

Roethke Poems Delight Audience

By EDMUND REISS

Bears and herons reigned last night as Theodore Roethke, nationally known poet, showed his love for nature in a sociable, neighborly reading of his poems before an audience made up largely of former acquaintances.

Beginning with a group of humorous, light poetry which brought the listeners to his side, the former Penn State tennis coach and English professor soon progressed to more serious works. Most of these, from the collection "Open House," were descriptive pieces dealing with his appreciation of the works of nature.

Portions from "Field of Light," a series of episodes in the spiritual history of a man from early childhood to death, were appropriately well-received. This abstract, metaphysical work, read with deep emotion, definitely showed Roethke's artistic temperament. It appeared as a welcome relief from the light verse first read.

Roethke then read some poems that outstanding students and friends of his had written, including one by David R. Wagner, instructor in English composition.

Following this was another series of poems dealing with nature, and abruptly the program ended. It seemed as if the best were yet to come, because every poem appeared better than the previous one. The listener left with the feeling that he was just beginning to personally understand Roethke, but time wouldn't permit him to fully know this outstanding American poet.

Roethke was the first speaker in the current Simmons Series, sponsored by the German department. He has received several honors for his writing including two Guggenheim Fellowships, a grant from the National Institute of Arts and Letters, and several major poetry prizes. He is the author of three books of poetry: "Open House," "The Lost Son," and "Praise to the End." He is now studying philosophy in New York City and presenting readings of his poems in Eastern cities.

He previously was tennis coach and English professor at the College.



Theodore Roethke Presents poetry readings

Two Alumni Given Wings, Commissions

Two former Penn State students have received their Air Force pilot wings and have been commissioned second lieutenants in the Air Force Reserve.

William D. Matter and William R. Smiles received their wings and commissions at graduation exercises of Class 53-A-1 of the USAF Basic Pilot School (Multi-Engine) at Reese Air Force Base, Texas.

8 Crews Begin Work On Twin-Bill

Eight stage crews have begun work on the production end of Players' twin-bill "Aria da Capo," by Edna St. Vincent Millay, and Christopher Fry's "A Phoenix Too Frequent." The two one-act plays will begin a five week run Feb. 27 at Center Stage.

April Heinsohn is general manager in charge of stage crews for the two Center Stage productions.

Carol Schwing, Dolores McHugh, Lucille Dorsey, and Isabel Furey are working on the costume crew under the supervision of manager Carolyn Baer.

The makeup crew, co-managed by Cliff Crosbie and Ross Barnard, includes Lois Lehman and Tony Deniso.

Props for the plays will be collected by Jane Davis, manager, and Mal Gable, assistant manager of the properties crew.

Jo Palmer and Bob Cox will be in charge of sound.

On the lighting crew are Evie Horwin, manager; Lyle Pelton, Steven Babcock, Roger Owens, and Sylvia Brown.

Polly Moore will manage the technical crew manned by Russ Dalton, Carol Fry, Jack Kutz, Johanne Llewelyn, Sylvia Smith, and Carol Strong.

Manager Bill Norman heads the house crew composed of assistant manager Bill Nudorf, Barbara Cotter, Jo Fleming, Diana Rafuse, and Carol Wilson.

Advertising will be handled by manager Janet Schuetz, Alice Noble, Nancy Dahl, Lynn Kahano-witz, Fay Goldstein, Ruth Kluger, Joan Clarey, Elda Morgan, Cindy Fetterman, Rose Mariano, Nancy Hicks, Annette Bortman, Barbara Scholes, Barbara Schmidt, Diane Thatcher, Paul Macklin, Lois Stellmack, and Sue Leib.

Small World



COSMOPOLITAN CLUB members discuss international culture at a meeting last night at Tau Kappa Epsilon. Representing the wide differences in nationality found in the club are (left to right) Maj-Britt Houston, Sweden; Gerd Weissmann, Germany; Jeffrey Caine, Great Britain; Constance Demuth, U.S.A.; Augustin Bartik, club president, Czechoslovakia, and William Pullman, Great Britain.

Languages Show Culture-N'est Pas?

By MIKE FEINSILBER

Are you a modifier-displacer?

Are you among the liberal artists, who, in their foreign language classes, get nauseated by nouns, tense about tenses, jinxed by gender, confused by conjugations, and agitated by adjectives?

So you are crossed up by conjunctions, persecuted by prepositions and, in general, grounded by grammar!

Despair not! The noun you nurse today will be the title of your consomme tomorrow.

There is great value in the knowledge of a foreign language. Just ask the man who speaks one.

For the man engaged in a battle of wits (two wisecrackers subtly insulting each other) who wants to be known for his tongue-in-cheek rather than foot-in-mouth, a few foreign phrases sprinkled in the conversation are indispensable. What's the answer to a sly "il pleut n'est pas" swiftly delivered with a wink? There is no comeback; the battle is won. To the man-in-the-street (hands-in-pocket) this remark means nothing. He cannot reply.

Can Read Directions

Other indispensable aids gained by a study of a foreign tongue: you can read The New Yorker, the editors of which find it cultural to spread French cliches throughout the articles, the readers of which take great delight writing letters to the editor pointing out that the cliches' verbs are wrongly conjugated. You can order beefsteak in any one of thousands of quaint restaurants without getting chocolate pudding.

You can read the directions (inevitably printed in Portuguese) on bottles of cleaning fluid. You can display your wordiness by ordering a pair of socks size "doce" in metropolitan shops which display signs reading "Aqui se habla es-

panol." You can listen to short-wave radio and occasionally smugly nod your head showing that you've caught a word and know what it means.

Wait, there's more:

You can tell whether the foreign movie advertised on the marquee is about banana smugglers, Popeye, or motherhood.

Travel Abroad

You can tell how much beef is in the sausage in the butcher's window. You can interpret the names of exotic lipsticks and perfumes. You can determine whether the smorgasbord's contents will give you heartburn. The list is "sin fin," without end.

Traveling abroad without a knowledge of the native tongue is haplessly, hopelessly, haphazard. How many innocent Americans have told the bus boys that they want to take a bath and, instead, get a cab?

Of course, there are certain signs and symbols—head nodding, smiling, eye winking, and shoulder shrugging—that are understood everywhere, without the aid of a glossary.

And most foreign-language students, driven idiotic by idioms, get plenty of practice in the art of shoulder shrugging in their classes.

IFC-Panhel Dance To Feature Long

Johnny Long and his orchestra will play for the Interfraternity Council-Panhellenic Council Ball April 17, William Hirsch, dance chairman, announced yesterday.

The IFC-Panhel Ball will take place 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. April 17, as one of the events climaxing Greek Week.

Working with Hirsch on the dance are Mary Carstensen, Panhel chairman, and Richard Bunnell.

Hirsch announced that decorations for the dance will be selected from five themes proposed by a professional New York decorator.

Programs have been arranged and refreshments planned for the dance, Hirsch said.

Thursday night prior to the IFC-Panhel Ball has been set aside for the IFC-Panhel banquet, according to plans announced by Richard Gibbs, Greek Week fraternity chairman. House parties will be planned for Saturday, the night following the ball, Gibbs said.

Greek Week will end with a jazz concert tentatively scheduled

for Sunday afternoon, April 19.

Miss Carstensen is also Panhel chairman for Greek Week. The week will begin April 11 with a series of work projects. Sunday will be marked by Greeks by church and Chapel attendance in groups.

That Sunday night has been selected for the IFC-Panhel Sing. Faculty-alumni dinners and firesides will be held in fraternity houses and sorority suites Monday evening. Exchange dinners and open houses are planned for Tuesday evening.

Gibbs announced that a variety show has been tentatively scheduled for Wednesday night of the week.

Living Units to Get New Laundry Facilities

Twelve electric clothes washers and six dryers will soon be installed in men's and women's living units, Allen C. St. Clair, acting director of housing, announced yesterday. The housing department hopes to have the project completed by April 1, he said.

New locks in Nittany dormitories will be installed throughout the semester, St. Clair said. There have been many protests about the present locks, which can easily be opened.

Lowenfeld Articles

A series of three articles by Viktor Lowenfeld, professor of art education, have appeared in Japanese in "Biku-Bunka," a Tokyo journal of aesthetic education. The articles concern the creative and mental growth of children.

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