

Democracy Not Sliding Downhill—Rossiter

By EVIE ONSA

The system of our American democracy has not moved steadily downward since colonial times, Dr. Clinton Rossiter, professor of government at Cornell University, said last night at a Liberal Arts lecture.

A "major part" of our American tradition was shaped by our ancestors, an "astonishing breed," who made the same mistakes and had the same faults as the men of today.

"They were not all saints," he said, "and we are not all sinners."

Dr. Rossiter, speaking to an audience in 121 Sparks, described the position of Americans today as not only "heirs" of democracy, but as "trustees" of generations to come.

It is the duty of the people of today to "set a good example" for their descendants, he said. This feeling was strong among the men of revolutionary times who looked upon tradition as a "guide for the bold and not as a refuge of the timid." He is not sure the people of today regard their tradition in this light.

In describing the ideal attitude toward tradition, Dr. Rossiter said we should be honored but not enslaved by it.

Four Divisions of Tradition

He divided the understanding of the American tradition into four categories: religious, economic, social, and political.

For over 150 years the tradition of religious liberty has been separation of the church and state and individual worship, he said. In the question and answer period he gave his opinion of the blue law which governs Sunday movies as a "real hangover."

As examples of government intervention in the economic field in colonial times he cited fees for services like corn-grinding, fees on food, and drink, and on market practices in general.

Government Intervention

Our forefathers, he said, looked upon government intervention and regulation as important and necessary.

While stating the social beliefs in our tradition, Dr. Rossiter pointed out that there is a difference between preaching and practicing equality, and said a classless society has never existed in America.

He described classes as an "inevitable fact of life" and said economic achievement was the criterion for determining class.

Democracy in colonial times, he pointed out, had no real standing, as the only men who were eligible to vote were the property owners. But he added our ancestors did make remarkable contributions to the constitutionalism in our political tradition.

Leik Named Delegate To SDX Convention

Ronald Leik, senior in journalism from York, has been named as a delegate to the national convention of Sigma Delta Chi, men's national professional journalism fraternity.

The convention will be held in Chicago today through Saturday.

Women's Chorus to Meet

Women's Chorus will rehearse at 7 tonight in 100 Carnegie.



DR. CLINTON ROSSITER, professor of government at Cornell University, who last presented the second in a series of Liberal Arts lectures in 121 Sparks, last night said that American democracy has not been in a downward slide.

WSGA Considers Students For Committee on Dorm Rules

Daisy Zimmerman, Women's Student Government Association vice president, accepted names of students interested in a Student Enforcement Committee yesterday at a meeting of the WSGA House of Representatives.

The enforcement committee will attempt to find out how students feel about women students enforcing the dormitory regulations. Miss Zimmerman said that present plans would allow dormitory hostesses to supervise the enforcement while students enforced the regulations and penalties.

Names of students for the Senate Standing Committees of Housing and Publicity were turned in by the dormitory unit presidents. The unit presidents appointed women for these committees.

The WSGA House agreed that WSGA office hours should not be held. The opinion was that they were not worth the time that would be spent.

Miss Jeanne Lindaman, assistant to the dean of women, asked unit presidents to remind coeds to wear hats to Chapel and Church.

Miss Zimmerman requested that unit secretary-treasurers pick up WSGA minutes.

Applications for WDFM Positions Are Available

Applications for student announcers of student radio station WDFM are available in 307 Sparks instead of in 317 Sparks as was erroneously reported in The Daily Collegian yesterday.

Upon application the applicants will receive word as to the time of an interview on Sunday afternoon.

Old Amish Customs Revealed in Study

By SUE CONKLIN

"Now what are you up to, young fellow?"

This is the most frequent Amish greeting found by Dr. Maurice A. Mook, professor of anthropology, in his four year study of the Amish people and their customs.

Dr. Mook says the Amish people are the best example of a sectarian society to be found in modern America. Their

communities can be found in the United States and Canada. They are church communities with their roots still in the 17th century followers of Jacob Amman.

Amish Split in Europe

Dr. Mook explained that the Amish split from the Swiss Brethren in Europe and came to Lancaster County several hundred years ago, dispersing to other states.

The main occupation of the Amish is farming. The old and the young, who have not been admitted into the Church, are not required to take part in farming. Even the old and young, however, follow occupations closely related to farming.

Follow Farming

Dr. Mook said the Amish are quite willing to discuss farming. He said he has found little difficulty in finding out about family background, but that the Amish are reluctant about discussing some subjects, probably because they are afraid people will write critical articles about them.

Members of the Amish Church will not allow their pictures to be taken, as they consider it vanity.

The Old Order Amish cling to the strict rules laid down by the Church which follow the principle that they forsake anything which "bespeaks of worldliness."

No Gadgets for Amish

They do not object to outsiders enjoying modern "gadgets," but they will not have them for their own. They will ride in modern forms of transportation, but they will not own or drive cars.

Customs in one Amish community vary from those in another. For example, in one community the Church allows the use of window curtains, but not the use of shades, and in another the practice is the reverse.

Communication is Rapid

Dr. Mook said there is rapid communication between communities. A local preacher is welcomed in all communities.

The main recreation of the Amish is visiting in the home and at Church. They sing what they call fast hymns in social singing and slow hymns for worship ser-

vice. The Church services are held in the home.

Dr. Mook says he feels he would be welcome in most of the Amish homes he has visited in the past four summers, but that many questions he would like to ask them they would not want to answer.

He says their interest in his family and the community makes his study possible. They wonder why outsiders are interested in their way of life.

Dr. Mook's main interest is to determine the size, composition, and organization of the family and study the "ecology" of the religious communities.

Study is Strange

Dr. Mook's study of the Amish is somewhat unique, for an anthropologist usually studies uncivilized peoples. But Dr. Mook explained that he feels man and his way of life in any age and degree of civilization is a fit subject for anthropology.

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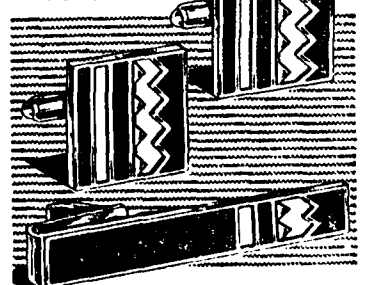
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