

Editorial

Comment

Bulletin

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They Stand
At the Crossroad

Last night senior representatives of the university student body, who have been elected or selected to serve on the Senior Council, met for the first time this year to have dinner in the Union as the guests of Chancellor Boucher.

Program of the meeting centered largely around the election of Senior Council officers and a discussion of what the function of the Senior Council should be.

Last year a similar group of representatives met on a similar occasion to dedicate themselves to be of service to the university, but they didn't accomplish much. Organizational problem of that group was bigger and consequently their work was hampered and their time was taken up in details of getting the Council started. Work of last year's Senior Council got the organization started and was thorough and well done—but the question of whether the Senior Council will be a vital force in university life or just another campus activity will depend on what work the new group does the rest of the year.

The Senior Council can do much to restore the old spirit of class solidarity and love of the university. The group can inculcate a germ a loyalty to the institution, in the graduating class, which can bring future alumni devotion to the university. The organization can seek methods of improving the system of renting caps and gowns at commencement time. The body can revive the custom of leaving a class gift. The society can prepare recommendations for next year's Senior Council in reference to projects that could not be completed this year.

Or the group can do nothing but meet and talk of projects undone leaving behind them only recom-

mendations empty of meaning for next year's group—if there is a group next year.

The first course of action means that work will have to be done. It is a hard road to follow, but it will make the Senior Council a vital force in university life. The second course is easy, but it will spell the end of one of the most progressive ideas the university has seen in many years.

Organizational work is finished. Now, it is up to the members of the Senior Council to prove their organization belongs to that select group of activities that mean something. Morton Margolin,

Behind the News

By David Thompson

De Prorak's Speech

The convocation lecture given yesterday morning by Count Byron de Prorok had a good deal more to it than a recital of archeological discoveries made by the noted explorer. The presentation of these facts was very interesting and worthwhile, but what was more interesting were military comments injected into the lecture and the accompanying pictures.

Reference to the possible position that General Weygand might take in the world struggle was valuable information. The Count indicated that the famed military expert and his million men, a figure that far exceeds most popular conceptions of the strength of the French colonial troops, had strong allied leanings and were held back from joining the fight against the Axis only by Weygand's promise to Premier Petain in Vichy. The only way that Prorok said that Weygand could be released from this obligation was through the resignation of Petain.

Whether this is the only way out for Weygand is a question, but most observers seem to think that it would take much less to release him. In particular a German move to take over French Morocco and Tunisia in a military manner has been suggested as all that is needed to swing Weygand into active participation against the Axis. It is not so much a matter of whether Weygand will do that, as it is a matter of when he will do so. His promise to Petain will hold, very likely, only if there is no direct action on the part of Berlin to take over French Africa and use it to their advantage. The terms of the armistice, at which time Weygand made his promise to Petain to refrain from active participation against the Axis, did not include giving Germany the control of North Africa. Hence such action now by the Axis would in effect give Weygand a dismissal from his promise. At least that is the opinion expressed by many of those who are supposed to know.

Another prediction that the explorer made was that the British, Free French, and Ethiopians were preparing to begin a winter offensive against the Axis in North Africa. He stated that about a million men were in training in Egypt in preparation for this task. In stating this fact, he also stressed the fact that control of the African coast of the Mediterranean would mean virtual control of the whole Mediterranean Sea, and would safeguard the Suez. In the light of the statements made in the British Parliament, lately one would judge that the British consider that the case also.

Emily Schossberger . . .

University Editor Again Sees
Noted Author, Franz Werfel

. . . Whom She First Met at Opera Ball

Probably the most eagerly expectant of Lincolmites who awaited the appearance of Franz Werfel, noted author, on the Lincoln Junior League's Town Hall series last night was Miss Emily Schossberger, university editor.

Miss Schossberger, who formerly lived in Werfel's native Austria, met the famous writer at the Vienna Opera Ball in 1937. The Opera Ball was the high spot of the Vienna social season and attended by all leaders in government, society, and the arts.

The university woman was previously acquainted with Mrs. Werfel who is the widow of the late Gustav Mahler, one of the greatest of contemporary composers. The Vienna home of the Werfels was the scene of entertainment for all of the great musicians who used to visit that city when it was the artistic center of Europe, Miss Schossberger recalls.

Mrs. Werfel left Vienna to join

her husband in Paris when the nazis invaded Austria in March, 1938. It was in the French capital that Werfel wrote his current best-selling novel, "Embezzled Heaven," which was first published in Sweden by one of his former German publishers, now an exile himself.

When war broke out between France and Germany, Werfel was confined to a French concentration camp along with all other persons who had found refuge in France from Germany. He remained there until the nazi army neared Paris, when the concentration camp was thrown open by the French. He escaped to southern France and then to Lisbon to eventually reach this country last winter.

Miss Schossberger recalls some anxious moments in June, 1940, when she and other acquaintances of the famous man heard a rumor that he had been captured by the nazis in Paris and executed.

A great admirer of Werfel and admittedly familiar with "every line he has ever published," Miss Schossberger planned to renew her acquaintance with him in Lincoln if his schedule permitted. For Lincolmites who may not be as familiar with Werfel's work, she would like to assure them that he was considered the outstanding author in Austria as well as top-ranking among all European writers.

Quiet and philosophic, Werfel nevertheless enjoys good conversation, and this interest in people doubtless lies back of his keen analysis of humans in his books, according to Miss Schossberger. When he wrote, however, he usually went to Italy or Czechoslovakia—some place away from people where he might work uninterrupted.

Judging . . .

(Continued from Page 1.)

in the Kansas City contest, which is sponsored by the board of trade and the chamber of commerce in that city, next Monday. The International contest is slated for the following Friday and Saturday, Nov. 28 and 29. Ten to twelve teams, representing major colleges of agriculture will be in each contest, it is anticipated.

Bob Cushing, assistant agronomist at the Nebraska agricultural experiment station, will be one of the official judges for the Kansas City contest.

Last year the university team won first place at both Kansas City and Chicago. During the past six-year period, the university's team has placed either first or second at both contests. The complete record for 29 contests shows that the university has won nine firsts, followed in order by North Carolina with six, Iowa State and Kansas State with five each, and Oklahoma A. & M. with four wins.

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Inter-house Council
Meets at 7 Tonight

Inter-house Council will meet Wednesday at 7 p. m. in the barb office. All organized barb houses and barb women's organizations are urged to send a representative.

Kosmet Klub . . .

(Continued from Page 1.)

sical comedies. Freshmen women have been given 10:30 nights so that they may all attend the production.

Since the show must begin promptly at 7 p. m., Walt Rundin, president of Kosmet Klub urged that houses move their dinner hours up so that members will have plenty of time to get to the show. The theater doors will open at 6:30 p. m.

Convo . . .

(Continued from Page 1.)

Africa which his expeditions had reconstructed have been blasted and destroyed in the current warfare. Count de Prorok hopes to resume operations, however, as soon as world conditions permit.

The explorer also showed films taken in southern Arabia and Ethiopia and of the lost mines of King Solomon and the tomb of Queen Tin Hinan which he discovered.

FOR THE MILITARY BALL

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