

Salt Talks

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war. It is an international problem and must be settled as such. It cannot be settled unilaterally by U.S.

"The question is how much pressure can be brought to bear by the Russians or Chinese," he said. "I think the Russians are heavily involved and I am disappointed they have not done more. I remain to be convinced that Russians are doing all they can."

"Millions of people are concerned," he said "to call this country militaristic is hogwash! I don't think it is reasonable to expect the U.S. to withdraw unilaterally or surrender. No other country in the world would do this. Why do they expect the impossible? Critics like to ask more of us than they would be willing to do."

"The meetings in Paris are not negotiations," Benton said, "they are hypocritical and almost immoral. I think they should be broken off with the option to renew them later. I see no point in continuing the farce, called negotiations."

Vorontsov said that he was not in a position to criticize or give

advice to the U.S. government and that he was not at liberty to reveal the history of negotiations, but that the Soviets did "not approve" of U.S. involvement in the war.

"We would like to see the Vietnam war stopped immediately," he said. "We think that it is easier for the U.S. to make bold moves than the Vietnamese. Their national security is at stake and they have been fighting for 25 years."

"The machinery in Paris is very good," he said, "but it is stuck. The north Vietnamese have a very respectable delegation. They have a member of the party presidium, one of 13, on the delegation, but there is no one on the U.S. delegation of corresponding rank."

He said the North Vietnamese want to talk about the political situation and all they ask is a coalition government that includes all elements in the country, but the U.S. refuses.

"You have an open field before you," Vorontsov said. "Everything is possible for you. Bigger countries do not suffer as much as small ones. Negotiations are possible, could be productive and are the only way out."



UNDER THE SYCAMORE TREE—The Aggie Players latest production, can be seen in Guion Hall at 8 p. m. tonight and March 19-21.

Ants Create Utopia in Under the Sycamore Tree Play Earns Laughter

Like the Aggie Players' first production of the season, "Dinny and the Witches," their most recent play, "Under the Sycamore Tree" by British playwright Samuel Spewack, mixes light satire and allegory.

Contemporary Western civilization is reduced to an ant-colony, a microcosm in which the Queen becomes all heads of state; the Scientist, all science; the Chief Statistician, all legislators; the General, a personification of the military. But, it's not quite that simple. Although the Scientist's attempts to humanize his fellow ants parallels his human counterparts' attempts to deify men, he succeeds; whereas we have not and, by the beginning of the third act, the ants have created a Utopian society which they are ready to share with mankind, if mankind will listen.

Spewack's play has its flaws: the irony in Act Three is diffused by inappropriate sentiment, and some of the jibes are British period pieces. But it is basically a "relevant," funny play, particularly well-chosen for an audi-

ence of student scientists and second lieutenants.

The production also had flaws, most of them due to external circumstance. There was no heat in Guion Hall Wednesday evening. So opening night jitters were compounded by shivers; the players alternately warmed and cooled to their task — their timing deteriorating rather than improving as the play progressed — and Sue Hachbold, who played the lead role of the Queen, demonstrated only occasionally that she does indeed possess the fire and aplomb necessary for the part.

In spite of the chill, though, the performance earned laughs and applause. Dennis Turner as the Scientist, David Campbell as Chief Statistician, and Jim Collins as the Boy Ant were the outstanding members of the male cast. Lucy Egg as Girl Ant, and Barbara Beals as Female Worker and oversexed offstage Voice of America, led the females.

Mitch Hall made an effective General, in spite of some missed lines and slurred diction. Alec Horn and Paul Peterson did well

as Brown Ant and Male Worker, respectively.

The offstage human voice (The ants first try to communicate with the human world by radio) were given character and personality by James Dennis, Paul Peterson, Bob Robinson and Robert Anderson.

As is usual with Aggie Players Productions, the spectacle was especially well done. Just to see Director Robert Wenck's triptich ant nest set would be worth the price of admission. That the set rumbly rotates in full view of the audience takes some getting used to, but it is an effective means of indicating scene changes, particularly when the actors freeze in tableau and music covers the mechanical noise.

Sound and lighting were coordinated with the rest of the production, and the costumes were particularly imaginative and appropriate.

The production continues through Friday of this week and resumes next week (Thursday through Saturday). I plan to see it again, and bring some friends.

Tom McClellan

Why We Will Again Vote "Yes" TO REAFFIRM THE BOND ISSUE For A&M Consolidated Schools

THIS IS NOT A NEW BOND ISSUE! ON May 17, 1969 a \$3,000,000 Bond Issue was approved by the VOTERS.

\$1,000,000 of These Bonds were Sold in August 1969

Because of the Texas Attorney General's Ruling, the Balance of the Bonds Cannot be Sold Without a Revote.

THE BOND ELECTION ON MAY 17, 1969, WAS HELD IN ACCORDANCE WITH TEXAS LAW, WHICH LIMITED VOTING IN SCHOOL BOND ELECTIONS TO PROPERTY TAXPAYERS WHO WERE REGISTERED VOTERS. THE DECISION TO CALL AN ELECTION FOR MARCH 14, 1970 RESULTS FROM A RECENT FEDERAL COURT RULING IN AN ARIZONA CASE. THIS RULING QUESTIONED THE VALIDITY OF LIMITING VOTING IN BOND ELECTIONS TO PROPERTY TAXPAYERS WHO ARE REGISTERED VOTERS. NOW, UNTIL THE SUPREME COURT RULES ON THE ARIZONA CASE, THE TEXAS ATTORNEY-GENERAL WILL NOT APPROVE THE SALE OF ANY TEXAS SCHOOL BONDS UNLESS VOTED UPON BY ALL REGISTERED VOTERS.

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