

News Digest

4 Central Street

Millers Falls, Massachusetts 01349

No. 6

September, 1967

YOUTH CONGRESS TURNS ATTENTION TO TOURISTS' LANGUAGE PROBLEMS

The international organization of young speakers of Esperanto - TEJO - held its 23d annual congress in Rotterdam, Netherlands, during the first week of August. Participants from the United States, Canada, Western and Eastern Europe, and Japan were briefed by experts on the politics, industrial problems, and culture of the host country. The possibilities for the appreciation of a national literature by an international audience were demonstrated by Wouter Pilger, who presented an inspiring survey of Dutch poetry through the ages, using as illustrations his own specially prepared - and exquisite - Esperanto translations. Language problems in international travel received the bulk of attention in the numerous lectures and discussions at the congress. Ivo Osibov, president of TEJO, in recognition of the United Nations' International Tourist Year, launched the congress with a speech on the significance of world travel by today's youth. This theme was later taken up in orations at the traditional forensic competition, and in discussions of the work being done by the organization's newly established Research Center.

Japan Captures Miss Esperanto Title Second Year in Row

The young speakers of the international language took over Rotterdam's unusual floating school, the Jan Backx, during the week of the congress. The converted ship served as hotel, ballroom, and informal meeting-place. During the formal ball, 120 persons watched young Ria Anzai, a university student from Tokyo, be elected Miss Esperanto of 1967. The congress participants had many opportunities in their free time to make and renew international acquaintances; and because they all knew the international language Esperanto, they were able, in the words of one young American present, to speak "freely and in friendship" with all. The youth congress took place in conjunction with the world congress of Esperanto being held in the same city.

THREE NEW PUBLICATIONS A BOON TO STUDENTS, TEACHERS

JEN Issues Research Aid

The study of the language barrier and the international language Esperanto in schools and universities has now been made easier by a new publication, a 14-page "Research Bibliography on Esperanto and International Language Problems", compiled by Humphrey Tonkin, assistant professor of English at the University of Pennsylvania. Published by JEN, the organization of Esperanto-speaking young Americans, this long-needed guide is designed for students wanting to write anything from grade-school compositions to Ph.D. theses on Esperanto. The bibliography describes both basic and advanced sources of information in each area which it covers. At the end is a list of important topics for term papers and of little-researched questions on which advanced work would be profitable. The bibliography, which sells for 50¢, is available from JEN, from the Information Center of the Esperanto League, and from the West Coast Esperanto Book Service (addresses on page 3 of this *News Digest*). Members of JEN may order this publication at half price (from JEN only).

New Course from Indiana Stirs Interest

September 11 is the publication date of the special trial edition of *Modern Esperanto*, the latest and probably most up-to-date textbook of the international

language. The author, Duncan Charters, is Preceptor in Language Instruction at Indiana University. In *Modern Esperanto*, Charters applies the "audio-lingual" approach, following the project teaching texts of the Modern Language Association. The textbook is only one part of a 4-part course. Soon after the text there will be published a teacher's manual (September 18), a student workbook (September 25), and a set of language laboratory tapes (October 2). Together these materials will form a comprehensive one-year high-school or one-semester intensive college course. The course is being published in experimental form for testing by teachers and examination by experts of the Universal Esperanto Association before its regular publication at a later date.

Modern Esperanto has already caused excitement among teachers of Esperanto around the United States. After a demonstration by Charters of his course methods to an audience of teachers and school officials in San Mateo, California, 200 of the courses were ordered for use in this fall's classes on the San Francisco Peninsula. Prices have been announced thus far on the course text (\$2.00) and the teacher's manual (\$1.50). Orders for, and inquiries about, these materials should be sent to *Modern Esperanto*, Ballantine 844, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana 47401.

Information Kit Released in California

The West Coast Esperanto Book Service announces the availability of its new "General Information Kit", designed especially to provide teachers and prospective teachers of Esperanto with the facts they need. As a service to educators and others interested in the educational applications of the international language, the Book Service has assembled in one package a variety of reports and documents, prepared by experts in their fields. Included are "A Research Bibliography on Esperanto and International Language Problems" by Humphrey Tonkin, "Myth and Fact about Esperanto" by author-critic William Auld, "The Cultural Value of Esperanto" by D. B. Gregor, "The Educational Value of Esperanto Teaching in the Schools" by British educator Raif Markarian, and many other documents and articles. The General Information Kit can be ordered for \$2.00 from the West Coast Esperanto Book Service (address on page 3).

RECENT EVENTS

Esperanto-Speaking Americans Meet

The 1967 meeting of the Esperanto League was held in St. Louis, Missouri, during July 6-9. Encouraged by friendly letters and telegrams from five United States Congressmen, the participants from the U.S. and abroad reported on the progress of Esperanto in their communities and fields of specialization, and laid plans for the future of the national Esperanto movement.

New Yorkers Host Japanese Businesswoman

Sixty speakers of Esperanto from the New York area had an informal get-together with Mrs. Yukiko Isobe, a Japanese entrepreneur, drama expert, and former civil servant, at Freedom House in New York City on August 21. Using the international language as a bridge between East and West is nothing new for Mrs. Isobe, who is a director of the Fujita Pearl Company, Tokyo.

Also visiting Esperanto groups this month is Japanese journalist and youth leader Kakehi Kunimaro, who is on a tour of the United States following his participation in the international Esperanto youth congress in the Netherlands.

ESPERANTO IN THE PRESS

Chicago

"Esperanto, the 'Simpla Lingvo'": this was the headline of a story on Esperanto carried by one of Chicago's major newspapers, the *Tribune*, in its Sunday, July 16, edition. The article reported a question-and-answer session with members of the Esperanto Society of Chicago at one of their downtown meetings.

New York

The New York *Times* of August 23 carried an interview with the President of E.P. Dutton and Company about their surprisingly popular translated editions of A.A. Milne's *Winnie the Pooh*. After commenting on the Latin, Russian, French, and

German versions, the publisher said, "We are also thinking of coming out with an edition in Esperanto, but a final decision will depend on the demand of the Esperanto societies here and in other countries."

The *News Digest* can assure its readers of the excellence of the translation in question. The publisher's address is E.P. Dutton & Co., 210 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10003.

COMING UP

East Coast Esperanto Activists to Meet

Active speakers of -- and workers for -- the international language Esperanto from Boston to Washington will convene in New York City for the 1967 Eastern Regional Esperanto Conference this month. The conference will take place on September 22 and 23, at 156 5th Avenue (corner of 20th Street). The meeting will be devoted to three main efforts: expanding the seriously inadequate supply of Esperanto teachers, strengthening the local and regional bases of the Esperanto movement in the United States, and profiting from the results of the recent conventions held by American and international Esperanto organizations.

The conference will provide an outstanding chance for interested persons in the Northeast to acquaint themselves with the problems, as well as the promise, of the international language in the U.S. To register for the conference in advance, send \$3.00 to the Conference Committee, c/o the Information Center of the Esperanto League (address below). You may obtain information about the conference before registering by writing to the same address.

NEWS FROM JEN

Elections

The annual elections for JEN's Executive Board resulted in a new, more compact, 5-member board, which took office on September 1. The current Board members are Julie Crandall, Francis Lanzone, Jr., Arthur Morse, Jonathan Pool, and Robert Rothenmeyer.

Executive Board Meets, Plans Year

The incoming board met in Cambridge, Massachusetts, at the end of August and began what will probably be an extended period of reorganization, in an effort to deal more efficiently with the problems and goals of JEN. The organization's spectacular progress in 1966-1967, compared with the previous years, was due to the almost single-handed exertion of Julie Crandall, to whom we owe the existence of the *News Digest*, and perhaps the continued existence of JEN itself. Because of the consequently strengthened position of the organization this year, it is hoped that the concentration of so many arduous duties in one pair of hands will not be necessary in the future.

/IMPORTANT ADDRESSES/

INFORMATION CENTER, ESPERANTO LEAGUE (E.I.C.)
 Room 821, 156 5th Avenue, New York, New York 10010
 ESPERANTO INFORMATION CENTER (WEST COAST E.I.C.)
 410 Darrell Road, Hillsborough, California 94010
 WEST COAST ESPERANTO BOOK SERVICE
 2129 Elizabeth Street, San Carlos, California 94070

/HOW TO WRITE TO JEN/

Send general inquiries to Arthur Morse, Secretary of JEN
 4 Central Street, Millers Falls, Massachusetts 01349
 Send inquiries about membership in JEN and subscription to the *News Digest* to
 Robert Rothenmeyer, Membership Secretary of JEN
 4 Central Street, Millers Falls, Massachusetts 01349
 Send orders for the Research Bibliography to Francis Lanzone, Treasurer of JEN
 2129 Elizabeth Street, San Carlos, California 94070
 Send material for inclusion in the *News Digest* to Jonathan Pool
 377 International House, 1414 East 59th Street, Chicago, Illinois 60637

Also: Correspondence Course - \$26 - pay to JEN. Under 22 years -
 #21 - " " #. Send separately
 letter from an administrative officer certifying your
 full-time student status.

DO YOU WANT TO LEARN ESPERANTO?

Then consider the International Correspondence Course, developed in Europe for world-wide use and now available in the United States through JEN, the organization of Esperanto-speaking young Americans. The International Correspondence Course is based on a textbook by Finnish author Vilho Setala, and uses the direct method. With this method the student begins reading and writing in Esperanto, without translation, from the very first lesson. With the special textbook, the learner reads and re-reads, "soaking up" the language and then testing his knowledge by answering questions and making up his own sentences. This is the "in-depth" approach used by major language-teaching companies today.

But you don't need to take two weeks off from work, or spend several hundred dollars, to utilize this method with the International Correspondence Course. Normal course completion time is six months or one school semester, but each student proceeds at his own pace through the 26-lesson course, with the continual supervision of a highly qualified personal instructor until the course is finished. Each person who successfully completes this Esperanto course receives the official Certificate of Completion from JEN.

The course fee is \$26. This fee includes instruction and all course materials (lesson sheets, the textbook, and a reference grammar book). For those under 22 years of age who are enrolled as full-time students in a school, college, or other institution, the fee is reduced to \$21. Enrollment is easy: send the enrollment application form below with your remittance (and if you are a student under 22 a letter certifying your student status) to the course director:

Jonathan Pool
377 International House
1414 East 59th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60637

(cut here)

JEN
INTERNATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE COURSE
ENROLLMENT APPLICATION FORM

I wish to enroll in the International Correspondence Course.

[] I enclose the course fee of \$26. (Make check payable to JEN)

[] I am under 22 years old and am a full-time student. I am enclosing or sending under separate cover a letter from an administrative officer of my school, certifying my full-time student status. I enclose the special student course fee of \$21. (Make check payable to JEN)

Signature

Name (please print)

Address

City State Zip

(The following information will help us select the most suitable instructor for you.)

Occupation Age

Reasons for learning Esperanto:

- [] Reading [] Business or profession
[] Pen-pals [] Linguistic interest
[] Traveling [] Other:
[] Hobbies:

Previous foreign language experience, if any