



400 Attend Conference On Reading

The "what-if" school of writing was introduced yesterday afternoon when author Louis Slobodkin addressed members of the 21st Annual Reading Conference which began Monday at the University.

More than 400 teachers, reading consultants, school administrators and book publishers are enrolled for the week long conference. The sessions are held to keep teachers and other professional people informed on the newest and most effective techniques in the teaching of reading.

Roma Gans, professor emerita at Teachers College, Columbia University, spoke at the opening session. Reading for living should be an individualized program, she said, and the reader should proceed at his own speed.

The Monday afternoon speaker, Eason Monroe, who is chairman of the American Civil Liberties Union, Los Angeles, Calif., explained how and why the Bill of Rights should be included in classroom procedure.

Today's speaker will be Laura Zirbes, professor emerita at Ohio State University. She will speak at both the afternoon and evening sessions and take part in the discussion groups.

Tasha Tudor, famed children's author, spoke last night in Mill Hall High School, following a dinner at the Dutch Inn, Mill Hall.

Discussion leaders include Margaret Lay, teacher at Antioch College, Yellow Springs, Ohio; Molly Wild, teacher at Plattsburg, N.Y. State Teachers College; Gloria Mattera, instructor at Genesco, N.Y. State Teachers College; Tony Amato, visiting professor at Temple University; Mrs. Lelia Farrell, a member of the State College public school system; M. Jerome Weiss, assistant professor of education at the University; and Dr. George E. Murphy, professor of education at the University and director of the conference.

A combined book exhibit and a Cadmus book exhibit, as well as elementary and secondary school materials have been on display all week.



MISS LOIS PIERCY is crowned Miss Pennsylvania by last year's queen, Miss Rosalie Samley. Both girls are Penn State students.

Lois Piercy Awaits Finals

By BOB THOMPSON
Special to the Collegian
Photo-Feature
(See Pages 6 and 7)

Lois Piercy, 1959 Miss Pennsylvania, eagerly awaits the Miss America pageant to be held in September at Atlantic City.

Miss Piercy was crowned Miss Pennsylvania last Saturday night at West Chester—winner over 23 other statewide beauties.

The 21-year old, dark-haired University graduate from Springfield, who doesn't like to wait in lines—waited in line twice last Saturday night, in an evening gown and swim suit—and came away as the Commonwealth's representative to the Miss America Pageant.

Lois was crowned by Rosalie Samley, the retiring Miss Pennsylvania. Miss Samley, a junior in sociology from Bethlehem, is a sorority sister of Lois at the University.

Another of the five finalists chosen in the Miss Pennsylvania pageant was Margaret McPherson, junior in home economics from New Park. She represented Greater York in the state finals.

The third University coed to participate in the pageant was Miss Judith Ann Criste, who received her associate engineering degree at the Altoona Campus earlier in the month. She presented a piano and song routine from "Kiss Me Kate" for her talent entry. She represented Miss Central Pennsylvania.

Miss Piercy was a standout in the pageant from the very start. She walked off with talent honors the opening night of the pageant on Thursday, and copped the bathing suit title during Friday night's competition.

Although not a winner in either the talent or swimsuit competition in the preliminaries, Miss McPherson ranked high enough in all to be chosen as a semifinalist and one of the top five in the pageant.

Miss Piercy's talent rendition featured a flute solo and a display of an oil painting she did that was recently acquired by the University. Although Miss Piercy seemed short of breath in her solo rendition, she still grabbed top honors in talent.

Miss McPherson gave a dramatic reading as her part of the talent competition. It was based on a portion of "The Diary of Anne Frank." Beginning with the quotation, "I believe in the goodness of man" from Miss Frank's diary, Margaret went on reciting the portion describing "fear" from the work.

Ten semi-finalists in the pageant were announced at the beginning of Saturday's portion of the pageant. Miss Piercy's name was the fourth name released. It was almost a certainty that she would be among the ones in the finals because of her showing in the earlier parts of the pageant. Miss McPherson seemed almost shocked when her name was read as a semi-finalist. Both showed little emotion when they were named in the group of five finalists toward the end of the pageant.

The other three finalists in—
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International Speakers To Attend Symposium

Speakers from all parts of the world will participate in an International Symposium on Stress Wave Propagation in Materials to be held June 30 to July 3 at the University.

The program includes discussions of broad areas of theoretical and experimental research in the general field of stress wave propagation.

Registration To Be Held At Rec Hall

Registration for the 6-week-long mid-session will be held from 8 a.m. to noon and 1:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. Monday in Recreation Hall.

Mid-session classes will begin at 8 a.m. Tuesday. The session will last until August 7.

Students must register according to an alphabetical time list which is printed in the Summer Sessions catalog. A student must register for himself.

Fees will be assessed at registration, and they must be paid at the Bursar's Office in Willard Hall the same day.

Students who register late must pay a \$2 fee. The fee assessor may decide if the student's excuse for registering late is valid for waiving the fee.

All those who are pre-registered for courses must complete their registration on Monday, but they are assured of getting the courses they have pre-registered.

DOC Sponsors Tutor Program

The Division of Counseling is sponsoring a tutoring service during the summer sessions for students who wish to employ a tutor and for those wishing to work part-time as tutors.

The Division of Counseling will serve as a clearing house for the program. Tutors may register in person at 110 Old Main or call Extension 2584 before noon Monday.

Persons interested should specify by number the courses in which they are qualified to offer help and the sessions they will be available. Undergraduate tutors should have obtained a grade of "B" or higher in courses they list.

All arrangements concerning rates, times, and places are handled by the individual tutors and the students who request their services. The Division of Counseling will not supervise the service beyond compiling the list and making it available when students request help in finding supplementary instruction.

Riley, Beam, Taylor To Attend Meeting

Three staff members will participate in the 44th general conference of the American Alumni Council from Sunday to July 2 at Mackinac Island, Mich.

Those attending will be Bernard P. Taylor, director of the Penn State Foundation; Robert E. Beam, associate foundation director and director of the Alumni Fund; and Ridge Riley, executive secretary-treasurer of the Alumni Association.

'3 Men on a Horse' Will Open Monday

Erwin Trowbridge has a problem. He can pick the winning horse before any race.

What makes this wonderful intuitive gift a problem is explained in Mateer Playhouse's comedy production, "Three Men on a Horse," by John Cecil Holm and George Abbott, which begins Monday at Standing Stone.

The play, which opens for a week's run Monday, is directed by Max Fischer and casts Esther Benson and Leon B. Stevens in leading roles. It concerns Erwin Trowbridge, played by Kenneth Evans, who is a greeting card writer with a flair for picking winning horses.

Erwin soon runs afoul of some Damon Runyan type "hoods"—chiefly Patsy, played by Leon Stevens; and his moll, Mable, played by Esther Benson. The hoods discover Erwin's amazing talent, which leads to

many zany situations as the plot progresses.

Included in the supporting cast are: Don Petersen, who plays Erwin's brother-in-law; Ronald Bishop, acting the part of a harried greeting card company president in the Mother's Day Rush; and Nancy Alinkoff, a University student, who plays the part of a newspaper reporter.

Mason, set designer for the playhouse, has created a novel staging arrangement for the play. The stage is constructed with a revolving platform at each end of the set on which are two panel backdrops.

Changing scenes will be only a matter of revolving these platforms to present the opposite panel face.

Mason describes his overall design as a "cartoon type" setting in which outlines of windows, doors and furniture are drawn in bright colors on the revolving panels.

O'Neill Play Has Successful Opening

By WILLIAM ALLEN
Collegian Drama Critic

Led by the dynamic performance of Lydia Bruce as Abbie Putnam, Eugene O'Neill's "Desire Under the Elms" opened the Mateer Playhouse season on a successful note Monday night.

Miss Bruce, the young wife of Ephraim Cabot, played by Leon B. Stevens, recorded a powerful and moving enactment of O'Neill's Abbie. She was strong in her part and portrayed the love scenes with deep emotion as well as affection.

"Desire Under the Elms" is an American classic, telling of an old and hardened New England farmer who takes a young wife and brings conflict to his three sons. The youngest son develops a deep affection for his young step-mother, who wants to bear a son so her husband will leave her the farm property.

The play, which will continue the rest of the week at the play-

house at Standing Stone, is slow moving in the beginning and it takes the audience awhile to get used to the "cornballish" talk of the three sons and their antics in and about the farm house. But once Stevens and Miss Bruce make their appearance, the play's tempo picks up considerably.

The youngest son—Eben, played by Don Petersen, is torn between his mother's untimely death and love for the farm on one hand; and his love and affection for his step-mother. Petersen seemed unnatural in the first few scenes but finished strong, especially in his dramatic love scenes in the last act.

A son is born to Abbie and everyone knows it is Eben's child except his father. This produces tension unmatched in the best "western" thriller and leads to Abbie's killing of the baby and a confession to Ephraim of the hoax.

Stevens, as the father, portrays an old, bearded farmer who plans to live to 100 years of age and who marries Abbie only to have her bear him a

son and keep the farm within the family. Stevens fits the part very well and was a true professional on the stage.

Probably the weakest characters in the play are Ephraim's two oldest sons—Simeon and Peter. Simeon, played by Ronald Bishop, seemed to overplay his lines and forces his part upon the audience. Peter, played by Mike G. Matoin, was a loud drunkard who was forever yelling "California" and "gold."

The directing of Max Fischer was most evident when the two sons bid farewell to the farm yard and house and dance a jig before hitting the trail which would take them to California and gold. Another scene which showed-off the talents of Fischer was the raging crying part enacted by Miss Bruce after she kills her baby to save her romance with Eben.

The set was ideal for the play—but the naturally rustic effect of the playhouse greatly aided the on-stage scenery. Although the area is very small, the actors moved about well and only once did anyone bump into or jar a piece of scenery.