



A GRASSHOPPER "SINGS SWEETLY" while Dr. and Mrs. Hubert W. Frings make a tape recording of its voice in their apartment. The Frings will use this tape in their studies of insect communications.

—Daily Collegian Photo by Bob Thompson

Frings Prove How Bird Calls Figure in Defense Operations

By LYNN WARD

Most people wouldn't consider bird calls of much importance to Air Force operations, but Dr. Hubert W. Frings, professor of zoology, and his wife Mabel have proved they are.

Periodically the Air Force has been bothered with flocks of starlings which collect in airplane hangers and ruin the finish on planes. The Frings were approached by the Air Force in the summer of 1952 to find a method of getting rid of the birds through the use of sound.

The Frings have made studies of the effects of sound on animal behavior for some time. Dr. Frings said after trying many different sounds in an attempt to "scare" the birds out of the hangers, they recorded the distress calls of the starlings, but didn't do anything with the recordings.

Some time later they discovered by accident that the recordings would cause the starlings to leave the area in which they were played.

Since then the Frings have made many recordings of bird calls in different situations. But, the Frings said, their "real interest lies in insects and their communications."

Both the Frings are graduates of the University. Mrs. Frings has taught nature education, but now devotes her time to helping her husband with his many projects and experiments with sounds and insects.

The Frings keep their tape recorders and insect specimens in their apartment "laboratory." Presently they are doing most of their own experiments right at home.

They are very proud of their collection of some of the oldest and finest books published on all phases of insect life. Mrs. Frings keeps an extensive research file on most of the material known about sound and its relationship to insect behavior.

Through another study for the Air Force, the Frings became interested in the extensive vocabularies of crows. With the use of tape recordings they analyzed various signals of crows.

Friends of the Frings in France became interested in their studies and decided to see if French crows could understand the calls of American crows.

Through the interchange of recordings, they discovered that French crows would respond to the calls of American crows, but the crows they tested in Maine made no response to the French Union desk for \$1 each.

The Frings found out that the French crows are more "cosmopolitan" and in their travels they learn to recognize the general features of the crow's dialects, so they could recognize the American crow dialect. But the specific Maine crows subjected to the tests were "isolationists" and didn't have the same knowledge of the "language."

The Frings are presently involved in recording grasshopper communications. Dr. Frings makes tapes of the grasshopper's "tunes" under various temperature conditions. By running the tape through iron filings he can get a picture of the grasshopper's language. He said this compares favorably to pictures of sound seen in an oscilloscope.

The Frings agree that their studies and research are made primarily to increase the amount known about insects and effects of sound on them.

Traffic Court Levies 14 Fines

Traffic Court this week fined 14 students a total of \$113.

Fines included \$43 for parking violations, \$60 for failure to register and display a registration sticker and \$10 for failure to report to the campus patrol office within the next complete school day.

Ten fines were suspended and 14 cases were dismissed. Four students who failed to appear were automatically fined a total of \$12. One student who was found guilty of his fifth violation was ordered to send his car home for 16 weeks.

Players Tickets on Sale

Tickets for the Players production, "Carnival of Thieves," will be on sale today at the Hetzel Union desk for \$1 each.

Kaolinite Paper Given by Profs

Two faculty members presented a paper, "The Thermal Transformation of Kaolinite to Gamma-Alumina and Mullite," before the American Crystallographic Association meeting last week in Pittsburgh.

They were G. W. Brindley, professor of solid state technology and head of the Department of Ceramic Technology, and M. Nakahira, visiting research associate in ceramic technology.

As 3 Profs See It

Faulkner 'Wears Mask' in Public

By RALPH MANNA

"I'm not a literary man; I'm just a farmer who writes."

With these words, spoken by novelist William Faulkner's tape recorded voice, the Belles-Lettres panel discussion of the writer began.

J. J. McNalley, instructor in English, was introduced as knowing Faulkner personally. But McNalley said:

"No one in our age can know Faulkner personally. When you look into his dark impervious eyes you know they will not tell you anything. In dealing with the public he has donned a mask."

H. T. Meserole, instructor in English, spoke "pro" Faulkner. William L. Werner, professor of American literature, spoke "con." They discussed the two main criticisms of Faulkner, language and structure, in light of two of his novels, "Light in August" and "Intruder in the Dust."

"Both novels were successful in

Judd To Reappraise Foreign Aid Tonight

Rep. Walter H. Judd, (R.-Minn.), will discuss "A Reappraisal of Foreign Aid" in a speech at 8 tonight in Schwab Auditorium.

His lecture, which is open to the public, is sponsored by the Graduate School.

Judd has served as a congressman from the Minnesota fifth district since 1942 and prior to that time he was doctor in Minneapolis.

In 1925 Judd went as a medical missionary to bandit- and malaria-infested South China under the program of the Foreign Mission Board of the Congregational Church. Repeated attacks of malaria during the six years he was there nearly killed him and eventually forced his return to the United States.

After several months of speaking in churches and colleges warning about the menace of communism and Japanese militarism, as both were expanding at the time in China, he received a fellowship in surgery in 1932 at the Mayo Clinic at Rochester, Minn.

Judd returned to Asia in 1934, this time to North China, where for four years he was superintendent of a 125-bed hospital. He and his staff brought the hospital through the communist revolution and the Japanese invasion, and at the same time improved its works from 33 to 83 per cent self-supporting.

He returned to the United States in 1938 and spoke to 1400 audiences in 46 states in two years.

Freshman Wins Ed Council Seat

Joanne Rocco of Pittsburgh won the 4-way race for the freshman elementary education seat on Education Student Council.

Miss Rocco defeated Jacqueline Long of Suffern, N.Y.; Andrea Marron of Philadelphia; and Elsa Lorange of Villanova. The latter two were elected alternates.

Vivian Semko of Lansford defeated Caroline Metz of Pittsburgh for the freshman seat from secondary education. Miss Metz will be Miss Semko's alternate.

Special Offer Made Students Going to Pitt

The Music Guild and Gateway Plaza restaurant in Pittsburgh are offering students special price tickets for dinner and an evening at the ballet for the Saturday night of the Pitt-Penn State weekend, Nov. 23.

The tickets include an a la carte dinner at the Gateway Plaza, free parking at the Gateway Garage and transportation to and from the Syria Mosque where reserved seats will be held for the American Ballet Theater.

Tickets for the evening are available at \$3.30, \$3.85 and \$4.50. They may be purchased through the Gateway Plaza, 2 Gateway Center, Pittsburgh 22, Pa. Check or money order should accompany reservations.

The American Ballet program includes "Les Sylphides," a classical ballet based on the music of Chopin; "The Combat," which had its premiere at the Greek Theater in Los Angeles last summer, and "Offenbach in the Underworld," a ballet featuring the can-can and costumed by original reproductions from the painting of Toulouse-Lautrec.

AgEng Group to Hear Steel Structures Talk

Earl Anderson, National President of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers and Director of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers and Director of Agricultural Extension at Stran-Steel Corp., will speak at a meeting of the student branch of the ASAE at 7 tonight in 206 Agricultural Engineering.

His subject will be "Steel Structures in Agriculture."

sales," Meserole said. "The former was written in 1932, during Faulkner's so-called 'height of artistry.' The latter, written in 1948, was written at a time when he was trying to do different things with his book."

The language in Faulkner is "new, fresh, vital, sometimes shocking but nonetheless effective," Meserole said. The words are "of the character, not for the character." There is also a predominance of coined words, words made to fit ideas.

Answering the criticism that Faulkner's sentences are involved and wound-up and interlarded with irrelevant ideas, Meserole said the material is relevant. "The reader is forced to absorb the many ideas which Faulkner piles one atop another, but at the end there is a blinding flash — a lumination of everything."

The structures of Faulkner's novels are never of a kind; there is a particular structure to each, Meserole said. However, they are consistent in that the Yoknapatawpha County Sage (which is

based on Lafayette County where Faulkner lives) achieves reality.

He called Faulkner's novels "powerful and products of genius."

Werner quoted many critics who called Faulkner's words "ungrammatical, incoherent." One "critic," Faulkner's cousin, asked of a work: "Was you drinkin' when you wrote those words?"

Werner criticized the novelist for shifting from "low-life" to rising to snobbish words. "He speaks of honor, love, pity, sacrifice," but this is not what he writes of in his works, he said.

Faulkner deals "almost wholly with sex, illegitimate children and seduction—in spite of all his talk of honor," he said.

He called Faulkner a "phony" because "he says man will endure and prevail but he really doesn't know anything about man."

Werner questioned the pro assumption that:

"Faulkner didn't do well in college composition and yet he developed a great style." Of the "structure" question, he said, the writer "is not successful in his various structures."

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