

America's Hope Is In Schools, Rice Declares

Educator Discusses Areas Of Freedom In Address Here; Warns of Dangers

"The question of America's future is going to be answered in the places where teachers are being trained," Dr. John Andrew Rice, nationally known educational reformer and President of Black Mountain College, North Carolina, declared in Schwab Auditorium last Thursday night.

Dr. Rice, speaking on "The Limits of Freedom," continued, "We teachers have to do a bold thing. We have to set up the ideal of the free man and then create him."

"The educator pointed out that freedom is a state of being only, with no inherent self-determination, and democracy only the form of government which our forefathers happened to choose as a means of getting things done, not a religion.

But although the free man is a myth, Dr. Rice insisted, there are "areas of freedom." These areas, he pointed out, shift constantly, and as one area is opened to one group, it is, frequently, automatically closed to another.

Make Own Choices

But—and here, the educator pointed out, is the difference between democracy and totalitarianism—Americans have kept the area of freedom to choose what their areas of freedom shall be. "Shall we," Dr. Rice challenged, "keep on trying to make our own choices, or shall we hand the responsibility over to someone else?" Many individuals, he explained, have already chosen the second course, they have joined strange cults, they are no longer "whole men," they are "totalitarian men."

He honestly tried to present to the voters of this nation an issue at once clear cut and most important to his own New Deal liberalism. He used his own personal political strength to try and defeat any non liberal in short, he wanted to make the issue at the polls one between the rightist group and the leftist. The nation was, however, not as yet ready to decide between the right and the left.

The 76th Session was a remarkable advance in the cause of sharply defined political theory. The

Republican conservative Democratic coalition combined to defeat the programs and policies of a liberal group, splitting for the most part on theoretical lines rather than on materialistic, political lines. For the most part the bolting Democrats had been elected either in the Democratic victories of 1932 and 1936 or riding on the coat tails of the President.

With the bolt of the reactionary element the issue will become not one of the traditional Republican-Democratic division but one of conservatism or liberalism. To this end, then, the voters have after two years been presented with the problem of choosing between the two. Whether or not the President and his group-win in 1940 the people have now been presented the picture as he would have it.

For despite his defeats of the past session, his victories in the Reorganization, Ashurst, and the amended Court Reorganization Bills have attained his objectives. The Hatch Bill is not inconsistent with his plans and the conservative element which passed the bill is likely to find it pretty much of a boomerang.

History, it is the opinion of this writer, will point to the 76th Congress and say that the seeds of a new line of political demarcation were sown and took root in the first seven months of 1939. As the President said upon signing the Ashurst Bill, it is not the precise method of arriving at a point but rather the actual attainment of the goal that is so important.

It is not through defeats suffered at the hands of the Republican Conservative-Democrat coalition that matters, rather it is the presentation to the voters of the two radically different philosophies as so vividly portrayed in the session just ended.

Our young people, especially those from the upper senior, high and beyond, are demanding occupation adjustments," he continued, "consequently the new vocational school will show a shift from the problem boy idea to the average youth. Vocational education is coming into a broader, more flexible field."

To illustrate the eagerness of youth for an opportunity to share in vocational projects, Dennis told of an incident which recently occurred in Buffalo, where 1,000 boys stood in line, some from before three in the morning, to apply for entrance into a vocational school which had announced that 400 vacancies would be filled that day.

University of Texas students have organized a folk-dancing club to keep alive the dances of long ago.

THIS PASSING SCENE

Wherein The Conservative Revolt Is Evaluated And Election Issues Clarified

By LEWIS W. SHOLLENBERGER '39

The recent session of Congress, although so disastrous in many ways for the New Deal, will probably go down in history as one of the most significant sessions of that august body. Its fame will not rest upon legislation passed or defeated nor will it long be remembered as an "economy" \$13,000,000,000 congress.

Its sole claim to fame will be the effects of its open break with the New Deal, for up until this session it had served as a rubber stamp to the President. Although it is admitted that the legislative and executive branches of a government should work in close harmony, it is not a criterion of good government when the people's representatives merely say yes or no as their leader bids. The basis of good government is open discussion and just consideration, and from 1933 until this year, Congress had been yesing all "must" legislation of the New Deal.

The revolt started two years ago over, significantly, the plan to re-organize the federal judiciary system. Here for the first time did the conservative or reactionary elements combine to defeat the liberal policies of the New Deal. After this defeat the President stumped the country trying to purge the conservative element from his party.

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FOOT LIGHTS

"THE WOULD-BE GENTLEMAN"

The Cast

- Dancing Master Jack Yudin
- Music Master Harry Gunnison
- Music Student Fred Seiff
- Two Lackeys Donald Musgrove, Charles Handova
- Mr Jourdain Frank Pennypacker
- Fencing Master David Holahan
- Master of Philosophy Raymond Merchant
- Tailor Angelo Vespa
- Nicole Frances Shaif
- Miss Jourdain May Merchant
- Dorante Mason Whitmore
- Cleonte Kenneth LeFevre
- Cloviel Hersehel Bowlen
- Lucile Roberta Byron
- Doimene Florence Marquardt
- Four Dances Dakota Knight, Phyllis McQuiston, Marion Ross, Phyllis Salinger
- Tailor's Apprentices Wmfred Broucher, Relda Greene, Marie Park, Rosanna Smith
- Turkish Dancers Wmfred Broucher, Elizabeth Devel, Relda Greene, Dakota Knight, Esther LeGrand, Sadye Markowitz, Phyllis McQuiston, Marie Park, Jacqueline Reese, Marion Ross, Phyllis Salinger, Rosanna Smith, Joan Woodside
- Orchestra Angelo Vespa, conductor and arranger, Donald Musgrove, William Pratt, Hermance Reese, Fred Seiff, Evelyn Thomas

By CARL K. BOMBERGER

We have nothing against Will Shakespeare. In fact, we think he's pretty good. But if any astute Broadway producer was among Saturday night's sizable audience which viewed "The Would-Be Gentleman"—we admit the possibility to be somewhat incredible—there would be several less Shakespeares revivals, and something of Moliere, next season along the Great White Way.

For this final major dramatic production of the 1939 summer season was by way of being a double triumph. Score one for Moliere, that lively Frenchman of the late seventeenth century, whose rapier-like wit has not been dulled either by time, translation, or amateur attempts. Score two for the division of dramatics, in that it was able to ring the bell again just one week after the very creditable achievement of "Craigs Wife" for "The Would-Be Gentleman" was a good show, and great fun.

A Rapid Tempo

Produced under the direction of Mr. Frank Neusbaum, the acting, choreography, and music were so neatly fused as to maintain consistently rapid tempo and a sure touch.

Though a number of performances are deserving of special mention, the cast was uniformly competent. First of course is Frank Pennypacker, whose complete identification with Mr. Jourdain—the would-be gentleman—was a constant delight to behold. As Mr. Jourdain, he who wanted above all things to out-gentleman the gentlemen, with whom truly a little learning was a dangerous thing, Mr. Pennypacker was the clown-prince of snobs. At all times he was obsessed with the idea of appearing as something he was not, a donkey aping a thoroughbred, and making an ass of himself. He was a shrewd and ambitious fellow, was Mr. Jourdain, and none might deceive him! And all his funkies fed him with flattery, and saved their true feelings of distaste until his back was turned. Rolling his eyes believably, feasting on flattery, actually clumsy but charmingly courtly, in his own fancy, Mr. Pennypacker projected a difficult part well, and sympathetically.

Many Merchant, as the short-tempered Mrs. Jourdain provided an excellent foil, being properly tart at all this fol-de-rol. She stepped into the play whenever she spoke.

Sharp—Vivacity

A part of lesser importance was made important by the vivacity of Frances Sharf as Nicole, maid in the Jourdain household. Her mixture of naive and peasant shrewdness were highly refreshing, and real.

Mason Whitmore, as the foppish count Dorante, made the scene in which he supposedly is about to repay Mr. Jourdain, but ends by borrowing 700 francs more, "to make it an even 11,000," one of the high spots of the evening. Mr. Whitmore, however, declaimed his asides as though he knew such devices were going to be declared out of fashion in a few years. Anyway that is, though asides must be audible to the audience, they still should be given an air of confidence and privacy, which Mr. Whitmore neglected to do. He was generally at home in this part, however.

The regal marchionness, Doimene, she whose exalted station was the cause of Mr. Jourdain's pretensions—and what sutor doesn't like to impress the girl?—was well played by Florence Marquardt. Her statuesque beauty and exquisite costume recreated the atmosphere of old Versailles.

The music, conducted and arranged by Mr. Vespa, also of the cast, was pleasantly adequate, even to the several bars of "La Cacharacha" that—somehow misnamed themselves into the scene when the title of "Mammamooche" was conferred upon the glib Mr. Jourdain.

Miss Dorothy B. Scott, designer and art director, was assisted in the design contributions by the winter class in scene design. The setting was simple, yet highly effective, but the "high yaller" of the railings was unpleasant to this reviewer, at least.

We shall not soon forget the almost-pathetic buffoonery of Mr. Jourdain as he becomes the father-in-law of the "son of the Grand Turk"—everyone else seeing through the deception which he has earned for himself, and yet in his own eyes, none wiser, none grander than he.

A great character, and a great play—and the audience loved it!

Neyhart Named Head Of Safety Research

Professor Amos E. Neyhart, administrative head of the Institute of Public Safety at the College, has been named chairman of the research committee of the Safety Division of the Pennsylvania Motor Truck Association.

Professor Neyhart was a pioneer in the formulation of a program of safe driving instruction which has been adopted by an increasing number of high schools.

He has been in charge of the driver training program of the American Automobile Association

PROPAGANDA

This is the last in a series of articles on "Propaganda in the Schools," reprinted by permission from the May issue of "Propaganda Analysis"

Offhand it would seem that in cooperating in the work of the public schools the overwhelming majority of local and business men's organizations have no motive other than an honest desire to help young people. This seems especially true of the Lions Club, which received lavish praise for its work in helping underprivileged youngsters. It also would seem true of the Kiwanis, Rotary Clubs, and women's clubs, and even several bridge clubs also were listed by those who answered the questionnaire. In some communities, the Chamber of Commerce or the Junior Chamber of Commerce was said to have done fine work in sponsoring athletic meets and in giving prizes to children who do well in their studies. In addition, some Chambers of Commerce, it was reported, give scholarships to high school graduates, who could not otherwise enter college.

Local, State, and Federal agencies do cooperate with the schools in order frankly to carry on propaganda. However, then propaganda is for ends that almost unanimously would be considered good ends. Thus, members of the fire department will lecture on fire prevention, members of the police department will lecture on crime and safety. Health and social agencies will send lecturers to discuss the prevention of disease, or slum housing.

This is one side of the picture. The other side of the picture shows business men's organizations, veterans' organizations, and occasional labor unions going into the schools to indoctrinate the children with their own ideas. They do this usually by sponsoring essay contests. Father Coughlin's essay contest is not unique. Every year there are dozens of similar nation-wide contests, and hundreds of local contests.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars will sponsor contests on national defense, the American Legion on preparedness, the D. A. R. on the Constitution. Peace organizations will sponsor contests on peace. Southerners on the life of General Robert E. Lee, Chambers of Commerce on "Why I Should Patronize Local Stores," or "How Business Helps Me." Naturally these organizations ask the superintendents and principals to cooperate. Generally, the educators do, provided they are convinced that participation in the contest will help the children in their school work.

However, it really doesn't make very much difference, because the youngsters participate anyway if the prize is big enough. For that reason, several educators denounced essay contests as "nuisances." Said one "My children haven't time for their school work. They are too busy writing compositions on 'Why Smith Street Must Be Paved'." The realtor's association here is offering \$85 first prize.

Sometimes the contests are such transparent propaganda that even the school children realize it. One such case occurred last month in Miami, Florida, where there is talk of building an air base. The Dade Homes Protective League announced that it would give \$25 for the best essay opposing the base. The announcement brought this blast from the student council of Miami High School:

We believe it is selfish, insidious propaganda to oppose the protection we would secure from the proposed air base. We cannot help but fear that you have an ulterior motive upon which your propaganda is based and which is detrimental to our beloved city, our citizens and visitors.

Manufacturers get their propaganda into the schools through free study materials. Possibly one principal in every ten forbids the use of such materials, the others use them freely, some rely upon them. Last year, Courts

(Continued on Page Four)

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Ar. Williamsport	10:30 A. M.	4:45 P. M.	9:35 P. M.
Lv. Williamsport	8:30 A. M.	3:00 P. M.	7:00 P. M.
Ar. Lock Haven	9:40 A. M.	4:05 P. M.	8:05 P. M.
Ar. Bellefonte	10:40 A. M.	5:10 P. M.	9:15 P. M.
Ar. State College	11:10 A. M.	5:45 P. M.	9:45 P. M.

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Youth Leaping For Vocational Learning, Authority Declares

"Youth service for youth" is the new, broader conception now held by both vocational and secondary leaders," declared L. H. Dennis, Executive Secretary, American Vocational Association, to a large audience of superintendents in Schwab Auditorium last week.

"Our young people, especially those from the upper senior, high and beyond, are demanding occupation adjustments," he continued, "consequently the new vocational school will show a shift from the problem boy idea to the average youth. Vocational education is coming into a broader, more flexible field."

To illustrate the eagerness of youth for an opportunity to share in vocational projects, Dennis told of an incident which recently occurred in Buffalo, where 1,000 boys stood in line, some from before three in the morning, to apply for entrance into a vocational school which had announced that 400 vacancies would be filled that day.

One-Act Dramas To Be Enacted Tonight

Four one act plays will be presented by the division of dramatics at 9 o'clock tonight in the Little Theatre, Old Main.

The first presentation will be "The Fumed Oak," by Noel Coward, directed by James Sprout, next will be "Mary Jones," directed by Byron Kuhs. Others will be "I Knew George Washington," directed by Paul W. Hettes, and "The Giant Stair," directed by Roberta J. Byron.

The productions will be entirely in the hands of dramatics students. Stage lighting, sets, and acting will all be the responsibility of students in various dramatics courses.

Lounsbury Warns Of Propaganda In Movie, Press, Radio

Pupils are more interested in pulp magazines than they are in Silas Marner according to Dr. John Lounsbury, principal of Long Beach Junior College, Long Beach, Calif., in an address to superintendents and principals here Wednesday.

Emphasizing the need for training students to discriminate facts from propaganda Dr. Lounsbury advocated such a course in high schools "on how to read the newspaper, to distinguish propaganda from news." He pointed out that 42,000,000 copies of newspapers are published and distributed daily in the United States.

Music Pleasant

The music, conducted and arranged by Mr. Vespa, also of the cast, was pleasantly adequate, even to the several bars of "La Cacharacha" that—somehow misnamed themselves into the scene when the title of "Mammamooche" was conferred upon the glib Mr. Jourdain.

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