

Belles Lettres Hears Of Pirandello's Life

By HANK DIPIPI

Drawing from a background of personal experience, Elio Gianturco, associate professor of Romance languages and well known art critic, lecturer, traveler, and biographer, Tuesday night enlightened members of the Belles Lettres Club on "The Life of Luigi Pirandello."

Gianturco, who was acquainted with Pirandello through natural acquaintances in literary circles some 25 years ago, laid stress on the connection between the personality of the man and his written work.

Although most writers accentuate the emphasis on the intellectual value of Pirandello's work, Gianturco said, a knowledge of the biographical facts are essential to the study of Pirandello, the man.

Will Reveals Personality

Gianturco explained that Pirandello, one of the best known and most celebrated of Italy's modern dramatists, was more than just a conceptual or philosophical writer. He read Pirandello's last will and testament to illustrate the depth of the writer's personality.

"Let my death pass in complete silence to friends and relatives. May I ask that I never be spoken of anywhere. Do not announce my death in the newspaper. I would like to be wrapped naked in a sheet and placed in a plain box. The hearse should be like that of the poor. I wish no relatives to attend the funeral, just the hearse, the coachman, and a horse shall accompany me. I would like to have my body cremated and disposed of entirely. It shall be dispersed to the winds. If this cannot be done let the urn of my ashes be taken to Italy near the place where I was born and let it be encrusted in hard stone."

No Use for Rites

Gianturco explained that Pirandello had no use for religious customs. He wanted to be utterly devoid of the customs of man after death. He wanted to revert to the "initial nothingness." The only semblance of a tie was the provision that his ashes be brought back to his native soil which stemmed from the strong provincial feeling of the isle of Sicily, his home.

Gianturco described Pirandello as a good father, a loyal husband, a very generous man, and, at an early age, a very religious man. He explained that the people of Sicily are intensely religious and that this fervor attains the coloration of superstition.

Pirandello had an intense awareness of the consciousness of the human condition, being an avid student of epistemology, Gianturco said. Epistemology is a scientific inquiry into the mechanism of our senses, its principal problem being to decide how much of an object exists within our senses and how much of the object has an independent existence in itself.

Reading a passage written by Pirandello, Gianturco attempted to explain his theory of illusion. "Life is a theater of illusions erected by us in order to live. At the bottom of all there is something greater which we cannot

Lewis Chosen Alternate for Mideast Team

Barbara Lewis, third semester student in the Division of Intermediate Registration, has been chosen as alternate to the mid-east hockey team which will compete at Hunter College against sectional teams from throughout the country.

Grace Needham, third semester physical education major; Florence Williams, fifth semester physical education major; and Margaret Choate, first semester liberal arts major, represented the University with Miss Lewis at the Gettysburg play day Oct. 31.

All four were selected to play Nov. 7 on the southern section of central Pennsylvania team at Bucknell University. At Bucknell, the south central Penn teams competed against teams from northern Pennsylvania and the Harrisburg Hockey Club.

The four women were again chosen as outstanding players at Bucknell and played Nov. 14 on the central Pennsylvania team at Wilson College. At the Wilson tournament the central Pennsylvania team competed with teams from Buffalo, Pittsburgh, and the Finger Lakes area teams.

Miss Lewis was selected at these tournaments to play on the mid-east team, representing colleges, universities, and city clubs from the mid-eastern states.

This is the first year that the University has participated in collegiate hockey competition.

Engagements

Bushkoff-Gerson

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Gerson of New Castle announce the engagement of their daughter Ina to Stanley Bushkoff, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. Bushkoff of Philadelphia.

Miss Gerson, a seventh semester elementary education major, is a member of Sigma Delta Tau.

Mr. Bushkoff is a graduate of the University and a member of Zeta Beta Tau. He is now attending Hahnemann Medical College where he is a member of Phi Lambda Kappa medical fraternity.

Headlee-Purks

Mrs. Sophie Dieterich of Doylestown announces the engagement of her niece, Patricia Purks, to Richard Headlee, son of Mr. and Mrs. William G. Headlee of Waynesburg.

Miss Purks is a seventh semester home economics major and a member of Alpha Omicron Pi.

Mr. Headlee is a seventh semester arts and letters major and a member of Chi Phi.

Delta Zeta

Delta Zeta held its annual pledge dance at Beta Theta Pi Saturday night with music supplied by Jack Jenkins and his orchestra. Catherine Foglia was dream girl and Dorothea Bourne was named ideal pledge.

reach. It takes death or madness to fully comprehend."

Some critics say that the theater of Pirandello is the theater of illusion. The theme of madness is obvious in his brilliantly successful comedy *Così è (se vi pare)*, produced by Players last year at Center Stage as "Right You Are (If You Think So)".

The fact that his wife lost her mind because of an intense, unfounded jealousy, played an important part in the writings of Pirandello, Gianturco said, the madness theme having preoccupied him in many plays including "Six Characters in Search of an Author," and "Henry IV."

Pirandello was an extreme relativist, Gianturco said, and believed that there is no reality beyond that which lies in the momentary form of sense perception. He believed that when people die we mourn not for their loss but for the reality which is no longer in our feeling, Gianturco said. His theory is that ideas are created in the mental, psychological, and moral framework of man, that all things are relative to the man, and that nothing is real.

Although some tag Pirandello as an agnostic and an atheist, Gianturco said, it is evident that he had a fundamental sincerity and authenticity. He wanted to see this thing called life through and see if he couldn't find grounds for living.

Visit to UN Holds Pleasure, Education

By BETTY KOSTER

A hectic fun-filled yet educational weekend in New York is in store for students attending the annual United Nations seminar Dec. 10 to 13.

Sponsored by the Penn State Christian Association, the Department of Political Science, and the Education Student Council, the tour is open to students and faculty.

Most of the more than 50 students who attended the seminar last year will make the trip again. Participants will attend UN sessions, visit and have lunch at the Rockefeller International House—where graduate students from all over the world are living—and take sightseeing excursions through the city.

UN Members to Speak

Andrew Cordier, assistant to the Secretary General, and other important UN members, will brief the group on current problems confronting the UN and the operations of the international organization.

Dr. Elton Atwater, associate professor of political science, Dr. James H. Moyer, professor of education, and Mary Jane Wyland, program coordinator for the Christian Association, will serve as faculty consultants for the seminar.

Delegates Sponsored

Several church foundations, honorary fraternities, and other organizations in State College will sponsor delegates to the UN trip.

Students may sign up and pay a \$5 deposit in the PSCA office, 304 Old Main. Cost of the three-day seminar, which will include transportation by bus, rooms at the Hotel Diplomat, and New York events, will be approximately \$30.

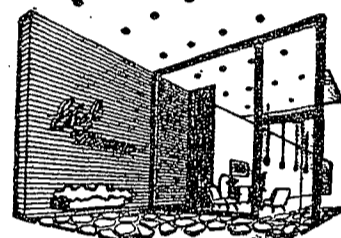
The Dean of Men and Dean of Women's offices will grant special excused absence slips for students participating in the seminar.

WRA Officials' Club To Meet Tonight

Compulsory meeting of the Officials' Club of the Women's Recreation Association will be held at 6:30 tonight in 2 White Hall.

Members of the club who are unable to attend may contact Constance Belli to receive officiating schedules for intramural basketball, according to Mildred McCowan, WRA clubs chairman.

Two club schedule changes have been announced by WRA. Bridge club will meet at 7:45 p.m. on Mondays and badminton club will meet at 8:45 p.m. Tuesdays.



Thru the Looking Glass

with Gabbi

It's vacation time for the campus carousers as we pack clothes and laundry for the great exodus. With thoughts of mom's cooking and late hours (I wouldn't wish those 1 o'clocks on an import) we dream our favorite fantasy—no 8 o'clocks. Nothing like a 4 day break for renewed vigorous studying. (Who put that strychnine in my coffee?)

Pamper the parents with preserves from Meserves

... and make it palate-pleasing to boot. ETHEL'S have imported jellies that are really "gone"—and that's what you'll be after digesting some Burgundy or Port Wine jelly. For the tee-totalers, take home some Mint and Apple jelly and leave the peanut butter and crackers to the dorm diet.

Dainty indulgence for the gourmet

... what's more delectable than French Onion Soup, large luscious black Californian olives or Hot-N-Tots, namely tiny burr gherkins? ETHEL'S have these fancy tidbits to tuck in your suitcase as samples to show the folks you're learning about the finer things in life (aside from your souvenirs from the ratskellers).

To top off the Thanksgiving turkey

... Wine vinegars spiced with garlic for savory salads, vintage marmalade or jasmine tea for taste pleasure or curio treasure. I was only wishing that ETHEL'S was giving free samples so I could dip my grubby fingers into these potpourri packages of delight. But no taste tester is better than your family, so drop in ETHEL'S before taking off and pick up something unusual to offset the below grade that is preceding your arrival. ETHEL'S wants to wish you a festive Thanksgiving and Gabbi says happy holiday and have fun!

Ethel Meserve

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Wilkes College Invites Students to Attend Dance

Students have been invited to attend an all-college dance Nov. 27 sponsored by the Student Council of Wilkes College.

The dance will be in the Wilkes College gymnasium from 9 p.m. to midnight with Herbie Green and his orchestra. Admission and refreshments will be free.

Co-Edits

Sigma Alpha Mu

Sigma Alpha Mu recently entertained Carol Perlmann, Doris Weinstein, and Leah Cohen of Sigma Delta Tau at dinner. They participated in the lighting of the Sabbath candles.

Members of the fraternity held a party for the Lion Party the night of elections. Refreshments were served.

Phi Kappa Sigma

Present at the Phi Kappa Sigma monthly alumni luncheon on Monday were Frank J. Simes, dean of men; Maurice K. Goddard, professor of forestry; Richard C. Cunningham, associate professor of engineering research; and Mr. Fred R. Axelson, associate professor of mineral industries extension.

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