



THE FOREIGN STUDY GROUP

ON the morning of July 17, 1926, the steamship "La France" sailed out of New York harbor carrying with it the forty-five students of the Delaware Foreign Study Group who were destined to spend a year in France. They were accompanied by Miss Caroline Fitzwater, counselor for women, Mr. Raymond W. Kirkbride, director, and Mr. A. G. Wilkinson. The plan by which it was possible for these students to go to France was inaugurated in the autumn of 1922 by the University of Delaware with the financial support of the Service Citizens of Delaware, the P. S. du Pont educational foundation. The general purpose of this plan is to provide supervised undergraduate foreign study in order to meet the demands of the United States' expanding world relationships.

After landing at Le Havre and going from there to Paris where they spent several days, the group went to Nancy, a very interesting city in Lorraine. There, preliminary drill in French was taken at the Université de Nancy. The work, which is very thorough, is designed to give the student a wide knowledge of both spoken and written French and to acquaint him with the French method of study. The students lived with private families. The French people accepted them most cordially into their social life, inviting them to teas, dances, and soirées, and accompanying them to the theater or to the concerts given at the large cafés. Near the end of the summer, the group took a two-day trip through the Vosges Mountains and to Strasbourg, the very delightful half-French, half-German city with its queer gabled roofs and its

inhabitants dressed in the picturesque costume of Lorraine. Another short trip was taken to Verdun and to the battlefields. In September, a week was spent traveling in the Alps. The itinerary of this trip included Grenoble, Annecy, Chamonix, the famous winter resort of the French Alps, where the group went on the glacier, the Mer de Glâce, and Geneva. At Geneva, some of the students attended a session of the League of Nations while others visited the Bureau of International Labor.

After examinations at the Université, the group left Nancy for Paris. A number of the students spent several days in traveling through northern France and Belgium. They stopped at Rheims to see the great cathedral; in Amsterdam and Brussels, they found vestiges of the great Flemish civilization of past centuries especially as shown in the work of the famous artists, Van Dyke and Rubens.

Finally, in the midst of pouring rain, which is so typical of Parisian weather, the group reached the great capital where they stayed until the early part of July. They pursued their academic work principally at the Université de Paris, the Sorbonne, and the École Libre des Sciences Politiques. They took courses in French literature, art, history, philosophy, and social and economic development, these courses being given by some of the most distinguished professors in France. In addition to these regular lectures, each student had private lessons in French grammar and conversation; and in accordance with a tutorial system based upon that of Oxford, students in groups of five met once a week with tutors for classes

which supplemented each course taken at the Sorbonne.

While the academic work was a very important factor in the life of the members of the Foreign Study Group, it constituted but one side of their study abroad. As in Nancy, they lived with French families, became absorbed in French life, and studied it very closely. They attended the opera or theater about once a week, thus becoming acquainted with the best operas, and with both classic and modern drama, all of which are important elements in French culture. Paris with its history and traditions, with such priceless treasures as the Louvre, the Sainte Chapelle, and Nôtre Dame was there all about them for them to study, to appreciate, and to love. Several short excursions were made in and around Paris. The group spent one morning in the Gobelin factories where many of the most beautiful tapestries of the centuries have been made. The students had the privilege of being present at sessions of both the Sénat and the Chambre des Députés. One day they spent at Versailles, where it was possible to study French classic art in its purest form and to recall the episodes of history connected with the great château.

At Easter, what was probably the most delightful trip of all, was taken through southern France. After stopping at Lyon, and at Avignon, where

they saw the Palais des Papes and the famous bridge, the party went to the fascinating old port, Marseilles. From there they traveled along the coast of the Mediterranean in the beautiful land of sunshine, gay flowers, deep blue skies and waters. Nice, Monte Carlo, and Vinte-Mille in Italy were among the interesting places that the group visited. Having seen the Mediterranean coast, they proceeded through the Pays Basque to the Atlantic coast and Biarritz, the fashionable resort; from there through the château region along the Loire. The château region is the France of romance and of chivalry, the setting of the brilliant courts of François I and Henri II.

After the Easter vacation, the rest of the stay in Paris was spent in studying for the final examinations which were taken at the end of June. Some members of the group accepted invitations to attend the christening of the "Ile de France" and enjoyed this very novel experience.

During such a year in France, a student of the Foreign Study Group acquires an accurate idea of French life and industry, and learns to appreciate Old World culture and art. His intellect and personality are broadened and enriched by his excellent academic training, by impressive travel, and by making new and varied acquaintances with people from all the countries of Europe.



Arena, -Nîmes



Vinipille, Italy



Monsieur Goetschy



Chateau de Blois

SNAPS
FROM
FOREIGN STUDY
GROUP



Chateau de Chambord



Dancing on the Pont d'Anignon



La Maison Carrée -Nîmes



Carcassonne-fortified City



Anignon



Cathedral at Lourdes



FROM OUT IN THE GREAT WORLD
IN THE YEAR 1928

DEAR UNDERGRADUATES:

Yes, we know you think you have your hands full now, but just wait until you are alumnæ and have to do things with the "do-ees" scattered to all the four winds.

But we have done fairly well this year, don't you think so? In the first place, we presented you and all who come after you with a portrait of the first Dean of the Women's College, our own Miss Robinson who has worked so hard and done so much for the college. We took some of your time on Founders' Day to do this, you remember.

Then, thanks to us and particularly to the committee headed by Mrs. Catherine Schunder Johnson, of the Pioneer Class of '18, we all have a woman to represent us on the Board of Trustees of the University, Mrs. A. D. Warner. As Mrs. Warner is an honorary member of the Alumnæ Association of the Women's College, we feel a particular pleasure and honor in her appointment by Governor Robinson.

You present undergraduates have got ahead of us in some respects; but by strenuous efforts, we have caught up in one. Some of the girls from '18 to '24 can now wear Phi Kappa Phi pins as well as those W. C. Dears from '24 on down the list.

What are we doing? Well, many are teachers, some are dietitians, others are in business, some few have tried journalism, and still others are psychologists and librarians. We can't begin to tell you of all the weddings that have taken place or are about to take place, or of the babies that have arrived this year—the telling would take too long. But we will say that in the group of alumnæ received into Phi Kappa Phi, there were more married ladies than bachelor maids! So you see, girls, there are lots of things you can do when you become alumnæ.

Very best wishes for your happiness and success, now and always.

Your big sisters,

THE ALUMNÆ.





THE COMMUTERS

IF your heart faints not and your breath is strong, come with me and we shall visit the strange regions wherein dwell the commuters—creatures with legs of iron and heads of wood, as well as hearts of gold. Faster, faster, turn—now right, now left, faster, faster, up the lengthy stairs, for no gait but this is appropriate to a commuter. A crash, the tinkle of falling glass! A cry: "A club!" Do not halt, companion; the sounds have no significance for us. The crash means merely that a beaker has broken in the Chemistry Lab; the cry comes from a source that we will later ascertain. Let us hurry, faster, faster. We have only a few more steps! The door is in sight. Onward!

We approach the goal breathless but we are rewarded; there they crouch around a table, holding books—nay, not books, but cards. The bridge is kept alight as dutifully as the ever-burning fire of Vesta; whenever one player must leave for such a necessary nuisance as a class, another eagerly replaces her. An overpowering and nauseating odor of incense pervades the room—the incense sucked by the fan from the Chemistry Lab and gently poured over all.

Not everyone is playing bridge, for there is someone on a disreputable lounge in the corner, actually with a book in her hand. Suddenly she rises,

slams the volume on the table, and creeps rather stealthily toward the shelves at the other end of the little room. The look of mingled anxiety and anticipation on her face resolves into questioning as she seizes one of the paper bags there. Which has raided her lunch first, the mice or the ants? Holes in the bag denote that the rodents got there first, but the insects have followed and are now present. Poor commuter,

should she hang her lunch on the mirror or the electric light next time?

The noise out in the corridor grows louder and louder. Cries are heard.

"Freshie, get me a drink."

"Freshie, next time you are at the Library, take your brief-case along and swipe some paper cups."

One or two youngsters of the genus Commuter hasten to do the bidding of their elders as the onslaught of the dinner hour begins. We had best depart; there are already fifteen people for fourteen chairs.

Let us return to the commuters' rooms, more slowly this time through the dusk. Alas, we are too late; the place is deserted except for the mice. I had hoped to show you the commuters' departure. That's the queer thing about the species; they spend their days and nights in different habitats. Some consider them a race apart.





Autographs

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