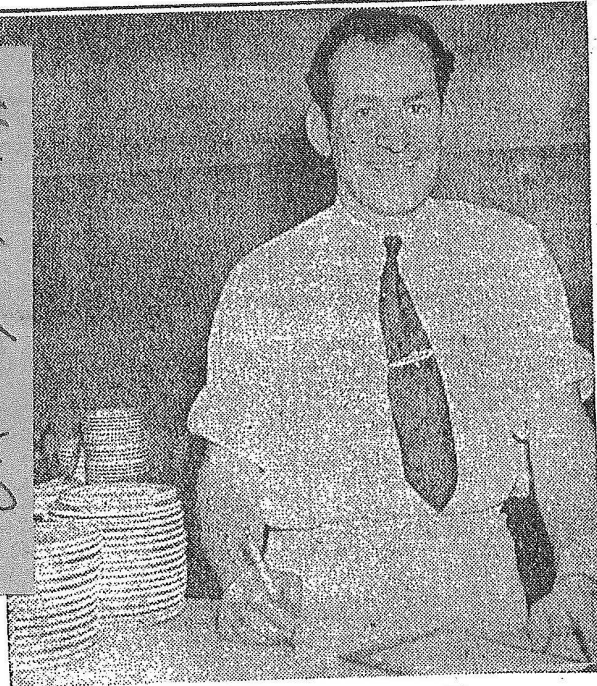


"Grapes Of Wrath" Is True Of Europe Normally, States Young Greek Citizen Here



JOHN PANTEL AT HIS WORK

BY ALICE LLOYD
The Greeks had a word for it, Americans have two—"Oh Johnny!"

It was a bad break for Middletown girls that John "Oh Johnny" Pantel decided last fall to marry the girl he wooed when he returned to Greece in the early summer. Since last September, when the American consul advised all American citizens to evacuate Greece, "Johnny" has been wifeless. He had been married three days when war was declared and separation from his bride was the only course open to him.

In the months that have elapsed since his return to American shores, he has used every possible means to admit her to America, including intercessions from Ohio representatives in Washington. A character analysis of Pantel by the superintendent of schools at Ashland, Ky., now is ready to be forwarded as testimony of the young Greek's fitness as an American.

GETS RECOMMENDATION

The recommendation sums up John Pantel in a few words: "He came to us in 1935, was graduated with honors in 1938. The following year he attended the local junior college. During this time he merited recognition in scholastic achievement as well as high character and industry. During the above school period he was employ-

ed part time and, although not earning sufficient money to accommodate very much, he was consistently industrious and purposeful in advancing his education."

John Pantel was past 20 years old when he started to school, first, in Detroit, then in Ashland, Ky. He now is 28 and has learned much more than is in school books in the years since education unfolded its opportunity to view life in the light of a free-thinking American.

It took courage for a youth of 20 to want an education so much that he elected to mingle with pupils half his size and years. He took ridicule from his classmates and personal friends, but turned a deaf ear to both sides. That he came through with flying colors and with more than his parchment scroll indicates leads "Johnny" Pantel to theorize that "an education at the time of life when he received it is more valuable than to children. I believe the system of schooling should be changed, if possible, allowing boys and girls to play in their childhood when their minds are immature, then educating them when they could better appreciate the value of an education. To most children, texts are only written pages that are difficult to absorb or are memorized, word for

(Continued on page 6-A)

'GRAPES OF WRATH' IS TRUE OF EUROPE

(Continued from page 1-A)

word, but subjects like arithmetic, history and English provoke a student in his teens to be more inquisitive about them."

EDUCATION FINE THING

He subscribes to the thought, does this young business man with a genius for poetry and music, that "education is a fine thing, but experience and ingenuity must go with it to be successful. Just because a boy or girl has a college education, he is not entitled to think he should start at the top of the ladder in the business and professional world when he is through. Out of school every person should be willing to learn his ABC's in the world of work."

What does this handsome waiter who is employed by his brother-in-law, Guz Valen, expect to be? He hopes some day to have a business of his own. "Had I started earlier, I might have tried for one of the professions, but I'm not going to brood over that. I think the trouble with most of us is that we dream too much."

EUROPE AND AMERICA

So recently abroad, he is capable of making comparison between America's peace and the discontent in European countries. "We in America get all excited about elections and depressions, but how would you like to live where there is a depression all the time and where a man can't even speak against a government he may detest?"

"'Grapes of Wrath', may be a picture of the misfortunes of residents in certain sections of the country but it is typical of univers-

al life in European countries. Not until you go over there, can you really say 'God Bless America.' It is just like getting sick to appreciate good health."

Blue to Jerry Z.

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