

OREGON STUDENT IS REAL MAGICIAN

Virgil Mulkey is Student
Disciple of Houdini

LONG TOURS ARE MADE

Latest Stunt is that of
Hindu Crystal Gazer

Well versed in the black arts, familiar with the deceptions of Alexander, and possessed of the secrets of Houdini, Virgil H. Mulkey, a junior in the University, stalks about the campus, free from suspicion by faculty and students alike. But Mulkey, when accused, denies the stigma of being a male witch.

"I'm a magician, I'll admit, and I intend to devote my life to the magician's profession; but there's nothing super-human about my performances. I started doing a few simple card tricks when I was nine or ten years old. My boyhood heroes were not Sherlock Holmes and Jesse James. In their stead were Herman, Keller, Houdini, Thurston, Alexander, Blackwood, and a score of others. Instead of outgrowing the hobby, the fascination has increased. A magician never deserts his profession. There is something about it that holds you."

Mulkey's is no idle dream. He gives a performance on the average of once a week throughout the school year in the smaller towns about Eugene. Cottage Grove, Wendling, Creswell, Coburg, and a dozen others have been mystified by the illusions of Magical Mulkey. In his freshman year he staged an act for the junior vaudeville. During the summer of 1922 he made a successful two months tour in California. Financially the venture prospered to the extent of a Ford and numerous bits of stage paraphernalia.

When asked of a stage name Mulkey said, "I always use my own name. Almost every adjective that I would care to use rhymes with my own name. So on the bill boards it goes, Mysterious, Marvelous, Mystifying, Mystic Magnificent, Magical Mulkey."

This enterprising future Alexander has an outfit worth about a thousand dollars. This equipment gives him a selection of about 150 tricks to choose from.

Crystal gazing is Mulkey's most recent addition to his regular two and a quarter hour show. Persons may bring questions sealed in tin cans or baked in loaves of bread, and without molesting the container, Mulkey, by peering into his crystal, is enabled to correctly answer the questions.

Mulkey is also proficient in the Houdini sort of escape-artist tactics. On the stage he frequently makes escapes from nailed and roped boxes. As an advertising stunt for a show which he hopes to give in Eugene in the future, he is tempted to let someone nail him up in a box and throw him in the mill race. Drowning does not seem to worry him.

"All I ask," he said, "is that they dump me in a place where it's deep enough so they can't see how I get out."

ARCTIC EXPLORER MAY VISIT HERE NEXT YEAR

Vilhjalmur Stefansson, Discoverer,
Writes Dr. W. D. Smith He Will
Perhaps Lecture on Campus

Vilhjalmur Stefansson, Scandinavian arctic explorer, has written to Dr. Warren D. Smith of the geology department saying that he will try to come to Eugene to lecture next year, in response to a request he received from Dr. Smith. Stefansson discovered new land in the Arctic

ocean in 1915, spending many years in exploring. He is now lecturing during the winter and writing up his explorations in the summer.

He said, in his letter, that if he lectured in Eugene he would be glad to give free technical talks to the scientific classes. He wrote "I always like to meet geographers and to talk to teachers and students. But my soul is my own in lecturing."

"I now earn money lecturing in winter, which gives me freedom to write during the summer on books through which I am trying to change the thought of our time on certain geological subjects. The same earnings also pay for such ventures as the Wrangle Island expedition." This expedition was of a very recent date and has become quite famous.

In regard to coming to Eugene he said, "I am telling my managers about your interest as a possible basis for coming to Eugene next year. If I were lecturing in your town I would be glad to give technical talks free to members of scientific classes."

TEXAS COLLEGE HOLDS CONTEST FOR POETS

Prizes of \$100 and \$50 Offered
For Best Poems Written
by Undergraduates

An announcement of interest to the aspiring poets on the campus is to the effect that prizes of \$100 and \$50 are being offered by the Southern Methodist university of Dallas, Texas for the two best original poems written by undergraduates of an American college or university. The poems submitted may be lyric, dramatic, or narrative in quality and may be written in free verse or in regular metrical form, but must not exceed two hundred lines in length.

No contestant must submit more than one poem or a group of closely related poems under a single title, and every poem entered must be accompanied by a statement from some one in an official position, preferably an executive officer of the English department, to the effect that the contestant is a bona fide undergraduate student. This precaution is necessary on account of a number of poems being ruled out last year because there was nothing to show that the authors were entitled to compete. The poems submitted must not have been previously printed except in college publications. Manuscripts must reach Dallas not later than March 15, 1924.

The contest is made possible by Dr. E. S. Jones, author of the Century Handbook of Writing. The judges will be Carl Sandburg, John Hall Wheelock, and perhaps Vachel Lindsay, who has not definitely accepted.

In addition to this contest a prize of \$100 is to be offered by the poetry society of America for a poem of two hundred lines or less. Entries for Witter Bynner prize, as it is called, will be accepted until May 15.

FRESHMEN TO REPORT AT HAYWARD FIELD

The following freshmen will report to Doug Farrell on Hayward field at 10 o'clock this morning for the regular Saturday morning campus work detail.

Sherman Elwood, James Ermler, Curtis Erwin, Jerry Extra, Bob Farley, Jim Farnham, Ed. Farwell, Bob Fellman, John Flanagan, Veri Flynn, Verne Folts, Linn Forrest, Hugh Fraser, Jim Garland, Henry Gerber, Don Gidley, Harold Gordiner, Al Goss, Jose Gordon, Ted Graham, Art Gray, Sam Green, Theodore Greensburg, Roy Gurnea, Leonard Hagstrom, and Henry Hall.

HONORARY ORGANIZATIONS SHOULD LIST MEMBERSHIP

Honorary organizations are asked to send in a list of their members to the registrar's office so that the grade averages for such organizations can be compiled. Last year there were only a few who did this. The ranking of honorary groups according to grade averages is made only during the winter term.

LIBRARY CONTAINS OLD AND VALUABLE BOOKS

One Volume Printed in 1492
Found in Collection

"Arithmetica Geometrica Et Musica," by Boethius, published in 1492 in Venice, is the oldest book in the University library. The volume, received recently from an English book house and purchased upon the request of Professor E. E. DeCou, of the mathematics department, contains complicated and elaborately designed mathematic problems and most unique designs in the music section. A note in the front of the book states that it is very possible that this book contains the first printed treatise on music in existence. The book is bound in velum, now well worn, and is about 6 by 8 inches in size.

A volume of 12 Greek dramas is among the older volumes in the library. The book was published in 1545 and is by Aristophanes. Both the plays and comments are in Greek. This volume, with several others, was presented to the library by Richard H. Thornton, former dean of the law school who now resides in Portland. "Aristotelis Phisica," published in 1555; "Xenophonis Opera of Philosophi ac Histori," published in 1545, are among others donated by Mr. Thornton. The books are all bound in velum and are well worn in appearance.

Another book of value recently received by the library is one written in French by Pierre Charron, entitled "De La Sagesse Livres Trois." The volume was published in Amsterdam in 1662 by the Elsevir printers, a very famous family of old Dutch printers, their work being especially valued by collectors because of the beauty and critical preparation of the printing in the text. "De La Sagesse Livres Trois" expresses skepticism in regard to science and asserts the competence of reason to construct an adequate system of morality. All these books of antiquated age are kept in the vault of the library.

SEVERAL OF FACULTY CONFINED BY ILLNESS

Dean Dymet Recovering Slowly
From January Attack of Grip
May Leave for South

Illness has been playing tag with several members of the faculty during the past two or three weeks, and has tagged all its playmates. Dean Colin Dymet of the college of literature, science and arts, has not completely recovered from an attack of the grip, contracted about the middle of January. He spends

an occasional hour at his office, but has not been able to do regular work. He gives correspondence dictation at his home. If he does not recover soon, he will probably go to California to recuperate," said Mrs. George Fitch, his secretary.

Dr. Andrew Fish, of the history department, has been confined to his bed for the past week, with an infection in his leg, contracted in a game of volleyball. He hopes to be at his classes by the end of this week.

During the past month Miss Ida V. Turney, Miss Madeline McMannus, Dr. Rudolf Ernst and Miss Grace Edgington have been ill.

Dean Eric W. Allen of the school of journalism has been unable to attend his classes or three days but is expected back next week.

WORK OF EXTENSION DIVISION EXPLAINED

Standards of Correspondence
Courses Raised to Meet
Requirements

"The extension division is the official agency through which the University of Oregon renders service to organizations and individuals outside the campus," is the definition of what the extension division is, given in the last number of the Extension Monitor, which is the annual report number of that department.

Students who, for financial or other reasons, find it necessary to shorten their period of residence at the University, are served through the extension division, as well as those who are merely stimulating their intellectual life or perhaps removing high school deficiencies in preparation for University entrance, says the Monitor.

"Correspondence students are alert, progressive, ambitious; they know what they want, why they want it, and they are willing to work for it," the Monitor says, in speaking of the fine type of those registered for correspondence work.

An incomplete study made by the extension division, shows that at least fifteen per cent of those receiving degrees from the University last June had done work by correspondence. The standard of correspondence work has been raised and courses revised and brought up to regular University standards, so that correspondence study is not a short-cut, easy road to learning, but requires as high a quality of work as is done by campus students, according to the Monitor's report.

The question has been asked and treated in the Monitor as to

whether universities can afford the safety of their well-being by giving extension service. The answer given, quoted from an English publication, says, "These men and women desire knowledge, not diplomas or degrees, and we think that no university would justify its existence that did not do its utmost to help and encourage work of this kind."

NEW HEATING PLANT NOW RUNNING AT FULL BLAST

The heating plant is now running full blast, using hog fuel instead of slab wood. The hog fuel, besides being less expensive, is also more conveniently handled, and does not necessitate the work of so many men. The slab wood will hereafter only be used in case hog fuel cannot be obtained. As the hog fuel is unloaded from the cars into a pit beside the track, it is carried away by a carrier out to the end of a runway, where the over supply is dumped. From there, it feeds back into the fire boxes by carriers in a regulated flow.



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