

War Reporter Describes Life On European Front

"Nothing . . . nothing in the world can prepare you one-millionth for what war is, except actually being over there yourself." John Groth, artist-war correspondent for the Marshall Field papers, spoke from his own experiences when he made this observation following his lecture before journalism students Monday.

"If you narrowly escape being run down, you light a cigarette, relax in a drug store and relieve your emotions by telling someone about it," Mr. Groth explained. "Now take it from a foot soldier's viewpoint. Picture a car narrowly missing you every 20 seconds and you'll know what it's like under constant shellfire.

"But don't forget, you haven't any cigarettes, you can't move from the foxhole, and ice water is swirling around your ankles. A six pound helmet is on your head and hot food is merely a dream. That's what it's like at the front."

As the first American newspaperman to enter liberated Paris, Mr. Groth got a "scoop" for his newspaper. His first impression when he entered it, the journalist said, was of three or four million people, in gay peasant dress, shouting, screaming, and crying in sheer happiness.

Groth added, "Everyone wanted to touch the Americans. Souvenir hunters went mad . . . they tore our buttons off, pulled at our clothes, and divided my scarf in bits. I became a red man quickly. Even my helmet was covered with lipstick, and a French girl like Blondell rode along on the front of the jeep.

"I was pulled out of the jeep at least a dozen times and Parisians clambered in wholesale. In fact, I found a high heel in my pocket at the end of the day."

Groth told of the colorful Parisian artist who said to him, "Don't feel sorry for me. I live under the best bridge in Paris!"

The correspondent continued, "The fellow was decked out in cowboy hat, checkered shirt and a Van-Dyke like myself. We called him Willy because he resembled the late Will Rogers. As I was a fellow-artist he thought I deserved the best, so he took me to a really elegant studio-apartment and told me it was mine to stay in. I protested—told him I couldn't afford it.

"Never mind," Willy said. "It's owner is a collaborator. We took him to jail yesterday."

Groth started his unique career when he was advised as a youth to complete 100 drawings a day in order to succeed as an artist. He did this for four years, and not until he became art director of Esquire magazine did he again meet the man who started him on his career with this advice.

"I thanked him," the correspondent-artist reminisced. "Imagine my surprise when the man looked up startled, and said that he had meant it only as a joke."

Highlighting Groth's sojourn in Paris was a climb up Eiffel Tower. He had arrived there as the first correspondent to see the American boys take it over.

"I did a silly Haliburtonish thing then. With the GI's urging me on I determined to put my name above the last German signature on the flagpole of Eiffel Tower. I shinned up about nine-hundred eighty feet, squinted—no more German names—added my own, and came down, feeling none too healthy," Groth finished.

Psych Exam Date Set

All freshmen who have not taken the psychology tests are directed by B. V. Moore, director of the Psycho-Educational Clinic, to take a make-up examination in 204 Burrows at 1:30 o'clock tomorrow.

Command Army Air Force Band



Captain George S. Howard, second from the left above, is greeted at a U. S. Air Service Command Depot in England. Former band, orchestra and chorus director at the College, Captain Howard is now commanding the Army Air Force band on a goodwill tour through the British Isles. Receipts from these concerts will benefit the Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund. At the same time the Royal Air Force Symphony Orchestra is now touring America, playing for the benefit of the American AAF Aid Society.

New Jersey Minister Will Speak In Chapel

Chapel congregation Sunday will hear Rev. George Y. Flint, Park Place Methodist Church, Morristown, N. J., discuss the theme, "You Have A Date."

Rev. Flint received his B. A. degree from Ohio Wesleyan University in 1932. He was awarded a teaching fellowship in psychology at Ohio Wesleyan, and received his M. A. degree in June, 1933. He next attended Yale Divinity School, and received his B.D. degree from there in 1936.

While at college, Rev. Flint was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Omicron Delta Kappa, and Phi Kappa Psi. He was also an active member of the varsity football team at Ohio Wesleyan.

Former pastorates of Rev. Flint

include: Powell, Ohio, 1932-33; East Berlin, Conn., 1933-36; and Westhampton Beach, Long Island, 1936-39.

Ex-GI's Raise Student Age

The average age of college students will increase by five years or more in the postwar period, Dean of Men Arthur R. Warnock believes.

Explaining that wartime infiltration of 16- and 17-year-olds has temporarily lowered the age level, Dean Warnock thinks the influx of veterans after the war will produce the oldest group of students in Penn State history.

Dean Warnock, in praising wartime students as "much more stable than the average person would expect," said there has been no increase in student illnesses and the all-college scholastic average has increased rather than decreased.

Moreover, the Dean said, the wartime student is as well-informed on current events as the average adult. He added that most prewar students were "indifferent to world news."

Although students, in general, are less certain of their vocational choices, Dean Warnock foresees an increased demand for a broadened curriculum and a "liberalized technical education" in the postwar world.

The potato originally came to the United States from Europe, via South America.

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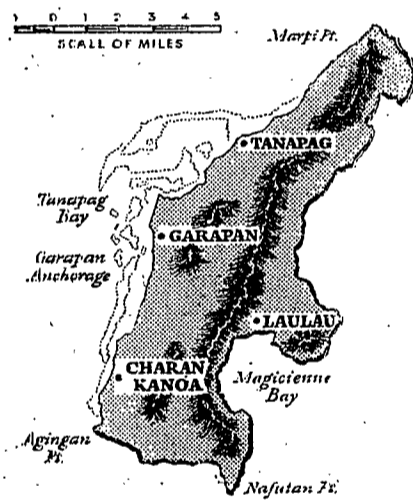
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