

THE SALZBURG SEMINAR IN AMERICAN CIVILIZATION

Sponsored by

The Harvard Student Council
July 15 - August 31
Castle Leopoldskron, Salzburg

June 7, 1947

Ninety European scholars and advanced students, specializing in one of the aspects of American civilization, will join a group of twenty American scholars and students this summer for six weeks of common study at Castle Leopoldskron near Salzburg, marking the beginning of the first experiment in international education in postwar Europe. Because the group will consist of teachers or future teachers in the Universities and High Schools of their home countries, the Seminar will make it possible for the present and future leaders of European thought and education, to study with Americans a well-defined subject of common interest. With favorable living conditions, time and facilities for advanced work, and the stimulus of contact with professional leaders from other countries, the Seminar will provide for the most immediate physical and intellectual needs of European students. The curriculum, based on American studies in literature, history, government, economics, sociology and the arts, will form a nucleus for discussion of method and theory in the various disciplines, and point perhaps to fresh attitudes and a firmer understanding of both America and Europe. It is hoped that the members of the Seminar will return to their classrooms with a firmer belief in the future reconstruction of Europe on a democratic basis.

MEMBERSHIP Students of nineteen countries are being reached through the national committees of the International Student Service and are being asked to submit applications. The applications submitted will be acted upon by members of the Executive Committee, who will, where possible, interview the candidates. The following quotas have been agreed on by members of the Committee and the ISS: Austria 15; France 6; Great Britain 6; Germany 5; Italy 5; Belgium 3; Holland 3; Czechoslovakia 4; Greece 3; Poland 3; Hungary 3; Displaced Persons 6; Spain 2; Yugoslavia 3; Bulgaria 2; Roumania 2; Scandinavia 9; Finland 3; Russia 6; Switzerland 2.

The criteria established for the selection of European members of the Seminar have been their study as teachers of advanced students of American civilization, their scholastic achievement, their ability to speak English and their maturity and personal qualifications. Advance indications from those who have already applied or who have been recommended to the Committee demonstrate that such specifications are being greatly exceeded. Enough students of the very highest calibre from Poland and Hungary have already applied to fill each country's quota twice over. But perhaps individual records are more impressive than numbers. The following is an excerpt of a letter from an official of the Hoover Institute and Library:

A very capable, young scholar living in Rome, Italy, Vittorio Gabrieli of Via S. Domenico 1-A, has applied for selection as one of the six Italian representatives. I am well acquainted with Gabrieli whom I met last year in Italy when I was representing the Hoover Library of Stanford University. Gabrieli is a student and lecturer in the field of English and American Literature at the University of Rome. He wrote his thesis on Samuel Butler under the direction of the distinguished Italian professor Mario Praz. He has also served as a teacher of

Italian literature to American soldiers in Rome, has worked in the Psychological Warfare Bureau, and has been a Reuters Correspondent in Rome. Gabrieli has published several translations from English into Italian of historical, political, and social works, and has edited a bibliography of Italian studies on Anglo-Saxon Literature during the period 1920 to 1940. He speaks English very fluently, and is also proficient in French and German. Gabrieli was jailed for anti-fascist activities in 1940, and was an active member in the underground movement. He is democratic in the western sense of the word....

AMERICAN DELEGATES The American staff consists of a permanent faculty of nine, a number of part-term faculty members, and a group of graduate students who will act as assistants. The faculty will include:

American Literature

F.O. Matthiessen (Harvard) and Alfred Kazin

Government

Benjamin Wright (Harvard)
Neil A. McDonald (New Jersey College for Women)

Sociology

Dr. Margaret Mead (American Museum of Natural History)

Economics

Walter Rostow (Oxford) and W. Leontief (Harvard)

American History

Richard Schlatter (Rutgers) and Elspeth Davies (Sarah Lawrence)

Among the visiting members of the faculty will be Lyman Bryson and several European scholars.

The assistants are graduate students specializing in the subjects to be studied at Salzburg. They will include:

American Literature

Jacob Levenson, Mark Linenthal, Eugenia Villacana
(all from Harvard)

Government

George Ritter (Yale)
Allan Colley (Princeton)

Sociology

Mrs. Rhoda Metraux (Columbia)

Economics

Carl Kaysen (Harvard)
James Lorie (Chicago)

American History

Kenneth Lynn (Harvard)
Jeremy Blanchett (Princeton)

The duties of the assistants will be primarily to lead small informal discussion groups; to aid the professors in any capacity; and, with the similarity of outlook as students, to provide closer intellectual liaison and the stimulus of varying points of view. The assistants have therefore been carefully selected by members of the committee, through written application and personal interview, on the basis of their special interests, their scholarly ability, and their ability to conduct a discussion.

During the course of the six weeks we hope to have as guest lecturers, certain European professors prominent in American civilization studies. The Americans ought to bring back to the United States as much new insight as they stimulate among the Europeans.

PLAN OF WORK The courses will be set up on the basis of two or three lectures by each professor a week, and so arranged that members of the Seminar may attend all lectures if they choose. Afternoons will be devoted to small informal discussion groups in which the professors will have the assistance of the American student members of the staff. Every member will be expected to accomplish one definite piece of work (e.g., a long paper).

LEOPOLDSKRON Castle Leopoldskron, built by an Archbishop in the 18th century, and later a residence of King Louis II of Bavaria, was bought by Max Reinhardt in the 1920's. Within 20 minutes' walking distance of the center of Salzburg, it lies in beautiful country a mile south of the Monchsberg, surrounded by parks and gardens, and facing a large pond which can be used for bathing. Among the forty-four rooms in the rectangular three-story building, are halls which may be used as classrooms, and a library.

All arrangements for the physical plant have been made through the central office of the International Student Service in Geneva by M. Maurice Didier. After several trips to Vienna and Salzburg, M. Didier was able to lease the property from Mrs. Reinhardt, to secure permission of the Military Government and the cooperation of the Austrian Government, and to arrange for the needed repairs. The building was somewhat damaged during the war, but is being repaired at the same time that additional sanitary facilities are being installed. Although the castle is partly furnished, a certain amount of necessary equipment is still to be obtained. The Austrian Government has loaned 130 beds fitted with blankets and linens, as well as a sufficient number of tables, chairs, and cupboards, but other major items, such as crockery and cooking apparatus, are only now being purchased. The difficulties involved in the preparation of the castle were, of course, immeasurably heightened by the conditions in Austria. As M. Didier wrote, "Practically nothing can be bought in the country." He had to purchase the window glass in Czechoslovakia and the plumbing material in Switzerland. These conditions make the food problem, as well, a serious one, and much of the supplies must come from outside the country, part from Austria, part from Czechoslovakia, and the rest from CARE parcels.

The practical living arrangements as well as repairs are being made by the ISS. An Austrian manager who ran an UNNRA hotel for two years will manage the castle; he will be assisted by a small technical staff for cooking and maintenance work.

The students will live either in dormitories of from 6 to 10 persons or in a larger one accommodating 30 persons; members of the faculty and married couples will have individual rooms. Meals will be served cafeteria-style.

SPONSORS The Seminar is a project of the Harvard Student Council, sponsored by a group of leading American educators, and is administered jointly by the Harvard Student Council and the International Student Service, Geneva. The executive committee received an official invitation by cable from the Austrian government, the the following cable from the Military Government in Austria; "From United States forces in Austria, USACA Section, Education Division, cite PAACA/K to Harvard Student Council, Cambridge, Mass., information to Miss Shipley, Passport Division, State Department, Washington, D.C. The project has the approval of this headquarters with the understanding that army assistance will not be asked or required. Commanding General, USFA 28 1529Z." In addition, much aid and encouragement has come from individuals in the Military Government at Vienna, particularly the Education Sections, and from Washington, as well as the State Department.

FINANCES The total running budget for the Seminar has been set at \$23,500. A breakdown of this sum is as follows:

\$9,000	Food
3,000	Rent
1,500	Repair and maintenance
3,000	Transportation for European members
4,000	Transportation for Americans
1,000	Administrative costs - European
1,000	Administrative costs - American
1,000	Books
<u>\$23,500</u>	

The item, transportation for Americans, includes three round trip plane reservations for two professors and one administrative staff member, and three round trip ship reservations for two professors and one administrative staff member. No salaries are paid to the staff; but living expenses at the castle are free to all.

There is already a fair working library of American literature in the U.S. Information Center in Salzburg. Many other books are being sent from America.

As of June 1st, we have \$16,000 in cash. The remaining \$7,500 we hope to raise from private donors between now and July 1. Contributions are tax deductible. Checks are to be made out to World Student Service Fund, 20 West 40th St. New York City, the American agent of International Student Service. Checks should be earmarked for the Salzburg Seminar and sent to the above address. The president of World Student Service Fund is George N. Shuster, of Hunter College.

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