

THE QUEENS BLUES

Published by the Students of Queens College Charlotte, N. C.

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UNDERSTANDING AMONG PEOPLES

(The following comprises the first of a series of editorials that will be carried by the BLUES on the problem of Peace. It is desirable that each Queens student reach the greatest possible understanding of problems related to our present-day chaotic world. It is hoped that these articles will carry with them some small measure of understanding that may be useful in guiding our thinking; thinking that may eventually be directed toward the achievement of a permanently peaceful world. "There was never a time, even in the midst of war, when it was so necessary to replace prejudice with truth, distortion with balance, and suspicion with understanding."—James F. Byrnes, Secretary of State. —THE EDITORS).

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Peace Is Made in the Minds of Men

War thrives on misunderstanding and suspicion; peace depends on substituting understanding and trust among peoples.

The world is making a political framework for peace through the United Nations General Assembly and Security Council. It is building an economic framework through several specialized organizations, such as the Food and Agriculture Organization, to be coordinated by the Economic and Social Council. These require a third framework for their logical completion—world cultural cooperation. Unless we bring men's minds together they cannot cooperate either politically or economically with lasting success.

Cultural cooperation involves not only art, science, and scholarship, but the whole substance of peoples' ways of feeling, thinking, living. It includes paintings and comics, novels and newspapers, grand opera and soap opera.

Getting the Peoples on Better Speaking Terms

Being on speaking terms is the usual distinction between civility and hostility. When nations go to war they stop speaking to each other.

The age of popular sovereignty has given peoples great influence on foreign affairs and has enabled them to speak directly to each other, thanks to the speed and volume of communication by travel, radio, press, and film.

Thus the present need to bring men's minds together is matched by opportunity. If the new powers of communication are rightly used, peoples around the globe may one day be on as familiar terms as Maine and California, and the United Nations as indissoluble as the United States.

What the United Nations Is Doing

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization is to be the world agency most directly concerned with advancing understanding among peoples. It is the culmination of years of experience, notably on the part of the League of Nations, the International Organization for Intellectual Cooperation, and the Conference of Allied Ministers of Education. Its constitution, drafted in November 1945, was designed to go into a Preparatory Commission and a Secretariat were made responsible for drawing up a program to be submitted to the permanent organization at its first meeting.

The purpose of UNESCO is best stated in the preamble of the constitution: "since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed." More specifically UNESCO is to promote mutual understanding and education for world citizenship based on respect for law and human rights.

The functions of UNESCO in fulfilling its purpose will be the following:

1. It will recommend international agreements to permit ideas to move more freely across national boundaries and will encourage the use of all the media of mass communi-

cation, such as press, radio, and film, to further mutual understanding among peoples.

2. It will give fresh impulse to popular education, suggesting methods best suited to educate men for freedom, advocating equality of educational opportunity, and assisting member states to develop their educational activities.

3. It will maintain, increase, and diffuse knowledge by conserving books and other forms of cultural inheritance, by encouraging intellectual cooperation such as the exchange of students and experts, and by helping to make the publications of each country accessible to all.

The scope of UNESCO in carrying out its functions is broadly conceived. Suggestions are invited from all over the world, and as they come in they are being classified by the Secretariat of the Preparatory Commission. Something of the scope at present contemplated is shown by the list of substantive sections in the Secretariat: Letters and Philosophy, Fine and Applied Arts, Social Sciences, Mass Media, Education, Libraries and Museums.

Cooperation rather than operation is to be UNESCO's method. Its objective is to keep in touch with and make use of all other agencies, national and international, public and private, that bear on its problems. It seeks no power to legislate or regulate. Its purpose rather is to persuade. It will stimulate, advise, recommend, investigate, report. It will act as a central clearinghouse of personal contacts, exchanges, and information. It will make the expert facilities of its Secretariat available where needed. It will organize international conferences. It may prompt the formation of new organizations such as an international association of universities.

Like the specialized organizations which will deal with trade, labor, food and agriculture, and health, UNESCO will be brought into relation with the United Nations through the Economic and Social Council. Member states are free to choose their own way of associating their leading organizations with the work of UNESCO, but the UNESCO constitution indicates a preference for a national commission representing such organizations and the Government.

All United Nations activities will contribute to international understanding through the experience of collaboration. The Charter of the United Nations assigns responsibility for fostering cultural cooperation to the General Assembly, to the Economic and Social Council which reports to the Assembly, and, by implication, to one or more specialized agencies to be related to the UN by the Economic and Social Council. UNESCO is a specialized agency to be so related.

A Commission on Human Rights is also to be set up under the Economic and Social Council in accordance with article 68 of the Charter. Among the rights already proposed for its attention are freedom of speech and information. In furthering these the Commission will increase the opportunities for communication between peoples.

THE MAJOR SYSTEM

For the most part boarding students are slightly confused, it seems, when the issue of the present major system arises. The boarding student council always has been and continues to be an organization devoted to the best interests of the students and we realize that their decision and actions are generally in our behalf. We feel that the students and the council would be greatly benefitted and a greater degree of understanding achieved therefore, if the major system could be explained again to the boarding students at some future meeting. It has been explained at past boarding student body meetings but apparently some of us are still bewildered as to the exact setup of the revised system.

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NEED FOR PHONE BOOTHS SEEN

As far as the boarding students are concerned, there is one thing that Queens needs almost more than any other single improvement: phone booths in the dormitories. Or phone booths anywhere, as far as that's concerned. The students seem to be clamoring for a place in which they can conduct telephone conversations in private. It's disconcerting to try to participate in a telephone conversation, strictly business or otherwise, with deafening noise and listening ears surrounding you. Even the slight noise made by someone going up the stairs is distracting and oftentimes makes hearing an impossibility.

Many a long distance phone call proves unsatisfactory due to noise and lack of privacy. Phone booths, we believe, would alleviate these conditions. In all probability the students would be more than glad to donate, if necessary, their time, energy, and money to the procuring of phone booths for the dormitories.

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Platter Corner

By ROSSIE MEADOWS

Leading off this week's record column is a smooth record for dancing waxed by that "band of bands," Glenn Miller's Orchestra—fronted by Tex Beneke. "Passe" is the record and be sure to hear it.

A rising band leader is Elliot Lawrence, who has given us a recording of two new tunes—"5:00 Shadow" and "You Broke the Only Heart That Ever Loved You." I haven't heard this recording, but LOOK Magazine gives a good account of both tunes, particularly, "5:00 Shadow," which features solos by Lawrence and Andy Pino, tenor man.

Still in the category of mellow records is a good one by Harry James—that is, if you like James—the tune is a popular one "And Then It's Heaven." There's a good horn solo at the opening by the maestro himself. There's also one at the end—but, Buddy DeVito slips in a mighty fine vocal, and Willie Smith has a chance to show some good alto sax. James and company have also cut for the masses "This Is Always." Pretty good, considering.

Now's the time to get down to the inevitable—on this column—the inevitable jazz! The International Jazz men return with Kay Starr, who did some excellent vocalizing on "If I Could Be With You," to give us some good listening to "Stormy Weather; You Can Depend On Me." "Stormy Weather" is the telling side for Miss Starr, and the flipover is an instrumental featuring (to name a few), Benny Carter, alto, Coleman Hawkins, tenor, Nat Cole, piano, and Oscar Moore, guitar.

For all collectors of jazz, of Wingy Manone's "Isle of Capri," Four Star records have reissued many copies; so you'll be able to get one—BUT—Here's a warning—strictly for Manone's fans is this record.

A somewhat new organization fronted by Billy Butterfield, trumpet, has recorded a tune for B. Butterfield—It's "Billy the Kid," and said leader does a fine job on horn solo—so I'm told—

Pete Johnson and his All Stars have recorded a fine jump platter—"Atomic Boogie; Back Room Blues."

Still another jazz man is Eddie Condon, who has recently waxed his "Improvisation for the March of Time"—On the reverse is "the finest recording of 'She's Funny That Way' "—Quoting J. T.!

Back to the mellow before I hit some more hot jazz—

If you like the Ink Spots—and I don't, frankly—you'll probably like their recording of "Prisoner of Love; I Cover the Waterfront." At least they choose nice tunes! !!!

Backed by Paul Weston, Jo Stafford displays her vocal styles on "This Is Always"—and on the flipover you'll hear an entirely different Stafford—this time on a jazz kick with Nat (King) Cole. This also gives me the opportunity to give a little information on said Cole. The trio has cut the best arrangement of "But I Call It Love"—The reverse is "Oh! But I Do" which gives a tempo change, and a chance for Oscar Moore and Johnny Miller to back up King, who sells the "Love" side.

For the many fans of Johnny Mercer, He and the Pied Pipers plus Paul Weston's orchestra have combined to give you their latest album with such hits as "Embraceable You," "Memphis Blues," and "Makin' My Business."

The temperamental Mr. Shaw has again decided to wave the baton and has put out a new platter in fine Shaw style,—"The Glider; Love of My Life." Shaw's clarinet is in the limelight and in good fashion.

LONG HAIR DEPT.

"Tchaikovsky Symphony No. 5 in E Minor, Op. 64" has been recorded by the Boston Symphony conducted by Serge Koussevitzky. It is an album of six 12" on the Victor Red Seals.

For you lovers of Brahms the Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra of New York under the conducting

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