

THE OAKLAND OBSERVER

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Oakland University, Rochester, Michigan

Friday, December 6, 1963

Applications Triple for Next Year

By the Observer Staff

Applications are flowing into Oakland's admission machine at a rate triple that of last year.

"The 300% increase is one sign of Oakland's widening reputation," commented Fred Shadrick, assistant director of scholarships.

Especially encouraging, says Herbert Stoutenburg, director of admissions and registrar, is the growing number of applications coming from all over Michigan, both lower and upper peninsulas. In the past, most of Oakland's students have been from the local area. Out-of-state applications are at about the same level as last year.

Placement Office

The following recruiters will be on campus the week of Dec. 9:

Dec. 9 — U.S. Air Force (Oakland Center).

Dec. 10 — Dun & Bradstreet, Inc. (open for psychology, English, economics, and business administration majors).

Science Night Held Thursday

By the OU Information Service

OU's science students held their second annual Science Night for high school students and teachers Thursday.

The program included exhibits and demonstrations. Visitors had an opportunity to see undergraduate science laboratories in operation.

Dr. Geoffrey Keller of the National Science Foundation was the principal speaker. Keller is assistant director of physical, engineering and mathematical sciences for NSF.



REHEARSAL—Dr. Samuel Jones, music director of the Saginaw Symphony Orchestra, rehearses the University Chorus for its concert on Sunday. The chorus will perform the Christmas section of Handel's "Messiah" with the Saginaw Symphony on Dec. 8 at 7:30 in the Saginaw Auditorium.

Dorm Fee Increase Predicted Start Dorm Construction This Year

By the Observer Staff

A four- to six-dollar per month increase in residence fees is expected next fall, Chancellor Varner announced Wednesday.

The rate change, which would put the cost of room and board for two semesters at about \$800, is not official yet, but Varner said it was sure to come after consideration by the Board of Trustees.

He expressed reluctance at the pending increase, but pointed out that Oakland's \$385 per semester residence fee is comparable to those of Big Ten schools.

There has been no discussion of an increase in tuition, Varner said. But it is "reasonable to assume" that Oakland will be faced with a tuition increase in the future, he added.

Construction of the new six-story \$800,000 dormitory, northwest of the present living compound will begin during the last week of December, according to Chancellor Varner.

Authorization for the construction was granted Nov. 22 by the board of trustees and the legislature. Bids will be opened Dec. 18.

Plans for the dorm include co-ed housing, with the third floor of the hillside building to contain lounges and housing for the head resident.

The dormitory is scheduled for completion in time for the fall semester, 1964.

Theater Guild to Stage Lorca Drama

By Larry Virgin

Of the Observer Staff

"La Casa de Bernarda Alba," a contemporary Spanish drama written by Federico Garcia Lorca, will be presented by the Meadow Brook Theater Guild Dec. 13 and 14. Celebrating the grand opening of the new stage in the IM Building, the all-girl cast will present a tragic portrayal of the traditional way of life in Spain.

William Gregory, director of the professional Vanguard Theater in Detroit, is directing the play.

Gregory, who has a Ph.D. in dramatic arts, volunteered his services about three weeks ago, according to Dean of Students Duncan Sells. The Dean emphasized that Gregory is not working on any permanent basis, and that he is committed only to this play.

Assisting Gregory is student Rick Painter, who has had previous experience along this line.

Exam Schedules

Final exam schedules are available in the registrar's office. Final grades will be sent to students at their homes by Friday, Dec. 27.

Claim Items

Claimants for some twenty books and other miscellaneous articles presently usurping space in 201 Science are wanted, the Social Science Division has announced.

Because of an overcrowding of the lost-found cabinet, an auction might soon have to be held, the announcement said.

Some of the items have been unclaimed for months.

The stage, at present only a temporary facility, was made possible by the donation of \$20,000 by an anonymous benefactor, according to Chancellor Varner. Everything connected with the theater, except the stage floor itself, can be removed to a more permanent location later, Sells explained this week.

Costumes have been arranged for the Guild through the Vanguard Theater.

U Buys Etching

By the Observer Staff

A color etching from the recent University Gallery exhibit of lithographs and paintings has been purchased for the University art collection.

John C. Galloway, chairman of the art department, announced that the department staff and students selected Friedlaender's "Paysage."

Other buyers included Dean Donald O'Dowd and residents of local communities.

An exhibit of medieval manuscripts and incunabula will be displayed in the gallery from Dec. 7 until Dec. 20. Works in the collection will be for sale.

Attention teacher education students: English competence examinations will be given Wednesday at 1 p.m. in 235 Science.

Students with questions regarding the examinations may see their advisors, or Robert Hoopes and Maurice Brown of the English department, or Laszlo Hetenyi or Peter Evarts of the teacher education program.

Hucker Brings up 'Immodest Oxbridge Plan'

By Wolf Metzger

Managing Editor

One evening at the beginning of this term Charles Hucker lay in bed daydreaming and thinking of an idea which "has existed for a long time but never really been tried in American education."

On Oct. 24 Hucker, professor of history and chairman of the history department, transformed the idea into words on paper, dubbed it "an immodest proposal," and presented it at a conference of OU's department chairmen.

"No better educational technique has ever been devised than the tutorial system employed for centuries at Oxford and Cambridge," argued Hucker in his fundamental proposition. "A tutorial system can work as effectively for average as for superior students . . . for both general and specialized education . . . it can work under a 20-1

student-faculty ratio, given a dedicated and conscientious faculty.

"Thus (it) could work at Oakland," Hucker concluded.

As he went into specifics, Hucker received some favorable comments. Both Chancellor Varner and Dean of the University, Donald D. O'Dowd, made encouraging remarks, Hucker recalls, and when he informally discussed his plan with faculty members, response was likewise favorable.

What are the specific proposals?

Hucker lists them under thirteen points. All course requirements and formal classes should be abolished, except in foreign languages and a few other fields for which a tutorial approach would not be practicable. Each faculty member should be assigned a total of 25 tutees each term and be completely responsible for their education throughout the semester.

In addition, a continuing program of general-education lectures would be provided, fresh-

men required to attend. And finally, some types of comprehensive examinations should be instituted to check on student progress and serve as a basis, together with tutors' evaluations, for assigning grades.

The implications are many, as Hucker admits. Many details will have to be worked out and to do it, Kenneth Roose, professor of economics, and his Developmental Programs Committee are presently studying the proposal.

Roose takes the idea seriously, thinks it has considerable merit. This week he was confident that the proposal will emerge from his committee in some form or another before the end of the academic year. The Academic Senate will then have to go over it.

Hucker himself does not expect his plan to be preserved in its entirety. He calls it "a first step, a step beyond the Little College" presently taught by Professors John Blair and Maurice Brown, Western Literature, and James

Haden and Melvin Chernov, Western Institutions.

"Maybe it will be tried on a limited scale next fall," Hucker predicted. But the chances that it will be completely adopted before 1965 are slim.

The proposal, now commonly known as the "Oxbridge Plan," is based on "my inadequate knowledge of what is happening at Oxford and Cambridge," according to Hucker. At Oakland, Hucker believes it could involve various difficulties. The demand on the faculty would be tremendous. Many would not survive. Nevertheless he hopes to find some volunteers to start the program should it be approved. After all, says Hucker, "We have a darn good faculty here."

"I can't think of another college in the country that could make such a transition more easily than Oakland," Hucker summarized his feelings. "Five years from now it may be impossible to act."

Some administrators had tried

to act before. In 1960, and again in 1961, former Director of University Relations and then-chairman of the Developmental Programs Committee, Loren Pope, used the same elements of comprehensive exams and a tutorial system for a proposal to change the school's academic structure. The emphasis was on graduation upon examination with tutoring designed only to assist students in their self-preparation for exams.

According to Pope, similar systems have been in operation at several colleges in the country. He cited Stephens College, Columbia, Mo.; Wesleyan, Conn.; and St. John's College, Ind. At Oakland Pope's proposal was pigeonholed twice in two Senate committees, one of them chaired by Chancellor Varner.

Pope was an administrator. In 1963 faculty member Hucker is taking the initiative. Whether his Oxbridge plan will be more successful, nobody seems to be willing to predict. Hucker himself displays a cautious confidence.

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109 NORTH FOUNDATION HALL
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Semester Program Prepared

By the Observer Staff

Gary Beeman, program advisor, announced Tuesday that a "Book of the Semester" program is being prepared for Oakland, to start next semester.

"The purpose of this program," said Beeman, "will be to present the academic community with a book which is both timely and worthwhile." If possible, the book would have a general appeal to all interest groups on campus.

A group, consisting of Czetong Song, assistant librarian, David Bixby, bookstore manager, Beeman, Nat Simons Jr., assistant professor of economics, and students Dan Polsby, Phil Iannarelli, Carol Vogel, Albert Leo, Gaer Guerber, Pete Whelan, Bob Linsenman, Diane Perry and Ken Renner, has been formed and will make the book selections. The group's next meeting is scheduled for Monday at 3 p.m. in the Activities Center.

Lectures on various aspects of the book to be chosen will be arranged, along with discussions over the material. The selected book may be applicable to a course, and could be used by the faculty as required or suggested reading, said Beeman.

The program, to be repeated every semester has been according to Beeman, a success at many colleges and universities.

The bookstore will order copies of the book as soon as the decision is made.

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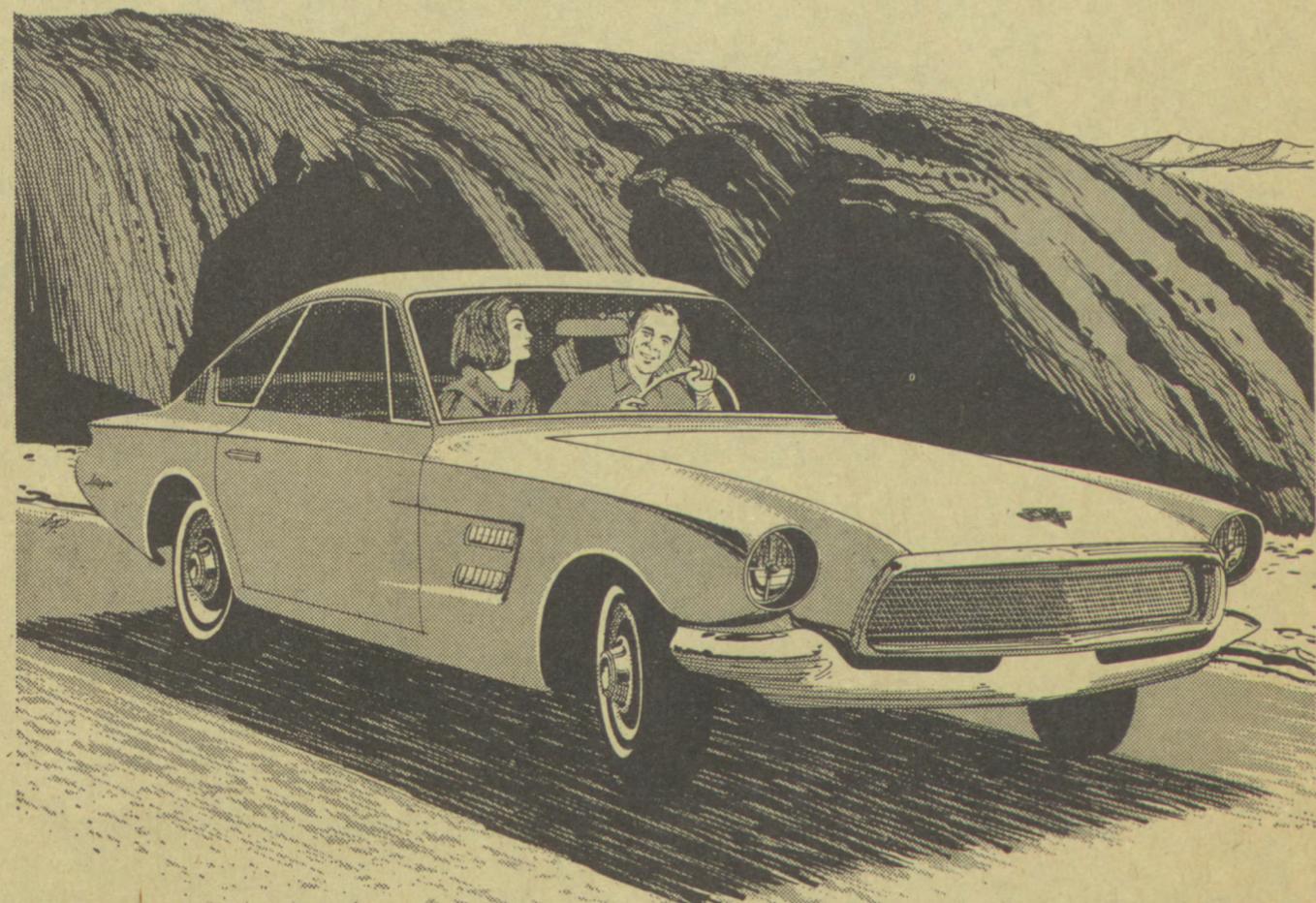
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foot pedals, permits use of a fixed seat design for low overall height.

Basically a two-seater in present form, Allegro has rear floor space that could be converted to carry two additional passengers. The car could be powered by either a V-4 made by Ford of Germany or by the domestic 144- or 170-cubic-inch Sixes.

Allegro is one of a series of Ford-built dream cars which will be shown at the New York World's Fair to test consumer reaction to styling and mechanical innovations. This will help determine which of their forward-looking features are destined for the American Road—as further examples of Ford Motor Company's leadership in styling and engineering.



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