

# Deaf Veteran Who Studies Phonetics---Unforgettable

**BY GERRY FELLMAN**  
(Editor's note: This is the second in a series of articles entitled "My Most Unforgettable Student." Each will contain a true story told by an instructor to a reporter.)

John Simmons, a deaf Negro army veteran of World War II, is my most unforgettable student.

These are the words of John Wiley, director of the University's speech and hearing laboratories.

Wiley first met Simmons when the ex-soldier enrolled in one of the instructor's speech classes at the University of Southern California. The deaf student was attempting to learn phonetics, a

subject which consists of the teaching of an alphabet to record speech as it sounds.

Simmons served in the South Pacific where he went in combat duty. A tropical infection of the ears caused him to have a complete loss of hearing. Because he mastered the art of lip reading, few knew of his defect. In fact, few students in the phonetics class even suspected that his hearing was not perfectly normal. Those who knew of his handicap agreed that he would never be able to pass the course—but he succeeded.

**Overcomes Trouble**  
People who become deaf usually begin to have difficulty in speech. But Simmons, determined to avoid this trouble, worked out a system which enabled him to keep his nearly perfect voice from deteriorating. Every night, for an hour at a time, he would read aloud to his wife. This kept his voice completely normal.

So excellent was his lip reading that a person talking face to face with him could not discover the defect. But if anyone would have stood in a position where it was impossible for Simmons to

read his lips, the veteran would have been unable to hear even the loudest yells or cries.

Before joining the army, Simmons was working toward a degree in sociology. When he received his honorable discharge, he returned to the University of Southern California where he changed his major to speech and hearing correction.

The veteran, who because of an incurable disease will never hear again, decided to go to the South to help the members of his race who are either deaf or hard of hearing. There are almost no such special teachers in Negro communities.

**'Never Complained'**  
Wiley said he will never forget Simmons. He added, "Simmons was an intelligent, good looking, healthy young man with a charming personality. In spite of his great handicap, he never uttered a word of complaint."

Simmons was a man of tremendous courage and initiative, Wiley said, and all who knew him respected and admired him. He had the "guts" to overcome a terrible handicap, he continued, and eventually to go on to help the people of his race.

## Activities Of Faculty Reported

The University faculty has shown their interest in professional activities by attending many off campus meetings. The following was reported in the University Faculty Bulletin:

Miss Sue Arbuthnot, assistant professor of elementary education, and Miss Mary Melezn, associate professor of secondary education, and Miss Mabel Strong, assistant professor of English, attended the fortieth meeting of the National Council of Teachers of English held Nov. 23-25 in Milwaukee, Wis.

Dr. Arthur Westbrook, Director of the School of Fine Arts, attended the meeting of the National Association of Schools of Music held Nov. 23-25 in Cincinnati. Dr. Westbrook is a member of the Graduate Commission of the association.

O. E. Edison, professor of electrical engineering, was elected one of the four directors of the Nebraska Section of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers at a meeting held recently in Omaha.

Four staff members of the department of music attended the meetings of the Nebraska Music Educators association held recently in Scottsbluff. They are: Dr. Arthur E. Westbrook, Director of the School of Fine Arts and chairman of the department; David Foltz, associate professor of voice; Robert E. Stepp, instructor of brass instruments and theory; and John C. Whaley, assistant professor of music education.

Dr. William F. Swindler, Director of the School of Journalism, attended the meeting of the National Conference of Editorial Writers held recently in Des Moines, Iowa. He was chairman of the critique sessions on contemporary editorial pages.

Kenneth Cannon, professor of family relations and child development, addressed the Eighth Annual Institute on Family Relations held recently in Omaha.

Dr. Joseph B. Burt, Dean of the College of Pharmacy, and Dr. R. A. Lyman, Dean Emeritus of the College of Pharmacy, attended the interim meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy held recently in Chicago. Dean Burt is chairman of the association's executive committee.

C. J. Frankforter, associate professor of chemistry, addressed in recent weeks the following organizations: The Manpower Conservation conference, the Cosmopolitan club, Air Reserve Officers association, the Retail Credit association of Lincoln and the Engineers club of Omaha. His subject was, "Are We Ready for Modern War?"

## AUF . . .

Continued from Page 1  
Ica Sweetheart; Jayne Wade, Pep Queen; Janet Carr, TMC; Sue Eastergard, Mardi Gras Queen; Nancy Dixon, Interfraternity Ball Sweetheart; Eileen Deries, Honorary Commandant; the University's first Activities Queen who will be presented at the auction.

The Builder's Calendar girls will be sold in one group. The girls include Adele Coryell, Migie Jensen, Pat O'Brien, Mary Chase, Jo Chase, Mary Pitterman, Ruth Jewett, Pat Gaddis and Dorothy Elliott.

Members of the varsity football team have donated their services for the AUF auction. Those to be sold in one group are Charlie Toogood, Bob Reynolds, Bill Mueller, Fran Nagle, Don Bloom, Ron Clark, Moon Mullen, Nick Adduci, Don Strassheim, Joe McGill, Rex Hoy and Frank Simon.

## Entertainment

Entertainment will be furnished during the auction's intermission by acts from Footlight Tullies, Delta Gamma Coed Polka Sids, and Kappa Gamma's talent show act.

The highlight of the evening will be the presentation of the Activities Queen. Tickets to the auction will serve as ballots.

Finalists for Activities Queen are Julie Johnson, Dee Irwin, Elizabeth Gass, Marilyn Vingers, Cecile Rediger and Joan Hanson.

Tickets to the auction can be purchased from house representatives or at the door for 25 cents.

## Music Students To Give Recital

A student recital will be presented Wednesday at 4 p.m. in the Social Science auditorium.

The students are: Irene Hunter Hyatt, pianist; Donald Korinek, clarinetist; Betty Breck, pianist; and Kathleen Burt, accompanist.

The program will include Beethoven's "Sonata, Op. 54" and "Andante Grazioso" (Con Moto) Mendelssohn's "Saita for Clarinet" and "Romio-Camille" Op. 14, "La Plus Que-Ente" by Debussy and "Two Preludes, Op. 34" by Shostakovich.

## Beware of (Ugh!) 'The Thing,' Warns Frustrated Victim

**BY CONNIE GORDON**

Here is a true-life incident that could have happened to you, you—or even YOU!

This story concerns a person whom we shall call X. L. Believe it or not, X. L. was a happy young man before "it" came into his life.

Here is the tragic story in his own words:

"I was a carefree young student at NU, until I found out the horrible secret that everyone in America is wondering about.

"Since that fateful day, a smile never passes my lips and my days are dark and dreary. I've become frustrated, developed complexes, and have started smoking two cartons of cigarettes a day out of sheer nervousness.

"Do you know why I'm so frustrated and perplexed? It's because (brace yourself)—I have found out what (ugh!) 'The Thing' is.

**A Little Man**  
"It all started as I was nonchalantly walking to my 8 o'clock

## Purchase of Dictionaries Complicated

When buying a complete unabridged dictionary select either the second or third edition. Erickson is partial to the second edition while Joe is partial to the third edition which includes diagrams of the architecture of early American women.

Do not buy a dictionary unless it contains sections on color charts and spectrum (color plates preferred) and common birds of America. If a color portrait of Noah Webster is not included, ask for your money back.

If you wish 3,000 pages of clean reading (Sears and Wards have less pages) you will want the unabridged edition.

The new work section gives the reader a thorough grounding in modern vocabulary with words such as senate office building and a new variety of reindeer such as red nose.

Students who want a lighter load during the semester can carry the abridged dictionary. Its cheapness is another quality along with the handsome binding that would make any student's mouth water.

Any student would feel inferior (as students without TV sets already are) if he asked his girl for a kiss and she answered with "Chold!" He would naturally jump to the (false) conclusion that she said she was cold and didn't want his affection. To the informed, however, chold means I would. A pocket dictionary would have saved a social blunder, unless he is the kind that doesn't ask first.

A man once said that by reading the dictionary every day he was promoted from office boy to assistant manager in eight weeks. He was associated with the Central Corporation of Cross Word Puzzles and had married the boss's daughter.

## CLASSIFIED

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## Fine Arts Ensemble Plans Concert

A white back, say a hundred years or so, when good friends wanted to get together for a real friendly time, they got a roaring good fire in the fireplace, hired a good combo and settled "back in the shadows in an intimate fashion." Only they called it chamber music.

For those of you who are still confused about just what chamber music is, there's an easy way to find out. The Friends of Chamber Music will open their second season with a concert on Dec. 7 at 8 p.m. in the Union ballroom.

**Fine Arts Ensemble**  
The concerts will be given by the fine arts ensemble. The members of this group are: Emanuel Wisnow, violin; Mrs. Gladys May, piano; Mrs. Rosemary Madison, cello; Max Gilbert, viola; and Truman Morsman, second violin. Guests from the Omaha Symphony Orchestra will be added to the ensemble during the second and third concerts.

Chamber music was originated as a form of relaxation for people who were interested in music, but not professionally. For everyone it was an enjoyable evening of intimate music without the strain and excitement of the regular concert music.

**Noted Composers**  
Such composers as Haydn, Brahms, Mendelssohn, Mozart, Schubert, Spaght, Beethoven and Chausson have loaned their talents to this field and the result is music that has lived for over a century.

The friends of chamber music was founded in the spring of 1949 with the purpose of bringing the enjoyment of classical music to other music lovers and students. This year they plan a series of three concerts, the first of which will be Thursday evening. Tickets for the series are \$3.00 and single admission is \$1.50. Student tickets are half price.

## Honors Committee Discusses Change

Members of the Honors convocation committee have considered including the event in next year's College Days.

The group has not taken definite action as was stated in Tuesday's Daily Nebraskan, according to Dr. Roscoe Hill, chairman of the committee.

The student and faculty group also considered a disadvantage the fact that Ferguson hall would be dedicated the same morning. College Days planners had requested the convocation be held. Members of the College Days committee had requested the Honors convocation take place from 9 to 11 a.m. before the dedication of the new building at 11 a.m.

## Vets to Hear Debate Squad

Four members of the University debate squad will appear Thursday evening at Vets hospital in an exhibition debate.

The four will debate the following topic: Resolved, that the non-communist nations of the world should form a new international organization.

The affirmative will be upheld by Dale Johnson and Wayne Johnson, and the negative by Joan Krueger and Doris Carlson.

Johnson and Johnson are freshmen and Miss Krueger and Miss Carlson, sophomores.

The exhibition debate is a part of the Delta Sigma Rho, national speech honorary's program this year of increasing audience debates. Warren Wise, president of the society, has contacted more than 50 civic organizations in Lincoln and scheduled various debates before their meetings in the future.

For the Vet hospital debate, Wise worked with Joan Hanson, Red Cross board member in charge of entertainment at the hospital.

The teams will debate at 8 p.m. Thursday.

## YM to Show Italian Movie

"Revenge," the latest Italian film to be presented in this country, will be shown at Love Library auditorium, Friday and Saturday, Dec. 8 and 9 at 8 p.m.

This Italian movie is being sponsored by the University YMCA. Admission is 50 cents, tax included.

Anna Magani, star of "Open City," plays the leading role in this production of post-war Italy.

The story concerns a returned Italian prisoner of war who is shocked to find the village from which he came a shambles, his family scattered and his neighbors too stunned by the war even to begin rebuilding their lives. He succeeds in reuniting the family and rebuilding the power house, thus restoring light, both electric and spiritual, to his demoralized community.

When "Revenge" first appeared on the screen in Rome in 1946, it was 102 minutes long. After editing and decking it with English subtitles for American audiences, it now runs 90 minutes long.

"Revenge" was released in Italy as "Un Uomo Ritorno" (A Man Comes Back).

Many reviews have heralded Anna Magani for her magnificent performance.

## Rag Poll Queries Students On Korean War Situation

University students and instructors think that the Chinese attack has begun in Korea. Many offered opinions that the A-bomb should not be used and if it were used it would not be effective unless it had been carefully planned and used in the most strategic military objectives.

1. Do you think the Chinese attack is beginning and why?

The general opinion seems to be that the Chinese attack has already begun. One person stated that since 1932 the Chinese have been preparing for aggression against America. For the last two years there has been a communist infiltration in the Chinese government.

Another person says that they

## Liaison Group To Elect Three New Members

An election to fill the three existing vacancies on the liaison committee will be held at a meeting of the University Senate, Tuesday, Dec. 12, at 4 p.m. in Love Library auditorium, according to Dr. George W. Rosenlof, secretary.

The nominees submitted by the committee on committees are as follows: James Blackman, assistant professor of engineering mechanics; Royce Knapp, professor of secondary education; James K. Ludwickson, associate professor of mechanical engineering; Walter Miller, professor of chemistry; Galen Saylor, professor of secondary education, and Walter Wright, associate professor of English.

No more than two persons from any one college may be elected and serve on the liaison committee at the same time.

Holdover members of the committee are: David Dow, professor of law; Donald A. Keys, professor of operative dentistry; Frank E. Musschl, professor of poultry husbandry; Albin E. Anderson, assistant professor of history; Clifford M. Hicks, professor of business organization and management, and J. E. Livingston, associate professor of plant pathology.

Reports will be given by the scholarship appeals committee, scholarship awards committee, and the student affairs and student conduct committees.

The faculty senate is made up of all members of the faculty with the position of associate professor or above.

have gone so far in their preparations for aggression that we can't stop them without an all out war.

**A-bomb Use**  
2. Should the A-bomb be used in Korea?

The opinion was about half and half. Some thought it should be used and others did not think it should be used. Their reasons were varied. Fear seemed to be the biggest problem. Fear that if we used it to stop aggression the enemy would come across the ocean and do the same to us.

3. Do you think it would be effective if used?

Even though some of the people interviewed expressed fear, they thought if it were used in the right places and at the right time the A-bomb would be effective.

Harold Peterson, president of NUWA, answered the three questions by saying that the Chinese attack has begun.

He thinks that if the Chinese are succeeding they will not stop at the 38th parallel, but will drive us on and possibly out of Korea.

**Scare Weapon**

He does not think the A-bomb should be used in Korea. It would be useful only as a scare weapon. The Chinese are used to more drastic things, such as earth quakes, floods and plagues.

Carl J. Schneider, assistant professor of political science, stated that the Chinese attack has begun since they are now fighting the American forces.

He said that the A-bomb should not be used except for military use. Generalizing he states that the political and military implications of its use would have to be explored before a definite answer could be given.

As to its effectiveness, it would depend upon what was being bombed and destroyed. A specific answer could not be given until one knew what the targets and the purpose of its use would be.

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## A. U. F. FACULTY-STUDENT AUCTION TONIGHT

1. "Doc" Elliot to Auction
2. "Activity Queen" Presentation
3. 7:30—Union Ballroom

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