

Business and Professional Women's Club of Plaquemine

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Wednesday,
January 31, 1957

It is a pleasure to be with the members of the Business and Professional Women's Club of Plaquemine this evening and I am happy to have this opportunity to start our program which will be conducted by Professor Gyorgy of the Government faculty of the University. When this program was planned, Mrs. Grace indicated that the members of the Club would be interested in some discussion of international ^{Real} ~~affairs in which our~~ ~~Government is now actively engaged.~~ I suppose, at that time, none of us realized how keen the public interest in foreign affairs would be at this particular moment so that I feel that the program, which has been arranged, is a timely one. It is entitled "A Balance Sheet of American Foreign Policy." Throughout America, we hear the debate raging as to whether our foreign policy has or has not been successful and we look at Western Europe with great anxiety in this regard. Last week, I received a letter from a friend of mine in Louvain, Belgium. He is on the faculty of a theological college in Louvain, and visited L.S.U. last year. You may be interested in his observations:

"America's firm stand against Communism since the Korean affair has created an enormous amount of trustfulness over here. It is hard to realize how very much of eagerness to action and of courage has been destroyed by two world wars fought out on our battlefields. People got dispirited about democratic principles. In that way I felt very often ashamed about political laziness of so many European leaders. However signs are rising up of an united and better Europe. Maybe it is the twentieth fourth hour and it is our last chance. That's why, although I am not a politician, I firmly hope that America will not fall back in a fruitless kind of isolationism. The latest events of this

week show clearly that America intends to assume fully its world-leadership. America means for people over here a symbol of all these human and spiritual and religious values we have so long cherished and still cherish. And I am convinced that Europe will be on the right side.

"However it is my intimate conviction that the only peace can be founded on Christian and religious principles. A spiritual mobilization of all sound forces all over the world should go hand in hand with growing economic and military strength. And we should do our best to extend better social conditions to the poorer classes, especially in the under-cultivated areas of the world.

"This has been written down in order to give you a fair idea of the common reactions of the Belgian people. I guess that many of your students are already under military obligations. As for our students and even as for myself we might be called for service in the next future."

A reaction of this kind does raise the question of whether the future events of history will indicate a sound foreign policy in this post-war era.

I will not trespass any longer upon the time of our speakers. It is a pleasure at this time to introduce Professor Andrew Gyorgy, Associate Professor of Government at Louisiana State University. Professor Gyorgy is a native of Budapest, Hungary and has an intimate first-hand knowledge of political conditions in Eastern Europe. Dr. Gyorgy received his Master of Arts degree from the University of California in 1940, and his Ph.D. degree from that Institution in 1942, majoring in the fields of Jurisprudence and Political Science. He is also a graduate of the University of Budapest and holds his degree in law from that University. He came to this country in 1938

under the auspices of the Rockefeller Foundation. He is a member of the American Society of International Law and is a keen student of international affairs. He has previously served on the Faculty of the University of California, both in Los Angeles and Berkeley and for three years he was Assistant Professor of Government at Yale University. He has been at L.S.U. since 1949. It is a great pleasure to present Dr. Gyorgy who will, in turn, introduce his students participating in the program with him.