

Yours Truly, Yurey

Junior and Russian Professor Compare Dual Ways of Life

By DAVE FINEMAN
First of Two Series

David Houghton, junior in meteorology from Media, has an unusual pen-pal—a 29-year-old teacher of English in a Russian secondary school.

Houghton, who began his correspondence 14 months ago, says the letters—which are signed “yours truly, Yurey”—have given him the chance “to learn much about Russian life, more than I can learn from books and official papers.”

Oddly enough, Houghton says, “I don’t learn as much from the things Yurey tells me as I learn from the questions he asks. That is, I get the idea that because of a lack of information, Yurey is perplexed about many of the things he hears about America.

“And sometimes his questions are really ‘stumpers,’” Houghton adds.

After reading some of Yurey’s questions—he writes his letters in English—it was easy to see what Houghton meant. Yurey wanted to know:

“Here in Russia one often sees in newspapers an expression, ‘the American way of life’. Often this expression is criticized. I have a vague notion of the phrase. What does it mean? What is characteristic of ‘your way of life’?”

With the help of a short autobiographical sketch and a few passages from a sociology book, Houghton tried to answer this question. He told Yurey of his typical suburban town of Media, the closeness of his family, his 5-acre plot of land which he and his father spend their time cultivating, of his summer jobs and of his schooling.

Then he told Yurey some facts about Americans in general: suburbs, cities, radio, television, CBS, Hollywood, jitter-bugging, rock ‘n’ roll, square dancing and the installment plan.

But Yurey was not satisfied with this. As he said in his next



Yurey Gurskey
... Unusual Pen-Pal

letter: “Certainly my question about ‘the American way of life’ was a perplexing one as it was vague and too general to answer. Putting it to you I thought you in America often heard that phrase, meaning, in its narrow sense, some fundamental peculiarities of the law, customs, etc., which are characteristic of your country. “In most cases, I should acknowledge, I heard it spoken, read and illustrated with nega-

tive examples such as ‘race segregation’, Indian reservations, etc. At the same time I came across such peculiarities of the A.W.L. (Yurey abbreviates a lot of phrases he has used before—this one means, of course, ‘American way of life’) as ‘American accuracy’, or punctuality—I can’t find the exact word—‘American humor’ and many more.

“In return, you have asked me of the R.W.L. (Russian way of life, of course). This notion seems to be a whole consisting of phases peculiar to any given country. The political system, economic structure, customs, education system, the clothes the people wear and the food consumed.”

Yurey is married and has a daughter a year and a half old. In addition to his teaching in the small settlement of Parakhino, an industrial town about 125 miles from Leningrad, Yurey also attends the Moscow State Pedagogical Institute of Foreign Languages two weeks of the year. As a teacher, he pays no tuition, and all of his expenses—even train fare from his home and back—are paid by the state.

Yurey writes on many other of his impressions of Russia and America and of his personal life, some times enlightening, some times humorous, as will be seen in future installments of this series.

Formal Coffee Hours To Climax Rushing

The tenseness and excitement of rushing will come to a climax tonight when rushees attend sorority coffee hours and preferential lists are made out.

Rushees may pick up invitations for coffee hours from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. today. The invitations must be answered within this time. Two may be accepted, one from 6:30 to 8 p.m. and one from 8:30 to 10 p.m.

Formal gowns or cocktail dresses may be worn to the coffee hours.

Sororities must return coffee hour invitations to the Panhellenic post office by 8 a.m. today along with the number of women they plan to pledge.

Coffee hour acceptances will be available for sororities at 1:30 p.m. Cars may be used tonight in driving rushees to and from the coffee hours.

Rushees will file preference cards from 10 p.m. until midnight tonight in their hostess’s apartment. They may list in order of preference all the sororities they are willing to pledge, whether or not they attended that coffee hour.

Sororities will list in order of preference all the girls they are willing to pledge, and the two lists will be matched.

Rushees will be given one invitation from the sorority of their highest choice which included them in its list of pledge invitations.

Sororities will receive an IBM card for each woman rushing. Cards for women which the sorority is not planning to bid should be discarded. First list cards should all be marked number one. Second list cards should be marked number two, three, four, etc., in order of preference. Cards must be returned to the dean of women’s office at 8 a.m. tomorrow. Invitation lists will be available at the dean’s office at 4:30 p.m.

tomorrow. Formal invitations may be sent to rushees after that time.

Ribboning will take place at 7 p.m. tomorrow in the sorority suites.

11 Fellowships Open to Grads

March 1 is the deadline on applications for 11 Graduate School fellowships.

The fellowships provide \$2000 tax free for the academic year and exemption from major fees. Any outstanding doctorate candidate who has at least one year of graduate work may apply.

Awards will be given in any area, preferably those in which other types of aid are less prevalent, such as the humanities and social sciences. Applications and information can be obtained in the Graduate School Office, 104 Willard.

Grant to Support Work In New Drying Process

Everett R. McLaughlin, associate professor of engineering research, plans to experiment with approximately six dehumidifying materials, such as silica gel, now being manufactured commercially to determine their effectiveness in purifying as well as drying air.

McLaughlin’s work will be supported by a 1-year \$2400 grant from the American Society of Heating and Air-Conditioning Engineers.

Club TIM Survey Shows 65% Approval

About 65 per cent of Town Independent Men replying so far to a survey on Club TIM would be willing to help pay for the project.

About 75 per cent of those replying are in favor of the plan, according to Charles Bartholomew, chairman of a TIM

council committee studying the subject. Replies have been received from approximately half of the 300 students to whom questionnaires on the subject were sent.

Final result of the poll will be announced at next Wednesday night’s TIM council meeting.

Four questions were asked in letters sent out to 300 hundred town indies:

- Did they receive the letter?
- What do they think of the idea?

- Do they have any questions about the plan?

- Would they be willing to pay a nominal fee to support the club?

The idea for Club TIM began about two years ago, but it was kicked around until this year.

The main purpose of Club TIM would be to provide a place where alumni and students can meet. Trophies won by independent organizations would be placed in the building.

Current plans call for the first floor to be a recreation and lounge area, with the other floors being converted into a dormitory to provide revenue.

Bartholomew said Club TIM would serve to bring together indies and let them meet each other.

The biggest problem standing in the way of Club TIM’s right now is finances. Of this, Bartholomew said, “I just don’t know how we are going to finance the thing.”

Prof Given Diesel Post

Dr. A. W. Hussman, professor of engineering research, has been appointed to the Diesel Engine Activity Committee of the Society of Automotive Engineers.

Fifty-Six Named To Dean’s List

Fifty-six students in the College of Chemistry and Physics have been named to the Deans List for the fall semester.

Stephen Brown, Donald Claggett, David Goldstein, Roger Kerlin, Robert Lehmborg, John Lyons, Karl Rekas and John Stoner completed the semester with 4.00 averages.

The other students and their averages are:

Donald Douglas, 3.94; Fred Klippel, 3.84; Robert Blanning, 3.81; David Neely, 3.81; Leona Schreiner, 3.81; Richard Chrym, 3.80; Ira Wasserman, 3.80; John Brady, 3.66; Edward Stoker, 3.66; Beverly Rimm, 3.64; Robert Shutt, 3.60; Arthur Davenport, 3.52; Roger Granlund, 3.52; Paul Mecco, 3.52.

George Motsay, 3.94; Richard Keenan, 3.82; Robert Chapman, 3.81; Guido Moeller, 3.81; Ross Kremer, 3.78; George Fish, 3.52; Joanne Walbert, 3.52.

Glenn Wilkes, 3.79; Ronald Reinhard, 3.69; Stephen Schlichter, 3.66; Dorothy Smeal, 3.66; Samuel Styer, 3.57; Stephen Fearheller, 3.55; Alan Renkis, 3.55; Henry Gehrhardt, 3.54; George Miller, 3.52.

George Bergey, 3.94; Elizabeth Dowling, 3.93; James Dowd, 3.83; Robert Larsen, 3.83; Robert Howard, 3.81; William Hardham, 3.75; Robert Kocur, 3.69; William Hartmann, 3.67; John Kardos, 3.67; Leslie Salomon, 3.67; William Ward, 3.87; Glenn Johnson, 3.62; Paul Shoener, 3.62; Barent Johnson, 3.60; Maxine Shall, 3.58; Jesse Koontz, 3.55; George Bantrem, 3.51; Thomas Bellina, 3.50.

HEC Receives Faculty-Student Dining Proposal

The Student-Faculty Board of the College of Home Economics heard a proposal Tuesday night that would have faculty members of the college eating in the dining halls with students several times a year.

The board’s Committee on Student-Faculty relations made the suggestion in order to bring about closer student-faculty relations in the college.

Members of the committee said that dining hall personnel would support the idea if some provision were made to pay for the meals.

The committee also suggested that a student-faculty party be held some time during the semester.

No final action was taken on either of the proposals because of the lack of quorum.

Associate Prof Edits Group of Monographs

Dr. Alfred K. Blackadar, associate professor of meteorology, is editor of a group of monographs published by the American Meteorological Society.

Entitled “Meteorological Research Reviews,” the 283-page volume summarizes research progress from 1951 to 1955 in several fields of meteorology.

‘Farmer’ Staff to Meet

The Penn State Farmer staff will meet to plan the March issue at 7:15 tonight in 109 Armsby.



That’s why American Express Student Tours are expertly planned to include a full measure of individual leisure—ample free time to discover your Europe—as well as the most comprehensive sight-seeing program available anywhere! Visit England, Scotland, Ireland, Holland, Belgium, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Italy, The Riviera and France—accompanied by distinguished tour leaders—enjoy superb American Express service throughout.

10 Special Tours . . . 48 to 63 days . . . via famous ships: United States, Liberté, Nieuw Amsterdam, Atlantic, Italia, New York. \$1,198 up.

Other tours available . . . from 35 days . . . \$769 up.

You can always TRAVEL NOW—PAY LATER when you go American Express! For complete information, see your Campus Representative, local Travel Agent or American Express Travel Service, member: Institute of International Education and Council on Student Travel . . . or simply mail the handy coupon.

AMERICAN EXPRESS TRAVEL SERVICE

65 Broadway, New York 6, N. Y. c/o Travel Sales Division

Yes! Please do send me complete information about 1958 Student Tours of Europe!

C-60

Name

Address

City..... Zone..... State.....

PROTECT YOUR TRAVEL FUNDS WITH AMERICAN EXPRESS TRAVELERS CHECKS—SPENDABLE EVERYWHERE

RADIO
Service and Supplies

- Car Radios
- Portable Radios
- Phonographs
- Batteries

State College TV
232 S. Allen St.