

Knightletter

"ALL THE NEWS

AVAILABLE"

VOL 4 NO 27 Pacific Lutheran University April 6, 1967

DEADLY DISEASES Two sicknesses facing man today, and the means of escaping from them, were described Sunday by Dr. Jaroslav Pelikan in a speech at PLU.

Dr. Pelikan, a history professor at Yale University, was the main speaker at the dedication of the Robert A. L. Mortvedt Library.

"Of all the diseases that beset us in the United States, none is more deadly than 'cultural myopia,' the inability to look beyond the three-mile limit of our own coastline," he said. And, he added, "historical amnesia" is no less endemic to the American spirit.

Pelikan said that when people came to America from Europe they contributed little to their new culture. He said they were homogenized by social pressures and the mass media, and thus they developed an indifference to those foreign cultures with which they had had an historic connection.

Although granting that foreign languages are being taught at colleges, Pelikan said, "If American myopia is cured at all on the campuses, it is usually cured in only one eye, that which looks across the Atlantic."

If this trend is to be reversed, universities will have to develop bold and imaginative schemes, he added.

"Here in the Northwest, where you face Asia rather than Europe, you have special reason to break with the conventional pattern."

Because no academic administration can be expected to finance a thorough coverage of all the different lands, peoples, and cultures across the seas, only the library can cure cultural myopia, he said.

* STUDENT A nominating *

* convention for *

* ELECTIONS student body *

* offices at *

* Pacific Lutheran University is con- *

* sidered by its planners to be nothing *

* short of a scaled-down version of *

* the Cow Palace hullabaloo. *

* There is plenty of paper and *

* lots of noise. And in the true con- *

* vention spirit, most of the actual *

* "politicking" is done in caucus rooms. *

* This weekend the Associated *

* Students sponsored convention enters *

* its third year of operation. The *

* PLU Memorial Gymnasium will again be *

* the scene of the activity. *

* Guests are welcomed to the event, *

* although they will not be permitted *

* on the main convention floor without *

* credentials. However, plenty of *

* seating is available in the upper *

* stands. *

* Although the number of repre- *

* sentatives from each living unit is *

* limited, the PLU television station *

* will be running live coverage from *

* the floor to the remaining students *

* in the residence halls. *

* James M. Dolliver, administrative *

* assistant to Governor Daniel J. Evans, *

* will be the guest speaker at the *

* convention Friday night. Michael *

* Cullom, a 1966 graduate of PLU and *

* former student body president, will *

* act as chairman. *

* The election will take place *

* Saturday afternoon. *

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THE ROUND TABLE

Mrs. R. Eline Morken (nursing) will spend the day with the faculty of the department of nursing at Seattle Pacific College on Friday, April 7. She will act as a consultant in relation to national professional accreditation. The PLU school of nursing became professionally accredited in 1965...Dr. Daniel Leasure (v.p. - student affairs) will be attending the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators meeting in Cincinnati on April 10-12. ...Dr. Robert Olsen (chemistry) was a recent recipient of the Golden Acorn Award from the Franklin Pierce P.T.A. This award is recommended by the National Congress of Parents and Teachers for outstanding service to youth....M. J. Kitzman (art) has a one man show at the Tacoma Art Museum until April 30. It opened Tuesday evening, April 4. Kitzman was a juror for the Daffodil Festival Statewide Miniature Painting Exhibit sponsored by Allied Arts on April 2 and has also been invited to exhibit in the Artists of the State of Washington Exhibition at West Vancouver Academy of Fine Art, West Vancouver, B.C. beginning April 9....Trudy Schmackenber, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. W.C. Schmackenber (history) and a preparatory student of Blossom Cohon (music) was one of the student winners of the Washington State Music Teachers' Auditions held last weekend in Tacoma. She will perform the Bach Invention in F major in recital this Friday (April 7) at 8 p.m. at the Weyerhaeuser Hall at the Y.M.C.A....Karl Olsen, principal of Grant Elementary School, was recently named the Administrator of the Year for the Tacoma District. Paul Wangsmo, sixth grade teacher at Grant, was named Teacher of the Year by the Tacoma Association of Classroom Teachers. This is the first time two men from the same school have been named to such honors. Both are PLU graduates.

* NOON The piano playing*
* of Forestine *
* MUSIC Mosen will be *
* featured this *
* week at Friday Noon Music. The recital *
* is at 12:30 p.m. in Eastvold Chapel. *
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* Mrs. Mosen is a senior majoring *
* in education. She will play "Little *
* Suite" by Roy Harris and Beethoven's *
* "Sonata," Op. 26, No. 12. *
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NATO

TALK

The removal of NATO forces from French soil and its possible im-

plications were outlined Thursday by Richard J. Wallace in a convocation at Pacific Lutheran University.

Wallace, director general of the Atlantic Council, is the chief administrator for the organization that represents the United States in the Atlantic Treaty Association and the Atlantic Institute.

He told the students that French President Charles De Gaulle's main complaint against NATO was the integrated military command. But Wallace said what de Gaulle has done is highly illogical.

"If anything at all was learned from World Wars I and II, it is that no potential enemy would guess wrong as to what the reaction to hostile moves would be," said Wallace.

He said there is an attitude that the Soviet Union threat is not the same today as it has been in years past. But he added, "It is logical to assume that this lack of a threat is partly true only because of the obvious will, unity and strength of the Atlantic Community. Anything which destroys that strength will not only mitigate against a further thaw, but tends to bring a renewal of the threat."

He said, however, that even without France, NATO is functioning. The 14 member nations, all except France, now meet and decide on the military agenda.

"This does not mean, however, that the solutions are ideal. We look forward to the full return of France to NATO as a participating member."

And he added, "We hope that the 14 nations will be able to make solid improvements in NATO during France's absence so that it will be an organization to which France will be anxious to return."

"I cannot understand how a library at a self-respecting college can neglect its duty by not acquiring enough literature about the Vedas (most ancient sacred literature of the Hindus) to arouse and satisfy the curiosity of any serious student."

He said to be educated today, a student should know enough about at least one other culture to be able to look with critical objectivity at his own.

"The library is a true hospital for the soul because it and it alone can effect such a cure," he added.

Yet "cultural myopia" is not the only disease facint the country today, he said.

As the vision of the American student takes in the cultures of Asia and Africa, he is in danger of forgetting the cultures of Greece, Rome, and several in between.

"It is almost as though there were a fixed quantity of alien thought and expression which one can absorb, so that when he learns more about the present he must forget a corresponding amount about the past," he noted.

The Yale history teacher was critical of the absorption of history into "social studies" in elementary and secondary schools because it "has produced an ignorance of the past in some of the best and brightest of our collegians." He said today's youth have lost touch with any tradition more that one generation old.

Pelikan stated, "The men most responsible in their dealings with the present and most realistic in their expectations for the future are those whose understanding has been deepened by a lifelong conversation with the past." And he added, no one has found a better means of cultivating a sense of history than the library.

"The university library can do for the community of study what the university chapel does for the community of faith. And thus it can truly be 'a hospital for the soul,'" he concluded.

Following Pelikan's speech, Dr. Mortvedt was presented with a key to the library and a plaque, containing a message released by the board of regents upon naming the library, was unveiled.

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* MUSIC Mrs. Blossom *
* Winkler Cohon, *
* RECITAL a member of Pa- *
* cific Lutheran *
* University's music faculty, will be *
* featured soloist next Thursday evening *
* at a recital in Eastvold Chapel. *
* * * * *

* Her program, including Prokofiev's *
* 3rd Piano Sonata and the seldom heard *
* Brahms-Handel Variations, will start *
* at 8:15 p.m., complimentary to the *
* public. *
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* Mrs. Cohon came to PLU two years *
* ago, and presently teaches piano. As *
* a student she appeared with orchestras *
* from Brooklyn College and Columbia *
* Teacher's College. *
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* During the past year she has per- *
* formed with the Arts for Youth Council, *
* the President's Council, and the Wash- *
* ington State Music Teachers' Associa- *
* tion. In addition, she has been a *
* soloist with the Bremerton Symphony *
* Orchestra. *
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GOVIG RECEIVES Dr. Stewart D. Govig, associate professor of religion at PLU, has been accepted for participation in New York University's Land of the Bible Professional Workshop.

He will study in Israel under a full scholarship from July 4 through August 11.

The course, designed for American professors who teach Hebrew, archaeology and Biblical studies, gives the participants firsthand knowledge of ancient Israel.

Workshop members will learn from organized field trips and archaeological excavations.

Dr. Govig graduated from St. Olaf College and Luther Theological Seminary. He recieved his master's degree from Princeton Theological Seminary, and his Ph.D. from New York University. He has taught at PLU for eight years.

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LANDSCAPE

The works of Janis Gailis, a noted Latvian landscape artist, will be exhibited this month in the Robert Mortvedt Library on the Pacific Lutheran University campus.

Gailis' paintings were first shown in the Northwest Sunday when they were previewed by the Puget Sound Latvian community. They will hang in the library at PLU through April 30.

The artist came to the United States in 1950. He has been working in New York where he has had several one-man shows.

Gailis belongs to a generation that progressed within the artistic traditions and tendencies of independent Latvia. There he learned how to study nature, and to translate the visible phenomena into paintings.

His background has influenced his attitude toward the tendencies of modern art. His handling of texture and media and the introduction of non-representational elements in his landscapes are evidence of his freedom of expression.

His art carries a heritage of some ancient national traditions of symbolical realism, and on the other hand, it expresses certain existential roots and qualities.

An everchanging sea and metamorphosis of vapor, clouds and water are the main substance of his paintings, with the waves and water symbols of existence.

"It is important that a university bring a wide variety of artistic approaches and perceptions to its community and students," commented M. J. Kitzman, chairman of PLU's art department. "Gailis represents the art of a painter who combines both the traditional and the more modern approaches to express his own forceful independence."

Dr. Gundar King, chairman of the business administration department at PLU, is the artist's representative in the Puget Sound area.

SOUTH PACIFIC

Rodgers and Hammerstein's prize-winning musical, "South Pacific," will be staged this month by the music and speech departments at Pacific Lutheran University.

The musical will be presented in Eastvold Chapel at 8:15 p.m. April 26, 28, and 29, and 2:30 p.m. on April 27. All seats for the production will be reserved. Students can obtain their tickets by presenting their Artist Series card and 25 cents at the box office. Each student must personally claim his own ticket. Requests for ticket exchanges will be denied.

Tickets will be sold to the public at \$1.50 for adults and \$1.00 for students. The tickets may be obtained at the PLU box office, at Lakewood Record and Book Shop, and at the Ted Brown Music Company.

The spring musical is based on James A. Michener's Pulitzer Prize winning book, "Tales of the South Pacific." The play made its debut on Broadway in 1949, and received praise from critics all over New York.

Songs from the play have become permanent fixtures in American music. Two of the more popular selections are "Younger than Springtime," and "Bali Ha'i."

For further information inquire at the box office or call ext. 362.

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 * BIRTHDAYS *
 * * * * *
 * Lillian Mohr April 7 *
 * Josephine Hutchison April 8 *
 * Muriel Garner April 9 *
 * Gunnar Malmiv April 9 *
 * Grace Blomquist April 10 *
 * Richard Alseth April 12 *
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 * (Dr. Eklund's birthday was incorrectly *
 * ly stated as April 1 in the last issue *
 * of the Knightletter.) *
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