Federal Grant of $54,000 To Deaf Education
by Sister Francis Anne

Thirteen prospective seniors in deaf education are benefiting from a federal grant of $54,000. The grant provides $3,300 a year for 15 students; $2,600 of this goes to the college to cover tuition, fees, and the cost of the program, and each girl will receive $1,600 for her personal use.

Sister James Lorene, head of the deaf education program, commented that she hopes to recruit two more people into the field so that the full benefit of these traineeships can be gained. Fontbonne is one of the few federally sponsored undergraduate schools in the country working in this field.

Recipients of the traineeships are Connie Banks, Pam Castro, Eileen Concannon, Sheila Fitzgerald, Jo Ann Hubach, Sandy Jobe, Joel Kaske, Pam Kraus, Maureen Pfeiffer, Kay Sanders, Donna Varcchetti, Mary Lee Walter, and Margaret Zarinelli.

Mary Lee commented, "It's great for me and for the school in general, but most of all for the department. There are so few people in deaf ed -- the notice that comes from this might give some interested people the incentive they need."

After tuition and costs have been taken care of, the remainder of the $2,000 from each girl will be put toward buying new equipment. The department hopes to get a new audiometer and some small electric hearing aids to be used in methods classes. More tapes and slide will also be purchased.

That the department's reputation merits building is testified to by Eileen Concannon. Eileen decided to come to Fontbonne because of the things she heard about it in Ireland, "I went over to Ireland for a while after high school," she said, "and I got interested in deaf children through my work at an institute. When I asked the sisters where a good place would be to specialize in this work, they recommended Fontbonne."

The girls are planning to use the money they receive in various ways. "Most of us won't do anything spectacular with it -- just use it for clothes or a car; but you need those things just as in a practical way," observed Margaret Zarinelli. Pam Castro hopes to solve the transportation problem by moving some place closer to St. Joseph Institute for the Deaf where the girls do their observation and student teaching.

Interest in their field is spurred especially through the work that they are now able to do at the Institute, during sophomore and junior year these students spend an hour or so a week with the children "just doing things." Jo Ann Hubach offered this insight: "We play games, take them to the zoo, wash dishes, and sort of things. They're responsive and appreciative even more than normal children and in such a different way. It really is rewarding just to be with them."

"Through this recreational activity," remarked Pam Kraus, "we have an opportunity to communicate with the children on a personal level before we meet them in an educational situation. It helps us to realize that these children are no

Continued, p. 3
Three out of Six Places in Contest For Book Reviews

Fonbome students placed first, third, and fifth in a recent book-review contest conducted by the Catholic Community Library of Kansas City and open to college students of the area.

Judy Dent, sophomore, unanimously won first prize with her review of A TOUCH OF MAGIC by L. Hickok. Anita Bue's review of Elie Wiesel's THE JEWIS OF SILENCE placed third and Diana Dial, junior, placed fifth with THE CATS OF THE FOREST, also by Elie Wiesel.

Each of the winners will receive an autographed book from the Youth Awards Committee of the Joyce Kilmer Club. The college receives points for each winner which will be added to those in the coming spring contest. In the Book Review contest Fonbome has accumulated seven points. The college with the most points at the end of the year receives a trophy. Fonbome has won the trophy for the past two years.

The deadline for the spring contest is March 17. Each participating school may submit three entries in each of three divisions: short story, essay, and poetry.

The subject for the essay is "Involvement Today -- for Tomorrow." The length is 500 to 1,000 words. Judges interested in entering this division, which is still open, are asked to submit their essays to Sister Marcella Marie, Science 309.

The entries for the short story division have been selected from those written during the first semester in the short-story writing class. Those selected by Sister Marcella Marie are Judy Dent, Anita Bue (sophomore), and Madeleine Meyer (junior).

Entries for the poetry contest have not yet been made. The length of a poem may not exceed 50 lines and there is no limitation on the subject matter.

Kerr's dismissal from the presidency of the University of California, was a regrettable mistake; yet it underlines one of the most pressing problems—external influence and control—of the university today.

Students Respond to Call

Margaret M. Moore

"What do you consider the greatest benefit you received from working with CIASP?" Six hundred student participants responded with the following opinions:
1) experience of a new culture;
2) introduction to Mexico and Mexicans;
3) better understanding of people;
4) self-knowledge;
5) close contact with poverty.

Other answers included: awareness of social and economic issues; recognition of the need for this organization; Christian involvement; a new culture as a mirror of self and the U.S.; leadership; and learning to accept frustrations.

Unique Organization

The Conference on Inter-American Students Projects, CIASP, is a unique organization in that it is student initiated and administered and coordinated by secretaries in Mexico and the United States. CIASP was begun in the summer of 1963 in Mexico City to supervise and encourage the summer work projects of North American college students in the cities and rural areas of Mexico.

The primary purpose of CIASP is community development and personal growth. The CIASP constitution states that "our role is to assert the primacy of love in all man's relationships...the community we enter and the friendships we make demand a permanent commitment to the movement and its development. CIASP participants strive to act as communities of students, working among people as catalysts as they develop their own powers of communal decision and action for their well being."

Fonbome In Tn

Last summer over nine hundred students participated in the CIASP movement including three junior from Fonbome and two from St. Louis University. Kay Sanders, Frances West, and Mary Ann Baragiola began their two-month project with a week of orientation in Mexico City. From there the girls traveled to Cuilapam, Chiapas, close to the border of Guatemala, where they lived with their Mexican families.

The girls worked on a variety of projects under the direction of the parish priest. They taught English, conducted hand-craft classes, took a parish census, worked with the existing Catholic Action groups to establish a health clinic, and entered into the family and social life of their town.

Kay, Fran, and Mary Ann are continuing the work of CIASP by conducting the four-month on-campus training program to prepare future volunteers.

Two Recruits

Next summer Mary Bokamer, sophomore, and Ruth Ann Ahlmeyer, freshman, will work with the CIASP Amigos Anonymous group from St. Mary of the Lake Seminary in Mundelein, Illinois. Currently, they are trying to improve their conversational Spanish and devise fund-raising projects to cover expenses. The girls hope that next year they will be able to establish a group of their own in St. Louis including students from Webster College and St. Louis University.

Kay, Fran, and Mary Ann find it difficult to express their many ideas and feelings about CIASP to Mary and Ruth Ann. However, they all agree that "It was the most wonderful experience of my life."
Student Teachers Eager About Their New Assignments

Sister John Clarke, C.S.J.

“How’s teaching?”

“Fine, the kids hate me already!”

These and similar comments have become familiar to Fontbonne students. They are being bandied around by the forty seniors doing student teaching this semester.

Dr. Angelo Puricelli feels that student teaching is the most meaningful education course offered by Fontbonne. He outlines the course requirements as: a high standard of professional competence, and exceptional personal traits and qualities. As College Coordinator of Student Teaching, Dr. Puricelli expects his students to present a professional and agreeable picture of Fontbonne.

The student teachers this semester are working in four different school districts. The schools are as widely separated as from Ferguson to McKinley High.

Two Faculty Run Workshop in Michigan

Sister Anne Bernadine and Sister James Lorene, teachers in the deaf-education program, will conduct a reading workshop for teachers of the deaf in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Special methods and techniques of teaching reading developed by these two sisters will be presented to a select group of teachers from March 20-22.

Sister James Lorene will cover levels of reading from pre-primer through the fourth-grade level. Sister Anne Bernadine’s material pertains to grades five through eight.

One afternoon will be a “question and answer” period, and in addition to the workshop for teachers, the Sisters will hold an evening session for parents of deaf children.

Both Sisters came to this work with years of experience in a variety of situations. Last summer they conducted workshops in Mexico City for teachers of the deaf there. At present they are working on their own text books and because of a lack of time have had to refuse an invitation to teach in Lima, Peru this summer. Together they have had over 60 years of experience in working with deaf children and their parents at the St. Joseph Institute for the Deaf in St. Louis.

Silver Competition Open to Fontbonne

Reed and Barton, America’s oldest major silversmiths, are contesting a “Silver Opinion Competition” in which valuable scholarships totaling $2000 are being offered to duly enrolled women students from selected colleges.

The entry forms illustrate twelve designs of sterling with eight designs of both china and crystal. The entrants simply list the three best combinations of sterling, china, and crystal from the illustrated patterns.

Winners will be selected from those entries coming closest to the unanimous selection made by editors from three of the nation’s leading magazines.

Linda Magolin is Fontbonne’s student representative who is conducting the contest for Reed and Barton on campus. Those interested in entering the “Silver Opinion Competition” should contact Linda for entry blanks and complete details concerning the rules.

Through the opinions on silver design expressed by college women competing for these scholarships, Reed and Barton hopes to compile a valuable library of expressions of young American taste.

Tom Dooley’s Brother Promotes Foundation

Malcolm Dooley used the words of his older brother, the late Dr. Thomas Dooley of St. Louis, to address a capacity audience at Fontbonne College. Jokingly referring to himself as the “Bobby Kennedy of the medical profession,” Mr. Dooley is a businessman and father of seven children. Statewide, he is carrying on the work of his brother by gaining support for the Dooley Foundation.

Mr. Dooley informed and inspired his audience by recounting the personal deeds and aspirations of his brother as a young navy medic in Laos until the time of his death several years later. Dr. Tom Dooley gained national prominence and respect for his service and dedication to the people of Southeast Asia.

New Music Chapter Formed

A student chapter of MENC (Music Educators National Conference) has been formed with senior Sally Violette voted in as president. Donald Anderson, part-time instructor in the music department, is the moderator of the organization.
Editorial
AFTER SEVEN YEARS

Still No Action

The Peace Corps is moving toward its seventh year with no former students from Fontbonne College now serving overseas. A total of two local students have entered the Peace Corps service since its inception on March 1, 1961. One of these, Nancy Ellen Davis, a Fontbonne graduate, served two years in Africa.

With more requests for Volunteers coming from foreign governments than can be filled, the Peace Corps has doubled its recruiting efforts this year to insure finding the more than 10,000 trainees needed for 1967 programs. The target is 50,000 applications, up from last year’s 45,000.

Pease Corps officials said they expect increasing need for liberal arts graduates in the Peace Corps, but pointed to serious shortfalls in some programs requiring persons with agricultural, nutritional, math, science and other specialized skills.

With the material benefits of the affluent society within our grasp, we can endeavor to give of ourselves in the fight for unity and world peace. Those who have already given their service to the Peace Corps have recognized it as “the most valuable experience of their lives.”

Students Express Opinions On Draft

Polls of college and university student opinion regarding the Draft were released by the U.S. National Student Association (USNSA). The results were presented at closed-door conferences led by leaders from a variety of youth and student organizations who are looking for a unified support for an alternative to the present Selective Service System.

“The results of campus-wide referenda on over twenty campuses were strikingly consistent,” announced Mr. Eugene Groves, President of USNSA.

...More than 90 percent of American students feel that a nation can be justified in conscripting its citizens into the military.

...More than 70 percent of American students are not satisfied with the present Selective Service System.

...More than 70 percent of American students would prefer to have non-military service, e.g. Peace Corps, VISTA, Teachers, Corps, as an equal alternative to military service.

...Over 60 percent of American students do NOT feel that students should be deferred just because they are students.

...Last November USNSA issued a call for campus-wide referenda on the relation of the colleges and universities to the Draft and on various alternatives to the Selective Service System, “we worked especially hard to assure a wide diversity of types of colleges and universities in the polling sample,” said Groves. “In this regard we were very successful. The diversity of the schools responding makes the consistency of the results even more impressive.”

Despite the general consistency, there was some disagreement. For example, in Harvard University graduate school, 52 percent felt that rank in class should be a criterion for deferment of college students, whereas only 38 percent of the undergraduates felt this way. Forty-one percent of the students at Valparaiso University (Indiana) felt that if any students are liable to the draft, all students should be equally liable. Seventy-one percent of Marquette University students felt this way.

Patrick Mihle, a Washington University freshman summarized the opinion of more than 90 percent of American students saying, “I believe that limited conscription is necessary at all times to maintain an army for immediate emergencies.”

Twenty-three campuses with a total student population of 99,000 have been included in USNSA statistics. Approximately 31 percent, or 30,500 of these students actually voted.

Women in Peace Corps Win Battle of Sexes

“Of the six or eight hundred volunteers that I have known well, the top ten were females. They did more in the Peace Corps tradition than anybody else.” says Peace Corps Director Jack Vaughn in reaffirming that the Peace Corps is not entirely a man’s world.

That’s not to say women were not a well-shaped question mark when the Peace Corps idea was first discussed. Many doubted that women – particularly the single girl – would survive safely and sanely in the world’s city slums and remote rural areas.

Shattered an Image

“ ‘You can’t send a girl there,’ they chortled, arguing that ‘soft’ American girls wouldn’t make it past the physical hardships alone.”

That was in 1961, when the Peace Corps was founded. Since then more than 10,000 women, about a quarter of them married, have traded the sometimes frustrating search for meaningful work at home for the challenge of working as Peace Corps Volunteers.

Women demonstrated from the start that the Peace Corps has very few jobs they can’t do as well as men. In the process, they have shattered the image of women as a generation of females too fragile to last two “unsheltered” years in foreign ports.

Women have had problems, of course, but not the kind that were anticipated. Instead, there has been the challenge of being a single woman in a man-dominated or strongly familial-oriented society. There has been the simple difficulty, as one returned Volunteer girl said, of “not being aware while you’re over there that it is the best time you probably will ever have.” A few girls have had to build their own houses.

At a conference of Returned Volunteers held two years ago, a special workshop designed to discuss the “problems” of women Volunteers was cancelled when it was discovered that the problems encountered overseas and readjustment to civilian life were the same regardless of sex.

There are few Peace Corps jobs that women have not done. They work as nurses, teachers, and social workers; they have excelled in the Peace Corps’ two major occupations – teaching and community development – and have dominated assignments in public health, social work and women’s centers. More than 100 serve as Volunteer secretaries in Peace Corps headquarters in 52 countries.

Housing Comfortable

The female of the Volunteer species has provided some surprises to host countries. Examples: Working in Rio de Janeiro’s mountainous shuns, teaching in Sarawak’s wetland backwoods, and doing health surveys in small villages on the Sahara’s edge in Niger.

Few, however, live in the lavish mud-hut image that has dogged the Peace Corps since its inception. Most returned Volunteers describe their housing on a scale from modest to embarrassing comfortable. The choice of assignments ranges widely between city and country.

While life for the Peace Corps girl can mean sacrifice of her femininity, American girls seem to have countered their new and strange environments by bringing to their assignments one important quality -- the women’s touch.

SYMPATHY

The faculty and students offer their sympathy to Sister Dolores Marie on the death of her father, Mr. Francis Joseph Dougherty.

THE FONT

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Semester Break in Appalachia
by Margie McNamee

For twenty Fontbonne girls semester break this year was more than a rest from classroom activity. Responding to an appeal made in a lecture last October by Father Ralph Belting for voluntary help in the Christian Appalachia Project, NFCCS (National Federation of Catholic College Students) organized a bus trip to Eastern Kentucky for twenty of us. When final exams were over on January 27, the bus departed laden with sweatershirts, jeans, boots and enthusiasm. We arrived in Berea, Kentucky early the following morning when the arca of the Christian Appalachia Project (C.A.P) were reviewed.

Poor Farm Land
Father Belting’s parish, we were told, extends over four counties, 1000 sq. mi. of poor farm land and jagged mountain roads. Because of the dimensions of this area, Father and his two assistants have built three churches and will begin construction on the fourth this spring. With each church there have established a Catechetical Center, staffed by permanent lay volunteers. These centers serve as area headquarters for C.A.P., Bible study, religious instruction and housing facilities for visiting volunteers like ourselves.

To provide a source of income for the poor of this region Father has built greenhouses, a revolutionary idea in small crop farming on these barren hills, and organized production in a woodworking plant and a dairy farm.

Saturday afternoon we were divided into two groups and were driven to the particular center where we were needed. Twelve of us went to Lancaster, Ky., the communication center for all of Father Belting’s activities. At St. William’s Parish we were put to work answering part of the 250 letters that are delivered each day, filling receipts of donations, addressing informational letters and looking up zip codes. St. William’s hopes to reopen the only Catholic school in this area in the fall so several girls catalogued and shelved books that have been donated to the library. Others folded clothes and cooked the canned goods pantry in the Rummage Shop of the church basement.

Muscle Power
The remaining eight girls of our group drove to McKeever, Ky., to spend the weekend. McKeever is centered in the most poverty-stricken area of this parish so these girls had an opportunity to assist in the social work of this section. They also had a chance to develop muscular power by painting woodwork, building bookshelves, scrubbing the church floor and beating rugs by hand.

After a weekend of hard work and fun our group was reunited when Father took us on an extensive tour along the back roads to see what C.A.P. has accomplished and what still needs to be done.

Insights
The experience and insight we all received these four days in Appalachia is something that has become a part of every girl who went on this trip. To see a mother with her baby in one arm and a bucket of water in the other walking a mile to the wooden shack she calls “home”, to meet a mother and her five children who were left with only a trailer when their father deserted them; to work with Ritch, Bridget, Joe and Margaret, the permanent volunteers who have given up a year of their life to serve the apostolate at our own backdoor; to hear about the man who died on route to the Louisville Hospital because there is no doctor in Jackson County; and to see Father Bicking, Father Hoppenjans and Father Osburg working unceasingly to bring Christ to one of the most anti-Catholic areas of the United States; these experiences made each of us realize we are needed.

Appalachia will always mean many things to us; it was looking up the zip code of Toledo, Ohio for the fourteenth time, unloading a truckload of building supplies for the new church in Mt. Vernon, frying thirty-five hamburgers at one time, hiking along muddy roads to see the rich natural beauty of this mountainous region, praying together at Mass each morning, sleeping on mattresses in the church basement.

Chorus to Sing
With Glee Club From Rockhurst

A joint concert will be presented by the Fontbonne College Chorus and the Rockhurst Glee Club tomorrow night, February 26, at 8:30 p.m. in the college theater.

Together they will sing such popular songs as “The Fantastics” as “Try to Remember” and “It was You,” and selections from “Froastia,” poems by Robert Frost set to music.

Numbers from Handel, Mendelssohn, and Kodaly will be sung by the Fontbonne Chorus under the direction of Sr. Mary Antone.

Rockhurst will be given equal time with their 70-voice glee club, brass ensemble, and 20-voice choir under direction by Edward Deckard.

Admission for the program is $1.00 in advance and $1.25 at the door.
Two Delegations Involve 20 Students

Apartheid, disarmament, Vietnam, and Red China were some of the controversial issues that were covered at the sixth annual Midwest Model United Nations (MMUN).

This "venture in international understanding" as it was described by the Secretary-General Nord Brue, was held at the Sheraton-Jefferson from February 22-25.

Because of previous high ratings in MMUN, Fontbonne represented two nations of this year's session. Julie Iwerson and Marty Bruemmer headed the delegations representing Sierra Leon and Guinea. These two delegations from Fontbonne involved 20 students. Mr. Christopher Kaufman, History department, served as the faculty advisor for the delegations.

MMUN is the largest intercollegiate organization of its kind ever held in the Midwest and also one of the biggest Model United Nations ever planned. One hundred twenty-four schools from 14 Midwestern states comprised the delegations. The purpose of MMUN is to stimulate interest in the United Nations, to provide a realistic idea of its workings, and to give the participants an unusual insight into the positions of the countries involved.

According to Mr. Robert Malone, Director of Admissions, "an outstanding group of scholars have applied this year at Fontbonne." A good number of the top student are from both in-town and out-of-town high schools. The Speech and Drama and the Music departments felt that this year superior participants entered the scholarship contests.

Mr. Malone feels that the prospects for the class of '71 are very encouraging. The applications show a substantial gain not only in number, but also in above-average caliber students.

This year, the Admissions Office has actively solicited Fontbonne student's participation in presenting the program and offerings of the College to the students of their former high schools. This program, Mr. Malone believes, has been a vital means of advertising Fontbonne.

In his own personal contact with the high school students, Mr. Malone explains the advantages of attending a small, four-year, liberal arts Catholic college for women.

Strong Trends

Mr. Malone pointed out many strong trends in education reflected in the applications. Today, girls are more interested in receiving four years of college education. Previously, girls felt two years a sufficient time in college. But, as more women take jobs outside the home, many are interested in being educated for really first-rate professions.

In addition, a number of students from the East and West coasts are beginning to look to the Midwest for education. And so girls from New York, California, and Florida have applied here.

For all these reasons, Fontbonne can look for an increase in the total numbers of students. This creates a problem for resident students. Since these students are not dropping out after the first years, the rooms available are diminishing. So the Admissions Office is investigating housing. Although this is a problem, Mr. Malone describes it as a "pleasant headache."

A Profile

Of all Fontbonne students, 86% come from the St. Louis area and 46% from outside areas. For next year, Fontbonne has received applications from Japan, Thailand, and parts of South America. Outside St. Louis, the greatest number of students will come from Kansas City, Chicago, Denver, Georgia, and Peoria.

Locally, the greatest number of applications have come from Rosati-Kain, St. Joseph's Academy, St. Thomas Aquinas, and St. Elizabeth's Academy.

The applicants are, according to Mr. Malone, much better prepared for the choice of college. "We find more and more that the entering freshmen are aware of the purposes of college education, inquire sooner, and are more efficient in their approach to the selection of the proper college." In the St. Louis public high schools, college nights have been moved to the spring of junior year so that the students are competent to make a sensible choice of college.

Mr. Malone believes that the Admissions Office should be an intricate part of the college. "We are in a vital position in two ways. In the first place, we try to present the College in the most favorable light. At the same time, we need to solicit student opinion so that we can take corrective measures where they are needed."

Class of '71 Has Promising Scholars

Cathie Majka

Robert Malone

Jewish Society Donates Books To Library

Fontbonne's newest effort in the field of Jewish-Christian relations became a reality on March 5. Previously, Sister Marta Marie, president, had applied to the Jewish Chautauqua Society for membership in its lecture and library series. The Society responded with a presentation of 10 volumes on Hebrew art, theology and culture.

In making the presentation, Mr. Paul Schneider, a member of the executive board, stressed that the books are a beginning toward better understanding of Judaism through education.

An affirmation of Fontbonne's request to be included in the lecture series is expected in early April.
Student Press Meeting Attracts Wide National News Coverage

A front page headline appeared in the New York TIMES, Television coverage provided national broadcasting. NEWSWEEK published a full-page article.

The subject stimulating this interrelated annual conference of the U.S. Student Press Association. Four hundred and fifty college editors met in Washington, D. C., on February 3–5, "The Generation Gap -- Translators Wanted" was the theme of the conference.

THE FONT sent two staff members, sophomore Anita Bule and junior Madeleine Meyer.

The majority of the editors acknowledged that a generation gap does exist and has to be bridged. The questions asked by the editors were of national importance: "What can be done about the bureaucracy of the university systems? Does the United States belong in Vietnam? How can the government power structure be cope with?"

The generation gap in education was vigorously discussed. Many of the editors felt that the university system of today is irrelevant to student needs. University administrators are more concerned with keeping IBM machines in working order that with stimulating creative thinking in students.

Liberal arts courses are aimed at turning out an "ideal student." Required courses, are rarely geared to what the student himself is interested in.

Some of the editors representing the New Left expressed dissatisfaction with conservatives who resist social change. The civil rights movement is indicative of the need for social change. Cross, President of Minnesota, said that this generation of college students is "more humane...than any previous generation."

College students, he said, are increasingly interested in poverty within the United States. However, many have become disillusioned with the power structure which has slowed down social change in this area.

There is a wide gap in political thinking. Walter Lippman expressed a view popular with his audience that the Federal Government is using outdated tactics in Vietnam. The generation which fought World War II is unsuccessful using the methods of twenty-five years ago to fight a war in 1967.

The opinion current at the meeting was there is a generation gap. But closing it is not an insurmountable task. The extensive radio and television coverage and close scrutiny by the press proved that the older generation is paying close attention to what college students are saying.

Delegates Attend Seminar: "University and World Change"

Student delegates from Fontbonne attended the ecumenical seminar on "The University and World Change" Feb. 17-19.

Held at the University Kansas at Lawrence, the seminar focused on such questions as "How can man's dignity and freedom be defended against increasing impersonal forces? What specific efforts need to be made by the Church, the university, and each person in the face of tomorrow's agenda? How does the United States foreign policy reflect a grasp of the true demands of tomorrow's world?"

Speakers included Dr. George Borgstrom, Professor of Philosophy, at Michigan State University, and a foremost expert on world food and population problems; Dr. Herman Kahn, Director of the Hudson Institute and a physicist and specialist in national security affairs. Hon. Donald Fraser of Minnesota, member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, and Dr. Clark Cooper, Dean of Men and Foreign Student Advisor at the University of Kansas.

Mary Bokamer and Margaret Mary Moore represented the Fontbonne Staff and Ellen O'Fallon and Margie McNamara represented the National Federation of Catholic College Students (NFCCS).

The ecumenical seminar was sponsored by the Newman International Office, NFCCS; Dep. of Higher Education; National Council of Churches; Board of Education, Methodist Church; and the University Christian Movement.

Ridiculous Habit to Kill 50,000 This Year

"Over 50,000 wonderful American people will die this year because of a rather ridiculous habit," Dr. James P. Cooney told a group of college newspaper editors. As vice-president for Medical Affairs for the American Cancer Society, Dr. Cooney believes the public, and especially young people, should be educated in the realistic facts about smoking. "People companies can afford to advertise," he said, "but very little is being done in supporting the opposite side."

The relationship between cigarette smoking and lung cancer has now been proven by an extraordinary amount of research and evidence. Cigarette tar is, in fact, 75% of all cases of lung cancer.

Dr. Cooney asserted that, although women place lower on the lung cancer statistic charts, this does not denote immortality to any degree. Men have been smoking longer than women, and it is these veteran smokers who are beginning to show cancer.

In the question period following his lecture, Dr. Cooney was asked whether this danger applied only to the excessive smoker. He replied that, while moderate smoking is not in itself greatly harmful, moderation is hard to control. "Very few people consistently stop at five or ten cigarettes a day," he said.

Dr. Cooney does not believe tar-reduced cigarettes are the answer. Because these lack sufficient taste, the individual makes up for it by smoking more, thus defeating the purpose, Dr. Cooney's advice -- "Don't smoke!"

Madeleine Meyer, Anita Bule and Marsha Lommel, Font staff members, attended the banquet-lecture-discussion.

Sunnyside Singers entertained at Nazareth Convnet, home for retired Sisters of St. Joseph, at a Mardi Gras celebration. Seniors at St. Louis University and Fontbonne make up this group. Left to right: Jim Weckback, Sheila Gauhin, Jim Bartelow, Mary Siniscal, Rich Gaynor, Margaret Moore, Lep Allen, Jane Scoppellite, and Vic Clever.

Font Reporters To Press Meet In Jacksonville

Two freshmen reporters for THE FONT, Laurie Schoeneck and Sue McGuire, will attend the 14th Annual MacMurray College Newspaper Conference on March 3-4. The meeting promises to be especially helpful because of the clinic sessions.

Copies of three back issues of THE FONT have been sent to the Clinic leaders for advance study and review. At the special session individual criticism and suggestions will be made by men prominent in the newspaper field. Most of the leaders are either from the Chicago or St. Louis area.

Posics

Posics to Jackie Schallon, sophomore, who has volunteered to babysit for the winner of the Alumni Association's free weekend at Rock Lane Lodge, Table Rock, Mo.

The winner will be announced at the Association's April 19 meeting which will be held in Mediati Hall at 8 p.m.
A Touch of Magic
By Lorena A. Hickok
First Place Winner in Catholic Community Library Contest
February 24, 1967

Many books are written about accomplishments and achievements of the handicapped. However, we seldom hear about the "other self," the silent, unobtrusive worker who is always there, supporting, guiding, indispensable. Just such a person was Anne Sullivan, Helen Keller's great teacher. In A TOUCH OF MAGIC, Lorena Hickok tells Anne's story, not of miracles, but of love and courage and hard work.

With a skill often lacking in the usual "success story," the author is sympathetic without maudlin sentimentality. Anne is portrayed not as a saint or genius, but as a living, vital human being. We feel for the sensitive, lonely little girl who smashes the presents under the Christmas tree because the big, beautiful doll is not for her. We ache poignantly as Miss Hickok expresses, with flat objectivity, the attitude of the Sullivan relatives, "She was simply not a nice little girl, and nobody wanted her."

Strengthened by Trial

But it was this wretched childhood that would make Anne strong, resilient person she was, without the long, hopeless years at an almshouse in Tewksbury, Massachusetts, without the cruel snobbery of the proper New England girls at the Perkins Institution for the Blind, Anne might not have been strong enough, or forceful enough to bring Helen Keller out of her world of lonely frustration. What seems a deprived background actually gave Anne the strength to go on. The strong, inflexible will that had once spent itself in fits of temper, was finally given constructive direction. At last Anne had someone to love.

Subjective but factual, the book depicts a real struggle carried on by real people. Miss Hickok's characters are warmly human -- little Jimmie, slowly dying of tuberculosis and neglect, Captain Keller, always the Southern aristocrat, and Helen herself, the wild, tantrum-throwing little replica of Anne's own childhood.

Here the reader does not find the truth sacrificed to sentiment. There is definitely a "touch of magic," in Helen Keller's seemingly miraculous success, but the touch is far more important than the magic. The scene at the pump where Helen learns that "Everything has a name" comes about naturally after long, hard weeks of spelling words into the unresponsive little palm. Later when stories of Helen's achievements begin to spread throughout the world, it is Anne who, unafraid of making enemies for herself, tries valiantly to shield the "wonder child" from exploitation.

Truth through Drama

It was work, love, and courage that brought Anne Sullivan and her pupil to success. We are familiar with only a few great milestones in Helen Keller's career. There are dozens of little incidents and minor details that made these milestones possible. Miss Hickok has attempted to show us the little things, the small successes and the great disappointments. The author is truthful rather than dramatic, yet, in that truth she presents a drama so real and so genuine that the half-blind but dedicated teacher and the sensitive, vivacious child take on overpowering vitality.

The philosophy by which they lived is summed up briefly but eloquently in Anne Sullivan's own words, "No matter what happens, keep on beginning and failing. Each time you fail, start all over again, and you will grow stronger until you find that you have accomplished a purpose -- not the one you began with perhaps, but one that you will be glad to remember.

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