



The Dana REVIEW

Dana College, Blair, Nebraska

February, 1965

Published Monthly Except July and August

The Vikings Visit The Viking

Members of the 1965 Dana Choir can tell you from personal experience that Lauritz Melchior is not only a great operatic tenor, he is a marvelous host.

When the choir visited California last month, Mr. Melchior invited the singers to The Viking, his Beverly

Hills home, for coffee. Reported one Danian later: "It was really great."

That night Mr. Melchior joined the choir in its concert at Olivet Lutheran Church in Inglewood, Cal., as soloist in "Den Store Hvide Flok."

At the close of the con-

cert Mr. Melchior received an honorary alumnus plaque from Public Relations Director Phil Pagel.

It was the second time the famous singer has appeared with a Dana College Choir. The first time was in 1950 when he opened his concert tour of that year

with a performance at the college.

Mr. Melchior never forgot that appearance. Thirteen years later on the choir's fiftieth anniversary he wrote President Madsen: "I remember with great pleasure my work together with the choir and the magnificent way in which they were performing their beautiful and often difficult music. It is a blessing for any ear today to be able to listen to beautiful music beautifully performed, and I am sure that the young students of the college who have a voice as a gift from God will take advantage of the opportunity the college gives them in the way of the art of music."

The choir opened its 1965 tour at Disneyland (story and pictures on Page 3) and later toured the Walt Disney Studios in Burbank.



Lauritz Melchior sings "Den Store Hvide Flok" with the Dana Choir.



Mr. Melchior greets each choir member individually as they arrive for a visit at his Beverly Hills home, The Viking.



Phil Pagel poses with Melchior and Director Paul Neve after presenting the singer with an honorary alumnus plaque.



Miss Larsen (left) and Miss Planck pack for trip to Denmark

Two Dana Coeds Begin Semester in Denmark

Two Dana coeds left the campus this month for a semester of study in Denmark.

They are Kristi Planck, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Planck of Omaha, and Mary Larsen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Larsen of Madison, Wis. Both are juniors.

Miss Planck will spend the spring semester at the University of Copenhagen as a participant in the Dana College Semester Abroad program. This is a foreign study program made available to Dana students of exceptional ability.

Although Miss Planck speaks Danish quite fluently, she will not be called upon to use the language in class. All classes and lectures will be conducted in English. But since she will be living with a family in Copenhagen during her

stay in Denmark, she expects to have ample opportunity to polish her Danish.

She plans to remain in Europe for the summer.

Miss Larsen will be spending the spring semester at the Herning Folk High School in Herning, Denmark.

The school each year invites a young American to spend a semester there to be followed by a one-month visit with a family in rural Denmark and then a one-month visit with an urban family.

The American-Scandinavian Foundation in New York screens applications submitted by students from Dana and Grand View College in Des Moines, the only American colleges of Danish background.

Miss Larsen, who also is fluent in Danish, was this year's selection.

An Alumnus Abroad—

Life Is Very Different 30 Miles From Russia

This is the second of two articles by Mr. Kaldahl, a Dana alumnus serving with the Peace Corps in Turkey.

By Therm Kaldahl

In my last article I shared with you a few events from my life as a Peace Corps trainee. Now with those training weeks of language, English grammar, teaching, medical lectures and area study lectures behind me, I am sitting in Kars, Turkey—a real live Peace Corps volunteer in a foreign land, giving his life and time to an underdeveloped country so the world may one day live in peace and so everyone in Turkey will love Americans.

Now, if you have managed to read past that last statement, I will dedicate this article to disproving it.

When one sits in his room at Dana College with all the idealistic plans that he has accumulated during his four years and contemplates the Peace Corps, his ideas are very romantic. With that nicely bound diploma in his hand on graduation day, it seems nothing in the world can stop him.

Tired of hearing pessimistic news reports, reading the books by Lederer and Burdick, like the "Ugly American" and a "Nation of Sheep," he decides to solve them all in two years by joining the Peace Corps.

But there have to be other ideals. On cold lonely nights around birthday time, Thanksgiving time and Christmas time, when visions of family and friends go dancing through his head, thoughts of saving the world from dictatorial oppression, or creating a better American image, sort of fade into the background. Lying in bed shivering and burning up with food poisoning or dysentery also

does something to distort those once vivid images of "how it will be when I'm there."

I'm an English teacher. When we patiently have taught the present continuous tense over and over again for three weeks and decide it's time for a test and discover to our dismay that half the class has no idea of what the present continuous tense is, or even care whether there is such a thing—those romantic ideals first begin to chip, then crack and finally crumble.

But romantic ideals were not the only reasons most of us joined the Peace Corps. There were selfish reasons, too. Some of us have things to prove to ourselves; we want to put our education to the test. In short, we want to grow up.

It is with that frame of mind we can sit in remote areas of the world and shrug off dysentery, food poisoning, plates full of lamb brains, lonely Christmases and a class flunking the present continuous tense.

My own situation is Kars, Turkey. Forty years ago this area was part of Russia, and even now the Turkish-Russian border is only 30 miles away. The Turks keep a watchful eye on the Russians, and the Russians protect their side with gigantic watchtowers and rows of barbed wire fences. Since the name Kars means snow in Turkish, one can deduce the climate in this area. I live in a Russian-built house which is well designed to protect against the weather.

Kars has been compared to the western part of the United States in the days of

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The choir pauses for a picture on the bridge in front of the castle in Fantasyland. That's the Disneyland Matterhorn in the background.

Danians in Disneyland

The Dana Choir opened its 1965 tour with a half-hour concert in the Plaza Gardens at Disneyland January 24.

The crowd in the outdoor pavilion was large, and the weather—like the choir's reception—was warm. The Dana Folk Dancers performed, too, and nearly stole the show.

The Danians were the guests of Walt Disney, who first crossed paths with the choir in Denmark in 1961. He gave the singers free pass books to the various Disneyland attractions. The choir also visited the Walt Disney Studios in Burbank.

This year's tour took the choir into Oregon, Nevada, Utah and Colorado as well as California.

The choir returned to the campus February 7.

Its annual home concert was February 14.



The choir is introduced at its concert in Disneyland's Plaza Gardens.



The folk dancers also perform before the large Plaza Gardens crowd.

Second Semester Enrollment Tops 600

Second semester enrollment has topped the six-hundred mark for the first time, Registrar Elmer Rasmussen reported this month.

A total of 613 students are registered, compared

with 526 a year ago.

First semester enrollment was 670, Dr. Rasmussen said. But 12 students withdrew during the semester, 20 finished requirements for degrees or certificates,

two are attending school in Denmark and 59 others did not register for the second semester for a variety of other reasons, including academic failure.

Thirty-six new students

enrolled for the second semester, however.

The enrollment total is a 16 per cent increase over last year.

It is up 45 per cent from 1961.

On Destiny's Deep Sea

New Jobs, Promotions

1964

JOHN MURDOCK is now working as an assistant district executive with the Boy Scouts and his address is 505 Arcade Bldg. St. Louis 1, Mo.

1963

JAMES FALKSEN is now employed at the IBM Corporation at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and lives at No. 23 Canturbury House, Hudson View Park, Beacon, N. Y., 12508

1958

EUGENE H. JACOBY is manager of a Jupiter Store in Muscatine, Ia. They have two sons, Michael, six, and Phillip, three, and live at 817 Woodlawn Avenue, Muscatine, Ia., 52761.

JAN E. PHILBY has been named football coach at Red Oak Iowa High School.

1957

C. JAMES KRUSE (ELEANOR WOHLERS 53-55) are living at 1039 Camellia Drive, Alameda, Cal., 94505, where Jim is a biology teacher at Encinal High School and Eleanor is a substitute teacher.

Births

Sons

1962

GARY and MARY JO (NIELSEN) KUBIK have a son Gregory Scott, born October 21. Their home is 2529 South 123rd Avenue, Omaha.

1960

EVERETT and JUNE (SANTAGE) JOHNSON are the parents of a son Timothy James born August 11. They are living at 703 Seventh Street, Sheldon, Ia., where Everett is the high school music teacher.

Gerald and BARBARA (PETERSON 56) Ward became parents April 2, 1965 to a son, Steven Michael.

Daughters

1964

JOHN and Sharon MURDOCK are the parents of a daughter, Linnen, born in September.

1958

John and JANET (NIELSEN 58) Cameron are the parents of a daughter, Jill Lyn born November 6.

Their address is 3810 North Seventy-fifth Street, Omaha.

RAYMON L. PEDERSEN and his wife announce the birth of Lila Jean born October 9. They also have two other children, Le Ann, seven, and Cary, three. Ray is serving as associate pastor of St. Mary's Lutheran Church in Kenosha, Wis.

1950

Pastor VIRGIL and LA VAILLE (JENSEN 50-51) ANDERSON announce the arrival of

Carol Elizabeth, born December 28. They also have five sons and three daughters.

Weddings

1960

PRISCILLA ROBERTSON and William Leon Hurt, February 1, at Palo Alto, Cal. Priscilla graduated from San Jose State College in June with a major in interior decorating. She is now employed by Biggar Furniture Co. in Pasadena.

Alumnus Abroad: A Harsh Land

From Page Two

cowboys and Indians. Although the Turkish people seem to live much slower than we do in the States, they still live in earnest. Not long ago I discovered the truth of this in the local hospital.

I give classes to the doctors and in return receive access to nearly everything at their disposal. In a single day I saw a bullet removed from the leg of a villager, an x-ray of a man stabbed in the chest and an autopsy on a fellow beaten to death. Last night I slipped into the operating room and saw the last breaths of a man shot in the head.

One thing has kept me in constant amazement while in Turkey—the Turks' love for President Kennedy. Grown men have broken into tears at the mention of his name, and conversations take on a more solemn note at any references to the man.

I was teaching the present continuous tense one day when one of my students raised his hand and said, "President Kennedy." It was all I could do to shout above the applause of the class and get their minds back on the present

continuous tense. Then another student raised his hand and said, "President Kennedy was a great man." Again applause, again I guided them back to the present continuous tense.

Finally another student raised his hand and told me flatly: "We want to talk about President Kennedy."

Classes in the schools in Turkey are very crowded; several of my classes hold between 70 and 80 students. They sit in old-fashioned desks designed for crowded classrooms. They accommodate three students each. This makes testing interesting—sort of a game to see if teacher will catch you cheating.

Please don't refer to us as self-sacrificing servants. We aren't. We like it in the Peace Corps or we wouldn't be here. We are volunteers and are free to get out anytime we want.

Perhaps I have sold the romantic ideals a little

short—and that would be a mistake, for we are all committed to one thing or another. Those of you who perform your duties as students, housewives or of whatever profession you are in, and are committed to something more than yourselves, are doing as much as any volunteer in Turkey or any of the other 40-some countries in the world.

I often think it is pretty difficult for a student to leave Dana College without feeling committed to something other than himself.

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Vol. XXI February, 1965 No. 6

A newspaper for alumni and friends of Dana College and Trinity Seminary, published every month except July and August. Printed at the Nebraska Farmer Company, Omaha, Neb., with editorial and business offices at 2848 College Drive, Dana College, Blair, Neb. Second class postage paid at Blair.

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