

IN FRENCH TEACHING TODAY:

Auntie's Pen Plays Natural Role

BY GEORGE HALL

There was a time when young American students knew at least three facts about France. 1) Napoleon kept his hand inside his coat; 2) Paris was the home of the Eiffel Tower; and 3) Lafayette fought on our side in The Revolutionary War.

Students of the French language knew yet a fourth: all French aunts had pens.

Or so it could be deduced from the lessons in which Jean, Marie, and company were forever chatting about "la plume de ma tante."

Galic "Plume"

Indeed, that famous "plume" was easily the most ubiquitous of all things Gallic.

It lay on and under tables, changed colors and proportions, and even (in the third of the

maddening lessons about the subjunctive) attracted a hummingbird, because it was so "belle et rouge" in the sunlight of the summer garden.

But nowadays, auntie and her pesky pen have been relegated to lesser and more natural roles in the French scene.

Emphasis Today

Today, the emphasis in French teaching is on a more widely practical vocabulary level, one that includes not only pens, female relations, and hummingbirds but useful expressions about pencils, houses, cars, even the kitchen stove.

And the students? They are loving (and learning) every conversational minute of it, especially when the teacher is WUNC-TV's French instructor Marian Walter.

In-School Series

Mrs. Walter's "Rendez-vous en francais" in-school series on Channel 4 (Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 11:00 a.m.) is currently reaching nearly 20,000 students, most of them in the Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Grades of the North Carolina Public School System.

Mrs. Walter, a specialist in teaching "foreign" languages to children, began the French course on WUNC-TV three years ago at the suggestion of Sterling A. Stoumdemire, head of the Department of Romance Languages. At first, it was only an experiment, with only a few school classes tuned in to participate.

Speaks In French

Mrs. Walter spoke only in French, using and re-using simple words and phrases that would interest children of elementary school age. Slowly but surely, her painstaking but

seemingly light-hearted repetition paid off.

The French began to "take." Her pupils actually began to use their new language in the classroom, at the cafeteria, on the playground, even at home (doubtlessly, to parents who would only nod in amazed delight).

The experiment was working. The audience could be expanded.

Works Under Grant

The Educational station, working with the University's Department of Education under a grant from the Ford Foundation, helped Mrs. Walter, who speaks French like a native, start the courses in hundreds of schools in the state.

This year there are both beginning and second year classes. While the individual classroom teachers have a "textbook" (and private TV lessons themselves from Mrs. Walter on Monday and Wednesday afternoons), the young Francophiles use only little illustrated booklets.

The pictures in the books are tied-in to the spoken vocabulary activities of the TV program.

Not once is the child expected to concern himself about gender, tense, or mood.

These grammatical concepts are left to the more academic high school courses.

Mrs. Walter Explains

Mrs. Walter explains that a child who has unconsciously learned the system and pronunciation of French through this conversational technique has a wonderful head-start in a formal French course, because all of his efforts can go into a concentrated study of grammar and syntax.

She predicts that high school French instructors will find students who have "graduated" from her TV course far more receptive and eager than those who start from scratch.

Gets Compliment

Perhaps, the nicest compliment Mrs. Walter has had in her new role as a TV teacher was recently paid her by an elementary class at a Danbury rural school. She had promised to pay the school a personal visit (a regular off-camera activity for her) on an afternoon. For one reason or another, she was delayed in reaching the school until nearly two hours after the final bell had rung. But the pupils had, to the last one, elected to wait.

They all wanted to talk to her in French, and that they did, in almost perfect Parisian accents.

"Rendez-vous en francais" is produced for WUNC-TV by John Hawes of the Chapel Hill Studio.

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UNC-Dook

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Carolina Lineup

Countering against the high-flying visitors will be a Carolina lineup that has been much the same during the year.

Center Rip Hawkins is even more a player of All-American stature than he was when the season began. Guards Frank Riggs and Fred Mueller, tackles John Stunda and Tony Hennessey, and ends John Schroeder and Mike Greenday are the best that Jim Hickey has to offer in the line.

Quarterback Farris

Detonating the offensive bombs for the Heels will be quarterback Ray Farris and his backfield partners Gib Carson, Moyer Smith, and fullback Bob Elliott.

The colorful pageant climaxes a week of hilarities and festivities for the student bodies of both schools. The bands of both teams will perform at halftime.

The Carolina Carboard has scheduled an original halftime performance after a two-game layoff.

On the basis of its season record, the Blue Devils have been established as 13-point favorites in today's game.

Don't Quote Me



MR. HOUSE, I would like you to meet my daughter, Evangeline. She is entering Carolina for the first time and I would like you to do everything possible for

BEGINNING THIS FALL:

Grads Graded In New System

Graduate students at UNC are now being graded under a new system which became effective at the beginning of this term.

In addition to the grades of P (passing) and F (failing) that were used under the old system, an H (high) and L (low, but passing) have been incorporated.

The change does not affect the temporary grades of S Inc. and Abs. already in use.

A student receiving three "L's" will be dropped from the school and not allowed to enroll for further study without petitioning successfully for readmission.

Reasons Noted

In a memorandum issued by Graduate School Dean Alexander Heard, several reasons for the revision were noted.

The notice said that under such a new system student incentives might be increased since the higher grade of H would be a goal to work for above the former P.

Many faculty members, it was felt, are reluctant to give a mar-

ginal student an F because of the severe consequences of the student's being dropped from school. The L grade may remedy this.

"We feel that Carolina graduate students may be at somewhat of a disadvantage under the old system when being interviewed for graduate fellowships," Assistant to the Dean of the Graduate School James R. Gaskin said Monday.

A Carolina applicant with a recorded average of P's might suffer when compared with a graduate of another school which used an ABC system, even though the Carolinian may actually have learned more, it was pointed out.

Gaskin Says

Gaskin noted that there are as many grading systems as there are among teachers in undergraduate schools. When the revision was first proposed and other schools studied, it was found that Northwestern had used nine grades of passing compared to Johns Hopkins where no grades or point credits whatever were employed.

"The need for differentiating among graduate students appears particularly urgent at a time when the number of students is increasing and the migration of students from one institution to another takes on considerable proportions," Heard's memorandum noted.

"We are called upon to evaluate graduate work at other institutions and other institutions are called upon to weigh the work taken by graduate students here."

PEANUTS



POGO



By Schulz



By Walt Kelly



IT WAS A GOOD TRY:

CU Council Sponsoring Europe Trip

The Consolidated University Student Council is sponsoring a tour of Europe next summer.

The group will leave New York on June 12 and return to New York on July 17. The itinerary includes Scotland, England, Belgium, France, Switzerland, Italy, Austria, Germany and Holland.

Round-trip cost of the tour is \$950. This includes transport, accommodation, meals, entrance fees and tips. It excludes passport costs, drinks not served with meals, theatre tickets and pocket money.

Transport By Air

Transport across the Atlantic will be by air and in Europe by chartered motor coach.

Tour arrangements are being handled by Mr. Edward G. Blakeway, ex-British exchange teacher who has been teaching in Raleigh for several years. This is the fourth year he has organized a group from North Carolina.

Janice Haley

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rounded by harem-costumed girls.

Pi Beta Phi won the award in the sorority division with "A Tale of Two Cities—The Dickens With Dook."

The Phi Delt continued their winning streak in fraternity float competitions with their version of the "Hickey Harvest."

This engineering device was designed to "reap" the Blue Devils.

Smith Wins

Smith Dorm, calling for a "Devil Barbecue," won the women's dorm division title, while Stacy took the men's crown.

The Stacy entry featured a Volkswagen covered with blue crepe paper and otherwise converted into a reasonable replica of the UNC ram.

Marching units from the local high schools and the campus ROTC units also figured in the festivities, which kicked off the annual pre-game series of hilarity.

Chee's No Carolina Graduate

BY ED RINER

Chee is not an UNC graduate. In fact, she has been to Carolina very little—mostly parties, dancing and play watching.

Chee Davis (her name used to be Chee Chee, but she's drop-

ped a Chee), however, was back at Carolina Wednesday night when she sang and danced in "Once Upon a Mattress."

"Chapel Hill has surely changed; it's quite different than the way I saw it about two

years ago," she exclaimed. "Memorial Hall had wooden benches the last time I was in here—it looks so nice now, but what small dressing rooms.

"I've been here all (Wednesday) afternoon just looking around and seeing people. I wish I had more time here," she said as she set her huge black pocket book come suitcase on the dressing room table.

Looking and talking (not a Southern accent for the Nashville, N. C., girl now) like an old show biz trouper, Chee autographed a program for a fellow backstage.

Susie Cordon of the Carolina Playmakers gave her some messages from former St. Mary's school mates: "Oh, Bettie Ann (Whitehurst), how is she?; Lorraine (Hobbs), I wish I had time to see them. How are they?"

Usually A Dancer

Chee, usually considered a dancer, sings and dances in "Mattress." She plays the French girl, Lady Mabelle whose only English word is "Yes!"

"This is a wonderful show. It's great to work with people like Imogene Coca and Edward Everett Horton. The rest of the cast is great. Four of us were together in Chicago summer stock," Chee beamed.

Her partner in "Mattress" is a summer stock friend and native Tar Heel, also. Fred Cline of Charlotte is a graduate of Princeton and plays Sir Luce in the fantasy, musical comedy.



TAR HEEL THESPIANS Chee Davis and Fred Cline check a scroll before beginning their singing and dancing in "Once Upon a Mattress" which played Memorial Hall Wednesday.

On The Hill

London Fog Jackets, Grey Skies Prevail On Campus

By Susan Lewis

When they're not throwing tackles, the Tar Heel gridgers are throwing darts.

Little yellow plastic darts whizzed through yesterday afternoon's air, thrown by the football-toughened hands of seven Hickeymen killing time—or squirrels—before 4:00 practice.

People passing by McCorkle Place (the quad between Old Well and Franklin Street) wondered at the pack of brawny fellows seemingly chasing squirrels and throwing things at trees.

But no one asked what they were doing until one of them had been on all fours raking through the leaves for five minutes.

Then the truth was known.

Loses Dart

Tom Cabe had lost his dart. And the bad part about it was that it wasn't Cabe's dart. He had borrowed it from Gene Sigmon.

It seems that Cabe had grown tired of aiming at trees and leaves and decided to try for one of the playful squirrels.

Either the squirrel moved or Cabe's aim was bad, but the squirrel escaped and the dart disappeared.

Buried In Leaves

After enlisting the aid of bystanders and hunting for another ten minutes, the dart was discovered completely buried in leaves and ground.

Their search ended, the group adjourned to practice and Sigmon reclaimed his property, declaring Cabe a poor risk.

Needless to say, the squirrel population was jubilant and henceforth more cautious about frolicking when dart sportsmen are near.

On The Campus

Shakespeare's "Macbeth" will be presented on the NBC-TV network starring Judith Anderson and Maurice Evans tomorrow from 6-8 p.m. Dr. Earl Wynn of the Department of RTMP urges students to see this color spectacular in Studio A (Room 104) Swain Hall.

All Carolina Quarterly staff members are urged to attend an important work session Sunday evening at 8:30.

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