

# Archpriest Runs Russian School On This Side of Iron Curtain

By GERALD S. SNYDER  
 United Press International  
 New York—(UPI)—In an old gray mansion on New York's Upper Park Avenue, a man in flowing black robes and long black beard picked up a copy of a textbook published in Russia.

"They (the Communists) mix politics in everything," he said. "In art, in history, in geography, everywhere it's possible—and sometimes where it's impossible.

"Here we are teaching with big impartiality!"

Yugoslavia-born Anthony Grabbe, an abbot in the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia, was referring to a unique institution—the only Russian-American secondary school this side of the Iron Curtain.

In a converted, 32-room four-story structure, which once belonged to the widow of a Boston banker, a small gym-

nasia called St. Sergius High School is turning out bilingual American citizens with a fluent knowledge of the Russian language, history, geography and ancient Russian culture—all free of politics.

The four-year-old, little-known church school (actor Yul Brynner is on the advisory board) boasts almost double the amount of academic units required by most American secondary schools. It meets the stiff requirements of the New York State Board of Regents, and even stiffer requirements of European schools.

But the way in is not easy. Since the school first opened its doors, 24 students have been dismissed ("not brilliant enough," said Abbot Grabbe) and most who apply are disqualified because they lack pre-high school scholarship.

For those who do get in, the rewards are many. The classes are small, the standards high. Between 8:20 a. m. and 4:10 p. m., the school's two-dozen teen-agers (most of Russian extraction) handle ponderous doses of religion, literature, history, geography, music and art. Some courses are conducted only in Russian, others in English.

"Russian is now the second most important scientific

language in the world," said Abbot Grabbe, the principal.

### Educator Calls Collegiate Set Of Three Types

Ann Arbor, Mich. — (UPI)—A man who served for 23 years as president of the University of Michigan says students usually can be classified into three types.

They are the noisy ones, the playboys (and girls), and the dedicated ones, says Dr. Alexander G. Ruthven, president emeritus, who was in office 1929-1951. He describes them in his autobiographical "Naturalist in Two Worlds" (University of Michigan Press).

The noisy ones, said Dr. Ruthven, "are determined to be heard from the time they enter college. Posing as authorities on almost everything at home and abroad, they insist they should run the university. They usually claim to be liberals and boast of disrespect for authority. Common status symbols are soiled shoes, jeans, shorts, untidy hair, and occasionally many beards. These students should disturb no one. One can usually assume that their activities represent growing pains. My disappointment with them as I have seen them later as alumni is that very few become liberal leaders and many become distressingly ultraconservative."

The educator said the "playboys (and girls)" had "in my experience" been a small group. He said that "complaints are often heard about the waste of money and time of instruction in trying to educate those whose ambition is to get nothing more than a 'gentleman's grade' or to get married."

"The critics fail to take into consideration the number of these students who find themselves after they have entered college and go on to success as alumni and citizens," Dr. Ruthven wrote.

"The dedicated ones," he continued, "more than any others make life worth living for their teachers" because they come to college "with their eyes firmly fixed on at least a general goal."

Once called "grinds" by the playboys and considered poor college citizens by the noisy ones, these men and women have in later years gained the more respectable title of "egg-heads." Neither of these terms is appropriate.

Monastery Printed

Abbot Grabbe said that an orthodox church-connected monastery at Jordanville, N. Y., prints many of the school's Russian texts. "You don't need all kinds of books," he said. "Just truth."

Now, the abbot is busy with plans for a school of higher

learning. "The New York Russian and Slavic Institute" will start in the high school in September. "It's mostly for American youths wishing to receive appropriate, qualified and impartial instruction in the Slavic and Russian fields," he explained.

Russian-born Dr. Vsevolod Nikolaev of New York university will head the institute and Countess Alexandra Tolstoy is expected to be among the faculty. "The shortage of specialists in the Russian field is one of the important handicaps for American dip-

lomats, policy makers, journalists, advocates of disarmament and those working for the promotion of peace," Abbot Grabbe said.

The Orthodox Church Outside of Russia has severed all ties with the Patriarchate in the Soviet Union, he added. "The representative between the church and the government is a man named Karpoff, a layman who is the head of the atheistic program of Russia."

Thus, he said, co-existence is not possible. "This high school and the institute is."

humanities for the humanities. Science for science. We offer no special lessons about Communism. Just logic. It is a question of belief. I believe there is a God. They (Communists) believe there is none."

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### SON BORN TO QUEEN

Rabat, Morocco — (UPI)—Morocco rejoiced today at the birth of a son and heir to King Hassan II and his 19-year-old wife, Lalla Latifa. The child will be named Mohammed after his grandfather, King Mohammed V. He was born Wednesday at the royal palace of Meshourar. A daughter was born last year to the royal couple.



**KING OF HOBOS**—Richard "Pennsylvania Kid" Wilson, 55, Franklin, Pa., was elected "King of the Hobos" at the annual Hobo Days in Britt, Ia., Tuesday. Wilson campaigned on slogan "a smiling face always wins the race." Reason for his smile is obvious. They are, left to right, Rosalie Bowman, Iowa's "Favorite Farmer's Daughter," Ramona Meylor, Iowa's Miss Universe entry; and Carolyn Northway, Iowa's Miss America entry. (UPI)

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<p align="center"><b>FRESH                  Ground Chuck</b> "Choice" Lean Tender—Juicy... lb. <b>69<sup>c</sup></b></p>	<p align="center"><b>OUR MARINATED CHUCK STEAKS</b>                  — ARE DELICIOUS —                  U.S. "CHOICE" — WELL TRIMMED                  (SEASONED TO PLEASE MOST) <b>69<sup>c</sup></b> lb.</p>	
<p align="center"><b>"CHOICE" GENUINE SPRING                  Leg 'o Lamb</b> Sweet and Tender... lb. <b>79<sup>c</sup></b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Fresh Ground Beef</b>                  ALWAYS THE BEST <b>39<sup>c</sup></b> lb 10-lb. pkg. <b>\$3<sup>75</sup></b></p>	
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