

Ivy Day Oration Delivered by Ralph Nelson

Spring is a time of many eventful traditions, one the most important of which in the life of the student is that of graduation. As a part of these graduation ceremonies soon to be held, speakers will transfer the future cares of the world to those who are completing a certain course of study, as these commencement orators tell graduates all over the country that the world is now theirs, and that they must dare to move ahead, accepting the challenges of increased responsibility.

In view of this periodic challenge to youth, and especially with reference to the present chaotic world conditions, I would like to ask a question. That question is—where are we going? It is a question that applies to each of us as a citizen of a government created on a foundation of security through liberty.

If we accept the statement that the era of isolation of our nation has now passed into history, it becomes evident that our actions as citizens of the United States will indicate where we are going as citizens of the world society.

As we in the United States start the thirty-third month of what we would like to call "peace"—the period following the Japanese surrender—we know that uncertainty is not without cause.

Contrasts May Day.

One year ago, while a student elected queen for a day ruled over Ivy Day festivities at the university, a somewhat less democratic and yet more permanent sovereign was in charge of a May Day celebration in Moscow, as more than one million soldiers, sailors and workers paraded before him. The Ivy Day orator last year told us about Communism—and Communism and Stalin and the threats of another global war are the combination giving us our chief cause of concern.

Although the top military leaders insist that a crisis is at hand, and that security can be achieved only by an immediate expansion of our armed forces, many of them apparently are unable to convince each other that the threat of war is so immediate that coordinated planning is necessary. With a budget of over \$11,000,000,000 for the military set up, it would seem that these leaders who argue so strenuously for greater expansion and expenditures should realize further their obligation to the nation.

"Joint Chiefs Disagreed"

The inability of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to agree on a general plan of defense was highlighted by a conference called at Key West in March by Defense Secretary Forrestal. The result of the military unification program has been a serious split among the Army, the Air Force, the Navy, and the Marines, and a further split between the President and the Secretary of the Air.

Nor is the lack of coordinated planning limited to this phase of the military. Despite daily warnings of the severity of the international crisis, no effort has been made to mobilize industrial plants. One writer has pointed out that at least 50 per cent of the important units will require six months or so to switch, and that the War Assets Administration continues to offer war-essen-

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NIGHT NEWS EDITOR.....SUE GOLDEN

tial Government-owned factories and equipment, obtaining no more than thirty cents on the dollar cost.

"World War I 'Normalcy'"

After World War I we were interested only in a return to "normalcy." We outlawed war and ignored the League of Nations. And we lost the peace. We have since won another war. We know that we can no longer remain aloof from the rest of the world. Our official general policy—with all of its lack of coordination and consistency—is that we do not need to expect war if this country is strong enough to defend itself, but if war should come, the United States must be able to carry the battleground to any land whose aggression has produced the conflict.

There are few who will argue with the general outlines of such a policy. Although there are a few too many million veterans around for anyone to start a flag-waving expedition, we know that we have much which we deem worthy of defending.

Yet as citizens of a system of government which is truly ours, a government created on a foundation of individual liberty, we must acknowledge that our responsibilities go further than a creation of force for our defense.

Communists Attack

It is obvious now that Communists don't limit their attack solely to use of military strength. They have not been, nor will they be, averse to infiltration by other means. They are well trained organizers and voters, although they may not publicize their efforts along these lines. Our individual responsibilities should be clear.

We must also understand peace in a larger sense than an absence of open global warfare. Our interest in internationalism should be increased to include a desire for understanding, for the security of the world. Many Americans have such a desire, as evidenced by the food and clothing given to suffering peoples in those areas devastated by war. We must follow this up with active support of international cooperation.

Where are we going as citizens of this world of conflict? We have indicated a certain degree of progress when we realize that we are citizens of the world. We are moving ahead still more when we realize that our responsibilities go further than a development of armed force. We may not be in uniform now, but we are nevertheless engaged in an important struggle, because we are fighting for life.

Resnik Praised In Met 'Tosca' Performance

BY SAM WARREN.

On the eve of the university's own Ivy Day excitement, added festivity was brought to the campus by the appearance of the Metropolitan Opera company at the coliseum in a performance of Puccini's oper, "Tosca."

And exciting it was indeed, for though on the melodramatic side, "Tosca" is intense, concentrated theater combined with incomparable music to produce that unique art form, opera. Insistent applause of the capacity audience demanded several curtain calls of the principles after each of the three acts.

Resnik Convincing.

Regina Resnik, versatile soprano of the Met, took off her role of the personable, highly-emotional Tosca with convincing forcefulness. Assuming the center of interest from the first of the second act (the scene of mounting tension between Tosca and Carpio, the chief of police), Miss Resnik showed herself an actress as well as an artist.

Whipping about the stage in a heavy, bejeweled gown, she portrayed the Italian prima donna as distraught and completely unnerved by the villainous schemes of the Baron Scarpia. Her choice to kill him rather than to compromise herself was made believable and moving in her performance. It was an exhausting scene for both Miss Resnik and the audience. Her second-act aria, "Vissi d'arte," was the more remarkable, when one considers the emotional pitch of all that had preceded it.

Likeable Villain.

Winning the favor of the audience in the same scene was Australian baritone John Brownlee as the white-wigged Scarpia. Tall and of aristocratic bearing, Brownlee presented a villain that was curiously likeable despite his cruel intrigue.

As Mario Cavaradossi, a role third in appeal to Tosca's and Scarpia's, Jussi Bjoerling had ample opportunity to display his high-powered tenor with its unique ringing quality that has made him a favorite of Met followers for the last ten years.

UN Flying Club To Submit Pix For Air Queen

The Texas Christian university air meet has asked the University's flying club to submit pictures of candidates for Sky Girl queen of the meet. The winner will receive an expense-paid trip by plane to Fort Worth, and will reign over the meet's activities.

Pictures must be 4x5 inches and must be in the hands of Paul Keller, Nebraska's flying club vice president, at 1033 So. 24th st., by Saturday, May 1.

Club members will judge the pictures submitted, choose a maximum of five, and notify the winners. The candidates' pictures will then be sent to the TCU air meet, where the Queen will be chosen.

Other schools participating in the meet will be the University of Michigan, Arkansas Polytechnical, Texas Christian, University of New Mexico, Texas Wesleyan, University of Denver, Colorado Women's College and Stevens College.

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MEN'S WEAR MEMO

by B. U. HOLCOMB



"DO YOU THINK IT'S GONNA RAIN?" questions attractive Margie Amend, Teachers College senior from Lincoln . . . pinnate Bill Ballew, Lincoln Arts and Science junior doesn't seem to care as he came all prepared for a picnic, rain or not . . . Chi O Margie is active in music having been named outstanding Delta Omicron . . . Delta Tau Delta Bill keeps busy keeping track of Margie . . . you'll want to keep track of the rust-colored T-shirt Bill is wearing from HARVEY BROTHERS . . . and the all-around Windbreaker jacket with the extra shoulder flap for real weather protection . . . prepare for the spring picnic season with HARVEY BROTHERS sportwear. . .

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