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THE OBSERVER

Foreman Campus - Chicago Teachers College

MARCH, 1960

Foreman's Fun-Filled Fountains

Monday morning at the All-College Breakfast, Dean Guysenir warmly welcomed all new students to the Foreman branch of Chicago Teachers College. After orange juice, coffee cake, and the ubiquitous coffee, Dr. Guysenir proceeded to regale us with some of the sidelights in attending Foreman.

Sharing facilities with the high school does create inconveniences, but these are of minor importance. The building is kept spotlessly clean, the students are courteous, and there is a large, uncrowded parking area.

Yet, it seems that we have inherited in our wing of the building a pair of the craziest and most unpredictable water fountains. Though these spouting fountains are a hazard, they are valuable. "Anyone can tell how long a student has attended Foreman just by the wetness of his clothing!" Once hit, a student resolves never to get wet again. Avoiding the spray is probably one of the easiest lessons learned at Foreman -- it only takes one day! The ringing of the high school bells soon goes unnoticed, and fire drills provide exercise and an opportunity for leg-stretching.

The student breakfast has become a tradition at the Foreman Branch, which is celebrating its third birthday this February.

Dr. Guysenir also spoke of the new college to be erected at Bryn Mawr and St. Louis. The school had been scheduled for completion in 1959, but for reasons

Do You Support Syndicated Crime?

An analysis of the link between politics and syndicated crime was presented by Dr. Rollin B. Posey, lecturer in the Political Science Department at Northwestern University, in the student lounge, Friday, February 19, 1960.

Dr. Posey distinguished syndicated crime from ordinary criminal activities by explaining that the former has a distinct division of labor with each individual fulfilling his own assignment. All acts are premeditated.

In the history of organized crime we find preliminary endeavors in bootlegging during the Prohibition Era. Gangsters carved out specific territories of the city, and then supplied each area with illegal liquor. Protection agencies, with mandatory support by businessmen, also provided income.

With the repeal of Prohibition, interest turned towards gambling, prostitution, narcotics and labor union control. Crime soon infiltrated politics.

known only to God and the Board of Education, the date has been re-set again and again. Present plans call for the school to open its doors in February, 1961

In closing, Dr. Guysenir introduced the faculty by giving a brief resume of their qualifications and accomplishments.

A thoroughly enjoyable hour -- the student breakfast.

Illegal enterprises are not a thing of the past -- they still exist in alarming proportions today, announced Dr. Posey. The Teamsters' Union, headed by Jimmy Hoffa, provides an excellent example of union control. The current police department scandal has been the topic of conversation in Chicago for weeks. Statistics are shocking: out of 700 gang murders only 15 convictions occurred. Annually, \$20 billion, more than is spent on education, is gambled away by the American public.

It is the prerogative of the citizens to decide whether or not they will support syndicated crime. Every person who "pays off" a policeman or places an illegal bet with a bookie is, by extension, a member of a syndicated criminal organization. With premeditation he is carrying out his assignment -- the endorsement of criminal activities.

J. B.

J. B. has confused and sharply divided the critics. Is J. B. a great modern American play or is it merely a confused, hard-to-understand academic exercise? Does J. B. add a new dimension to American literature or is it merely a pompous attempt to confuse and mystify an audience? These extreme views are reflected in the various reviews which have been circulated by the nation's reviewers.

"J. B. is great poetry, great drama."

"Only MacLeish has found the correct American line."

"The whole play has an air of gratuitous theological discussion."

Perhaps those who attended Foreman's Theater Party on Friday, February 27th will be able to clarify the issue. At any rate, it will be difficult for many who respond to the haunting beauty of the Book of Job to forget the chorus-like repetition of the lines summarizing each successive tragedy: "I alone am escaped to tell thee."

THE OBSERVER STAFF

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Behind The Stacks

We sometimes hear stories of unsung heroes -- the people behind the people that make the news. We at Chicago Teachers College have Mr. William T. Brace, the school librarian. Under Mr. Brace's competent management, the library has grown in stature, becoming a dependable source of information. Mr. Brace's spirit of cooperation is well known to those of us who do not hesitate to call upon him in our times of "dire need."

The Observer would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mr. Brace on his efficient and professional handling of our research problems.

The Aquarists' Club Announces ...

that its first meeting will be held on March 8, 1960 at one o'clock. The club was established last semester by Dr. Betz and his "followers." Its membership at that time was ten, but graduation and practice teaching have taken their toll and it now consists of four "fishy" enthusiasts. Bruce Mikkelsen, the president and first charter member, is very eager to recruit new aquarists. Anyone interested in the club and its activities should notify Bruce (locker 3124) as soon as possible.

The day and time of future meetings are flexible and will be changed to a more convenient period if necessary and if requested by future members.

Son: What is "college bred," pop?
Dad: It's made from the flour of youth and the dough of old age.

The Open Forum

"Have you any critical comment regarding the Foreman Branch?", we asked a group of students. Immediately a chorus of answers rang out. The question was limited to opinions and complaints about teacher and/or school policy. In condensed form, the list follows:

1. Teachers should have a better attitude toward students, not discouraging but encouraging. The cut-throat system is too much in effect.
2. The methods courses are too abstract and theoretical. More practical experiences and concrete material should be presented.
3. Teachers should not stereotype individuals, but grade on work for that class only. They should be more objective.
4. Tests should measure the students' abilities, not be attempts at seeing how many will fail.
5. One hour courses should have an amount of work equivalent to the credit given. There is too much work required outside of class in these courses.
6. "Curves" are not valid in the small classes; there is not a representative sample of abilities.
7. The Unit should be something definite. Each student has his own idea of what is wanted and no idea is the same.
8. Teachers should be prompt in starting and ending class.
9. Textbooks should be available at the Wright College Book Store.

All this can be summed up in one sentence: The Faculty should practice what it preaches.

In the next issue, The Observer will spotlight the reverse side of the coin: the Faculty will air their grievances regarding students. Faculty - gather your artillery! Students - choose your weapons!

Students' Horizons Widen

One of the new courses available this semester is Astronomy, taught by Dr. Betz. The students enrolled in this "heavenly" science will soon become orientated to the heavens, the immensity of space, and the insignificance of human beings as contrasted with the vast universe.

One would think that the current preoccupation with rockets and missiles has influenced the enrollment of this class. But when Dr. Betz was approached regarding this, he disclaimed any such connection. It is his opinion that students tend to dismiss headlines with a nod, and not to feel a need for technical explanations behind the new developments. Need of an elective in the Physical Science area, he said, explains the class enrollment.

Whatever their motive for taking this course, we may be sure of one thing -- all students who receive a passing grade will have mastered the basics of astronomy, and thus will have broadened their horizons.

Slips From Students' Pens

The barn was huge, painted red with white widows.

I believe that among major problems standing in the way of the CTA, one of the largest is the ignorance and sometimes downright rudeness of its patronizers -- people who believe the system is run for their soul benefit.

The author wrote this novel in a learned style. I had to use a dictionary to find the meanings of some of the words that the lowest peasants used.

I know, that when my English teacher, in my last semester of high school, passed me, that she was not going by any standders.

The concept of an attractive woman varies as the shifting of sand on a dessert.