

Summer Nebraskan

Lincoln, Nebraska

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Tuesday, July 18, 1961

Baah Needs a Pen Friend

The following Air Letter, addressed to "The Principal, Lincoln University," came to the Summer Nebraskan office from Harry L. Weaver, foreign student adviser. He received the letter after it bounced around the University for some time and asked that we might give it some attention. The letter speaks for itself:

Baah Anlagyel, 15744,
1 Supp. Depot, Gast,
Ghana Army, Burma Camp,
ACCRA
4th July, 61

Dear Sir,

I am very much pleased to write to ask you here therefore for pen friends from your school.

Thus, I beg you to bear these troubles of mine to give my address to those who are interested about Radio Mechanics to write to me.

I am yours,
Bah Ael

Furbay Lectures On Africa Today

Dr. John H. Furbay, internationally known explorer, lecturer and global air commuter, will speak on "Dawn in Darkest Africa" today at 1 p.m. in Love Library auditorium.

Furbay's lecture will be the third in a series of the Summer Sessions' World Affairs Program.

Director of the global education program of TWA, Dr. Furbay is said to be the "most traveled man alive," having flown over three million miles to nearly every country on the earth.

Because of his intimate knowledge of the African continent during World War II, Furbay carried out special assignments for the federal government related to the invasion and occupation of Africa.

He has made numerous studies first-hand of the customs among the peoples of Latin America, the Pacific Islands, Africa and the Near East, has carried out explorations for the American Museum of Natural History and has appeared on countless coast-to-coast radio and TV programs here and abroad. For 10 years he wrote a syndicated newspaper feature, "The Debunker," which was carried daily in over 100 U.S. papers.

A fellow of the Royal Geographic Society of London, the Royal Anthropological Society and the National Geographic Society, Dr. Furbay spent several years in the U.S. Office of Education as a senior specialist. While edu-



DR. JOHN FURBAY

cational consultant to the Republic of Liberia, he served as President of the College of West Africa.

Furbay was an official delegate and reporter to the first Pan-American Conference on Cultural Cooperation at Havana, Cuba and served as aviation's observer on the U.S. delegation to UNESCO in Mexico, City, Beirut, Paris and Florence.

He is associated with many leading organizations which are helping to create a more active awareness of the forces at play in the world today.

Furbay has recently returned from several international conferences abroad and is a regular lecturer at the World Seminar of Education in Geneva Switzerland and of the Strategic Intelligence School, Washington, D.C.

What is Midwest?

NU May Aid Peace Corps

Editor's note: This is the fifth article in a series on the Midwest and its role as "a part" of the world. This story on the Peace Corps discusses the possibility of the University of Nebraska becoming a training center for the Corps. On page two there appears a more detailed sketch of the countries these volunteers will be in training to serve.

By Gretchen Shellberg
"The Peace Corps definitely has the University of Nebraska in mind as one of the schools which would participate as an institution according to the man from Washington," Dean of Student Affairs Phillip Colbert told a Summer Nebraskan reporter.

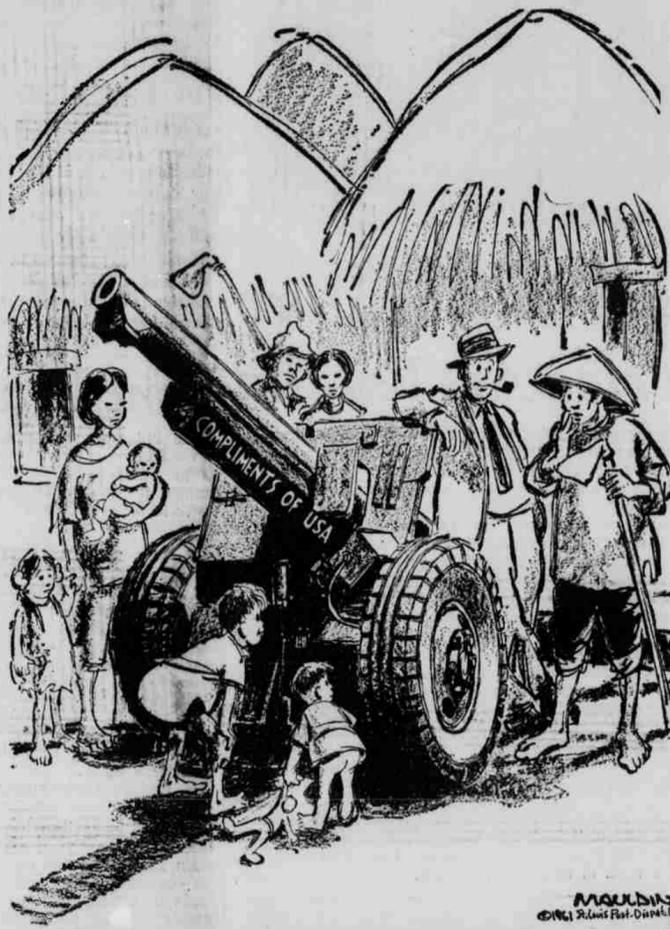
"The man from Washington" to whom Dean Colbert referred is Robert Bowman, official field representative of the Peace Corps who was on the University campus last week.

Bowman was scheduled to speak to a convocation of some 150 people, but he did not arrive on time. Bowman did interview some men and women interested in the Peace Corps Wednesday afternoon, however, and discussed organizational plans with Colbert and other faculty members.

According to Bowman, himself a member of the Peace Corps who has just returned from Laos, a school that wishes to become a training center for some work or field must forward a request to the Peace Corps, 806 Connecticut Ave., Washington D.C.

As the need arises, these institutions may be used, he said. The school selected must be climatically related to the host country.

No Request
The University has not



"IT'S BEAUTIFUL, BUT WE WERE SORT OF HOPING FOR A PLOW."

under the sponsorship of 28 colleges and universities in Indiana is preparing volunteers for work in community development in Chile.

Those volunteers learning community development at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey, will go to Columbia. Among the special requests from Columbia is the development of fish ponds. The work there is in conjunction with Care, Inc.

Bowman indicated that in community development, the host country usually in housing, roads, water, sanitation, health or agriculture.

The Philippines have requested 1,500 teachers for all grade levels. The Corps plans to send 300.

A group now in training at Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa, will be sent to the Island of Saint

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Lucia in the West Indies to work with cattle, swine and poultry. These volunteers will be working with a private organization called Heifer, Inc. which specializes in these areas.

According to Bowman, Ghana has asked for 50-75 teachers and they anticipate a call from Burma for over 100 workers.

Qualifications
In his interviews with students on this campus, Bowman, who is a special assistant to the Peace Corps director of recruitment, said some qualifications for a Peace Corps volunteer are:

- ... Minimum age of 18; no maximum age.
- ... Must stay with the Corps at least two years.
- ... Salary of \$75 a month and expenses.

Dean Colbert said that the Peace Corps hopes to send a representative back to this campus in early October to recruit.

He noted that not all these attending the convocation last week were young college-age people. Many were older teachers; others were probably even retired he said.

Broad Interest
According to Colbert, this indicates the broad interest in the Peace Corps activities. He said Bowman had hoped to speak to the older adults, attending the Summer Session, particularly, so that they might have "carried the word out into the state" when they returned home.

Married couples with no children under 18 years of age are particularly encouraged to join the Corps.

Karl Shapiro Turns Barbed Pen On Scientific Mind, Youth, Midwest

Editor's note: Karl Shapiro is presently on a year's leave of absence from the University to write and study in France.

By Carroll Kraus

Books and anthologies of poetry are regaining their places on the book shelves of homes in this country after an entire generation of Americans turned their reading attention elsewhere.

People are even spontaneously interested in the works of a new generation of poets who look upon their art as entertainment as well as work, a breed of poets writing for the eye and ear of the general public rather than only for intense study by other poets.

That is the outlook on the U.S. poetry scene today, according to Karl Shapiro. And the outlook is pleasing to the Pulitzer Prize-winning poet, who only slightly more than a year ago wrote that 20th century poetry was a "diseased art."

The University of Nebraska professor of English, a "critic in spite of himself," has been waging a running

Carroll Kraus, author of this profile of Karl Shapiro, is a January graduate of the University and is now stationed at Fort Benning, Ga. in the Army. Carroll has a long record of journalism experience. He served the Daily Nebraskan as managing editor and editor during his senior year. Upon graduation from the University he worked at the Lincoln Journal as a copy editor. Carroll also ranked third in the Hearst journalistic competition last fall with a series of depth articles on the Nebraska tax base system. Carroll is married to another School of Journalism graduate, Ingrid Leader, whose article on Nebraska missile bases appeared in an earlier issue of the Summer Nebraskan.

battle for years against the Modern-Classical or Neo-Classical brand of poetry.

Barbed Pen

He also has turned a barbed pen and tongue upon "the scientific mind," a youth of America "completely devoid of any intellectual idealism," and a culturally backward Midwest.

But it probably would be difficult to pick out of a crowd this man whose vitriolic words have won him both literary praise and literary lumps. For, as one writer put it, his outward appearance "frames a picture of casualness and serenity . . . belying the creative turmoil bubbling within."

The dark-complexioned, medium-built Shapiro speaks softly—but speaks and thinks like a man who has attained his mark. And he has in many ways.

The Baltimore-born poet attended the University of Virginia, Johns Hopkins and the Enoch Pratt Library School before entering the Army in 1941. He published his first and favorite book of poems—"Person, Place and Thing"—in 1942, but had written a smaller series called simply "Poems" before enrolling at Johns Hopkins.

Poetry Editor

After the war, he acted as a consultant in poetry at the Library of Congress for a year, then joined the Johns Hopkins faculty. In 1950 he took the post of editor of Poetry Magazine and in 1954 studied in Rome as a Guggenheim Fellow.

The next summer he lectured on American poetry in India and Ireland before joining the staff of the University of California and then moving to Nebraska in 1956.

Besides his Pulitzer Prize, won in 1945 for "V-Letter and Other Poems," mostly penned during service years in the Southwest Pacific, Shapiro has received the Jeannette S. Davis Prize, the American Arts and Letters Grant and the Shelley Memorial Prize among other awards.

He has written nearly a dozen volumes of poetry and criticism, has delivered many a lecture at universities and other cultural centers at home and abroad and now is at the helm of the University of Nebraska's quarterly "little magazine," the Prairie Schooner.

Although gray streaks his curly crop of black hair, Shapiro at 47 gives the appearance of a young man. And although he has been pouring out poems since the 1930's, Shapiro is far from calling an end to his writing career.

For instance, in 1960 the Shapiro mind turned out a textbook series of essays and helped two University English department associates, Dr. James Miller and Miss Bernice Slote, put together "an Anthology of American Poetry," and a study of poets with a "cosmic conscience" called "Start with the Sun," ruled the outstanding book on poetry in the United States in 1960 as judged by the Poetry Society of America.

And besides writing, Shapiro also heads classes in creative writing and contemporary poetry at NU. And in that connection he is dead set against "academic" or textbook poetry "good for teaching" but which nobody reads "except around examination time."

"The kind of poetry I don't like is the kind that has been given the most attention recently and it involves a certain amount of education before you can even read the stuff," he says.

In a late 1959 article in the New York Times book section, Shapiro charged "our poetry can boast only a tangle of subtleties and the obscurantism for which it is famous. It is diseased because the standards of poetry, criticism d'etat of Modernism, a minor intellectual program which took the stage more than a generation ago, about 1915.

"Ours is probably the only poetry in history that has had to be taught in its own time. A contemporary art that must be taught to adults before it can be enjoyed is sick."

Forerunners of this Modernist movement in the United States were poets like T. S. Eliot, James Joyce and Ezra Pound, who received much of their inspiration from a group of earlier French poets.

Eliot, Pound and Ireland's William Butler Yeats "worked pretty much together trying to set up the right standards for modern poetry" which although an exclusive type of poetry has been dominant in recent decades.

Shapiro's battle for a revival of new forms of poetry coupled with his poetic works themselves won him selection in 1959 to the National Institute of Arts and Letters, the nation's top honor society of the arts, and an honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters at Wayne State University in Detroit in 1960 for his "deep concern with the issues of the day—social, intellectual and aesthetic—and his sensitive service to them."

Criticism

But while some critics and literary people have described Shapiro as "a scholar in the true sense of the term" and a "possessor of brilliant humor, ready wit and wide understanding," others such as Saturday Review poetry editor John Ciardi and critics Theodore Solotaroff

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is interested in participating in the program.

In response to some reports that Nebraska was being considered for one of the special training programs, particularly in the area of language, the Daily Nebraskan conducted a poll last spring which showed many faculty and students favored such a center being established on this campus.

According to Colbert, "If the University should be picked and should participate, there would be a contract with the federal government" concerning financing of such a program.

When asked how many students could be expected to come to Nebraska were it to become a training center, Colbert said he did not know.

"What we gleaned from Mr. Bowman is all we know," Colbert said, indicating that the Corps, itself, was still in the infant stages of organization.

Regional Meeting

"There will be a regional meeting early in September—the time and place have not yet been announced—where institutions in that region will come to discuss institutional participation," Colbert said. "It is all so new," he

said, "that in Washington they are all just getting their plans laid. We don't know what we will discuss or where or who will go from Nebraska U."

According to Bowman, the "purpose of the Peace Corps is to aid in teaching in schools, to help in construction projects, to demonstrate modern methods in sanitation and health and to perform many tasks calling for special training and knowledge."

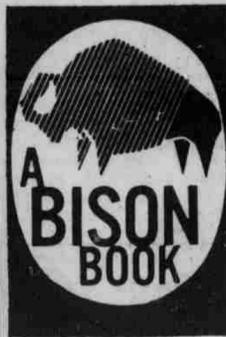
Bowman indicated that persons who go into the Peace Corps to serve in Latin America should know Spanish and that persons who will serve in the Mid East and Africa, although they will receive training in language and dialect, will use mostly English.

Language is a necessary tool, Dean Colbert said.

He listed other areas "not exclusive but important" as being teaching, architecture, home economics and engineering. Colbert indicated Nebraska might also be helpful in providing training in these areas.

Training Already

Already Texas Western University in El Paso is training a group to be sent to Tanganyika to help in the engineering and building of secondary roads. A center at Notre Dame



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