were there, the head of the Ministry of Finance resigned. Hearing it, we were really happy, because he did not want Indian students to go to the U.S. So we did not have Indian students for a couple of years, but hopefully in the near future we will have some."

School Program participants spend from 11 to 13 months abroad, depending on the host country.

The AFS pamphlet says that AFS invites students of all racial, religious and economic backgrounds to apply for the Americans Abroad Programs. Isn't there any requirement? Kirsten Boehmer, who is a senior at Grant High School, said, "I could not apply for the Americans Abroad Programs, because I did not have enough years of studying a foreign language at that time." Jan Cole, who is also a senior at Grant, said, "I don't think that language requirement is necessary. As in my friend Barbara Chattin's case: she takes Russian and went to India. Besides, her Indian family speaks English. It does not make sense." On the other hand, Barbara said, "I was lucky that my Indian family could speak English. But lots of other kids had to learn how to speak Hindi and Telugu. AFS says that current language study makes it

easier for an Americans Abroad student to approach learning the language of his host country, and I am sure that helps students."

Though there are many students who are interested in these programs, this year there were only four applicants at Grant, three at Wilson and also three at Lincoln. One obvious reason is financial arrangements. The participation fee for the Summer Program is \$850 and the School Program is \$950. "If we think that the student, whose family cannot afford the expense, is really good, we can send a special recommendation to AFS New York office, so that he can get financial aid. But we are not supposed to tell this to students before screening. I think that is the reason why so few students applied," Mrs. Swett stated.

"There were 800 students from all over France who applied and 120 students came to America. We had to pay \$650," Veronique Matus, from Paris, said.

"In Japan, every year there are over 5000 students applying and only about 130 students can come to the United States. We have really difficult examinations. American kids are lucky that they don't have an exam." Yoriko gave her impression after she attended AFS screening at Grant.

Host families are an important part of these programs. Mrs. John E. Chattin, whose daughter Barbara went to India and who is also a host mother of an AFS exchange student, Yoriko Tanaka, was asked to help interview host families for next year. Mrs. Chattin said, "There are six families who applied for host families. We are going to visit each family and meet all members and interview them to find out what the home atmosphere is, and why they want a student, their interest, etc. We will do our best, but each year around 20% of all students make a change of living arrangement. AFS New York tries to match a student and a family, but they don't always know enough details from the papers."

After Christmas, Winter Program students are asked to give speeches. (They are not allowed to give speeches before Christmas.) Veronique said, "Usually we have three minutes speech, which is too short to talk about my country, my experiences in America, etc. But I'm sure there are some people who are inter-

Cinema Scene

"They Shoot Horses, Don't They?"

by Mary Ann Hutton

"People will come and pay their two bits just to be able to see someone worse off than themselves."

This dance-marathon operator's statement compactly surmises the basis of the eye-opening drama, "They Shoot Horses, Don't They?"

During the 1930's Depression hungry, desperate people, old as well as young, entered "marathons" to stay alive.

These dances lasted months with contestants remaining in constant motion, without sleep, except for ten-minute rest periods every two hours. But for this grueling agony they received food (on the dance-floor) and a chance at \$1500 prize money—a slim chance.

As time progressed, the so-called "contest" turned into a freak-show to enable spectators to feel somewhat better off with their conditions of life.

Jane Fonda and Michael Sarrazin co-star with fabulous performances backed by an entire cast and production of greatness. "They Shoot Horses, Don't They?" well deserves its nine nominations for Academy Awards.

Except for first and last scenes, the inside of the Aragon Ballroom is the solitary setting. Such a staging would have a tendency towards monotony but more action and drama is shown there than could be possible in any poly-location film.

The despair and closed-door hopelessness is presented thus with occasional humor which can be greeted with either laughter or tears. "They Shoot Horses, Don't They?" is, truly, an eye-opening drama that makes you blink.

ested in my speech, and so after that we can talk."

On January 21, four Winter Program students and a returnee went to Bishop Dagwell Hall and St. Helen's Hall to tell them what AFS is. They also talked about their experiences. Louis Kloeck, from Antwerp, Belgium, said in his speech, "European girls are much more feminine than American girls. But I think it is very nice that American girls know about football or basketball, so we can talk. In Belgium, most of the schools are not coeducational. I went to all boys' school, and here I attend Benson High, which is also an all boys' school. I want to go to all girls' school for a change!" Kiloran Simpson, from Johannesburg, South Africa, described her feeling very well, which many AFS students feel. "When I got the letter and found out that I would go to Portland, I didn't know where Portland was. So I asked my mother and we looked up the map and found that Portland is a small city near Vancouver Island. Once Portland was a strange city for me, but now it means all my experiences, my friends and my American family."

The Grantonian

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