

El Paso Mustang

CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE *

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SAN LUIS OBISPO

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Life is a chuckle in 1913 — 'Years Ago'

"Years Ago" will be presented by the Speech Department in the Little Theater August 1 and 2. The play was written by Ruth Gordon who won the 1968 academy award for 'Best Supporting Actress' in her portrayal of the witch in "Rosemary's Baby."

Set in a Boston suburb in 1913, the play is about Ruth Gordon's own struggles to leave her home at the age of sixteen to become an actress.

To do this, she must overcome her financial difficulties—her life savings amount to \$2.40—and, even worse, the opposition of her father, a retired seaman, who wants her to become a P.E. teacher. Caught in the middle is Ruth's mother, who is constantly trying to maintain peace in the family.

Life in 1913 proves to be pretty comical as viewed through Ruth Gordon's reminiscences. Customs, fads, values and language are all

humorously archaic—"It's the still sow sucks the most swill."

Robert Knowles plays Ruth's father, a foreman at a Boston food company. Knowles should be remembered for his many leading roles in campus productions, including "Thurber Carnival," "Herzay," "Dracula," and "Incident at Vichy." He has also directed several plays here.

Diana Thornton portrays Ruth Gordon Jones, the central figure,

and Sandy Story is Ruth's mother. Both are making their acting debut at Cal Poly.

Susan Liles and Diana Daughters portray Ruth's two best friends, who admire and encourage Ruth's aspiration to become an actress. Ed Kotula plays Fred, the rejected boyfriend. Mrs. Daughters is veteran of several college and little theater productions, and Kotula's past performances include "Recess Service," "The Petrified Forest," and "The

Incident at Vichy."

Two more newcomers, Susanne Hendel and Gerald Lee, portray Miss Glavin and Mr. Bagley, two odd characters Ruth's father brings home to size her up for a career as a P.E. teacher. Michael Robbins plays Mr. Sparrow, a local townsman.

The play is staged and directed by Murray Smith of the Speech Department.

Certain time is 8:30 p.m., and admission is \$1.00.



Sandy Story (mother) converses Diana Thornton (daughter) in "Years Ago." Pt. and Sat. nights.



Father yanks a magazine from daughter and mother reads; Robert Knowles, Diana Thornton, Sandy Story, in "Years Ago."

—photos by George Langley

Jobs are abundant

The Placement Office has had a busy and successful year in promoting on-campus recruiting of Cal Poly graduates. Recruiting reached an all-time high during 1968-69, with 411 employers completing over 7,000 student contracts.

Dean of Students Everett Chandler explained that 59 additional employers would have visited the campus, had student interest in the types of employment they offered been sufficient. Chandler also said that even more jobs were available, if more students were willing to work in other parts of the country.

A national survey of college placement offices showed that, in spite of widespread campus disorders, on-campus recruiting

at the bachelor's degree level increased 11 percent over last year.

Besides arranging for recruiting of graduating students, the Placement Office has several other important functions. It provides contacts with employers in non-demand areas, and job market information for those students not heavily recruited by employers, such as military and Peace Corps returnees, many women, drop-outs, and students below the 25th percentile.

The Placement Office also provides part-time employment for students. In the last year more than 1,800 requests for student labor have been answered. Jobs filled have ranged from gardener to smoke jumper, from baby-sitter to model on a parade float.

History breaks away—forms new department

by Gary Wilshire
Staff Writer

Summer Quarter marked the beginning of a new academic department here. The History Department, combined with the Social Science Department for many years, began operations with Dr. M. Eugene Smith as department head.

Dr. Smith, who has headed the Social Science Department for the past four years, will continue in that position on an acting basis pending appointment of a permanent department head, expected early next year.

Under the new alignment, the Social Science Department will continue to offer a Bachelor of Science Degree in social sciences with curricula concentration in

social service, government service, and social science.

Thirteen members of the department's former faculty will be joined by three newly appointed members to compose the social science faculty.

The newly formed History Department began offering a Bachelor of Arts Degree in history at the start of Summer Quarter. In addition to Dr. Smith, 12 former members of the social science faculty and three newly appointed members make up the new history faculty.

Dr. Smith, a faculty member since 1946, is a graduate of both the University of California at Berkeley and the University of Oregon. He received his doctorate from the latter in 1958.

Rickety-tick

The atmosphere is tense. Students sit straight up, rigid, with their eyes on a book and their anxious fingers above the dark keys. Suddenly a voice looms out, "Ready, set, go!" As the timer hands sweep the five minutes away, the rickety-tick of the typewriter is heard.

These people are attempting to pass the required typing test. Students majoring in business, English, history, journalism, printing, social science and speech are required by the college to pass this test in order to graduate.

The tests are given three times a quarter. "If they wait until the last quarter and flunk it, it's their own fault," said Mrs. Stromma.

A demonic disquietude



College expansion in the form of building construction is pathologically accompanied by the un-Princely phenomenon of street repair (or, they seem to be forever tearing things up).

It's a dust bowl holocaust. You resent taking the pock-marked route through campus. You're not sure huge earth-chewing machines see you coming by.

When you park the car, you know well how its finish will later be coated with brown summer dust.

They don't seem to care about time, ears, or your special pace-saving path to class.

You can't run from the hostility of air hammers.

But Cocoa Beach, Florida grumbled through years of STOP signs buried in fresh-dirt embankments. And Cocoa Beach raised three Counts to Dukes in an astronomical expedition to the Kingdom of the Moon (or, this demonic, disquieting mess is necessary to growth).

JPR

Two courses specialize in minority instruction

The second summer session began two weeks ago with two courses focusing on the problems of teaching minority group children. Titled "Teaching the Culturally Deprived Child" and "Teaching the Mexican-American Child," they are taught by Mr. Frank Robles, a visiting lecturer from Los Angeles with broad experience in working with minority group children.

Also featured during the summer session is a special bi-lingual program for educators which consists of 12 courses designed to

assist those working in Spanish-English education, and a week-long workshop for teachers of migrant worker's children.

The special courses are among more than 30 in the fields of art, English, home economics, physical education and psychology offered during the four-week second session.

Robles, a native of Mexico, is presently an elementary school administrator for the Los Angeles City School System and works in an area that is 95 per cent Mexican-American.

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Football for sale

Season tickets for all seven 1969 home football games are now on sale in the TCU. The advance seats are located in "J" section of Mustang Stadium.

The tickets may be purchased at reduced rates by persons holding associate memberships in ASI. A map of section "J" may be seen in the ASI Office. Roy Gersten (ASI Business Manager) recommends that those wishing to assure themselves of good seats for Mustang home contests this fall contact the ASI Office as soon as possible.

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Concert review

A hearty bravo for the harpsichord

by Vernon Tritchka, Staff Writer

Structured tranquility best describes the feeling evoked by Ronald V. Ratcliffe at the keys of the harpsichord. The imaginative phrases of Mozart's Concerto for Klavier, K. 107, are delicately drawn out and shaped with a precision and beauty that only the harpsichord can render. After experiencing a harpsichord solo I invariably come away asking myself, why is this instrument not played more often in recital? Surely it would be if only more people knew of its delicacy of tone and variety of sound.

The harpsichord we have on

campus is as old as Mozart in fidelity to sound but as modern as today in its nylon plucks; they did use quills or leather, a variety of sounds, and pulls can bring forth instrument sounds like harp and mandolin.

A hearty Bravo! for the harpsichord and Mr. Ratcliffe, we are fortunate to have them in our community.

Mastery of strings was the guiding light throughout the evening's chamber music.

Of the four pieces offered, Concertmaster and architecture student Michael Poleinski excelled in the Musikalischer Spass, K.522,

by Mozart.

Guided in this commedia dell'arte by Mozart (poking fun at inept composers and musicians) Poleinski demonstrated the skill necessary in following a blind alley on the violin.

The concert opened with Hymn and Fuging Tune No. 2 for Strings, by California-born Henry Cowell. It is only six minutes long but this was enough for Clifton Swanson, Conductor, to set the somber mood that would next be pleasantly broken by Mozart's musical joke.

We then went to the harpsichord solo by Mozart. It was very difficult not to be gently pulled

from the technology of the 20th century into the world of music and grace.

The concert closed with the energetic Cassatio in D for Four Horns and Strings by Haydn. The "modern French horns" that embellished this piece seemed even a bit innovative for today, following so closely on the stringed instrument pieces.

I can't let this review pass without mentioning the one gum popping, foot tapping boy of all the 350 that attended the concert. I thought it was only in the halls of Ireland one found this, but, alas, here too. The concert, however, soared above even this distraction.

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The 'programmed' are 'disillusioned'

by Gerald Lee, Staff Writer

Mrs. Gloria Smith of the Counseling Center addressed a small but interested crowd in the Architecture Patio last Tuesday as part of the summer Noon Speaker series.

Her talk, entitled "Education and the Minority," dealt not just with racial minorities, but with the smallest and most neglected minority, the individual student.

Mrs. Smith pointed out that most children enter into their education willing and eager. They are immediately placed into groups, and scheduled and programmed as groups all through their school life. By the time they are finished, most are disinterested, disillusioned, or even bitter. Many feel education has been totally irrelevant to themselves

as individuals. But students are not permitted to interfere with the educational system, she said, despite their feelings.

Mrs. Smith compared our current system of education to the Procrustean bed—referring to the myth of Procrustes, who made his guests sleep in his bed, and either stretched them or cut them down to make them fit the bed. "We in education must create an environment in which the child is free to learn," she stated.

She talked about Parkway in Philadelphia, an example of new educational techniques. This school, composed of 150 students, half black and half white, and several teachers, has no classrooms or buildings. Students and teachers travel through the city to various places of learning—public offices, businesses, mus-

iums, or anywhere the students may learn.

Using this system, the students have much more freedom to choose what they will study, and can still receive a high school education which meets the state requirements.

Our current system of grading is something which must be done away with, Mrs. Smith said. To support this, she cited an experiment carried out in Russian elementary schools. Russian educators concluded that students learn better without grades. She also explained that competing for grades makes students try to feed back to the teachers exactly what they think he wants, rather than actually learning and thinking for themselves.

But there is much opposition to advances in education, Mrs. Smith explained. Much of the opposition comes from parents who think their children should get exactly the same schooling they received years before. Also there are many teachers who resist innovations in education.

Mrs. Smith presented a strong and convincing case for change in our educational system. As a start, she suggested that an experimental school—such as Parkway—be set up in every city.

In addition, our current system of grading, which is a "carrot on a stick" for some students, and a "whip" for others, must be eliminated. Mrs. Smith believes the inadequacy of our current educational system is a major cause for student unrest and that reform of the system is the best way to solve this problem.

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Hoosiers hire Shaw

Wayne Shaw, sports information director on this campus for the past three years, has accepted the assistant sports information post at Indiana University. He will assume his new duties August 11.

Shaw has been on temporary assignment since March in the Journalism Department and with the college's information service. Doug Gibson returned from military service at the beginning of Spring Quarter to resume duties as sports information director.

Shaw, 41, is a 1951 graduate of the University of Iowa. Prior to coming to this campus he worked as a sports editor, sports writer, news editor and commercial reporter at Sibley, Ottumwa, Boone and Sioux City in Iowa, and at Twin Falls, Idaho. While on the staff at South Dakota State, he published a football brochure that was voted tops in the nation by the Football Writers of America.

During his tenure here, he was instrumental in obtaining the bid to host the 1969 NCAA College Division national wrestling championships. The tournament was the highlight of the sports year at the college. The event was witnessed by near capacity crowds both nights as the Mustangs won their third title in the past four years.

The new Indiana employee plans to move in early August. He and his wife, Margie, have two daughters, Chris and Lori, 18 and 10 respectively.

Boosters bid for support

In an effort to gain revenue that will provide grants-in-aid to Mustang athletes, the Mustang Boosters have mailed membership applications to 1,000 San Luis Obispo area residents; with particular emphasis placed on the business community.

According to Ken Rodman, membership committee chairman, there are four types of memberships available: associate, regular, golden, and grants.

Associate membership cost \$15. This provides a car decal which grants special parking privileges, and admits the member to all sporting events except football, special events, and tournaments.

Regular memberships are \$35 and include two tickets to the annual fall barbeque and the same privileges are granted to the member as the associate member.

Golden Mustang membership fees are \$100 or more. These are presented a wall plaque, family tickets for the fall barbeque, preferred parking and admission to nearly all sporting events. Grants are contributions of \$300 to \$500. This provides a complete grant-in-aid for one athlete, and the member enjoys all the privileges mentioned above.



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