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Education and Criticism

The cries of the critics are confounding. The stone-throwers are unmerciful in their demolitions of the glass with which the institution of higher learning screens itself. As a public enterprise a state university has many adversaries, and even within its own boundaries it harbors malcontents who would remodel the framework.

Who are these critics? and what do they criticize? In 1914 Henry S. Pritchett, writing for the Atlantic Monthly, analyzed the complaints against the 900-odd collegiate institutions of America. He recommended self-examination by those under fire, although he did not vouch for all the opprobrious denunciations which the college must suffer.

"Everything about the college is under the fire of critics," he wrote—"its government and administration, its teaching, its financial conduct, its ideals of social life, its right to exist at all."

Dangerous and destructive missiles are hurled from all quarters. Some taxpayers who support the colleges are doubtful whether they justify their expense. The very teachers themselves contend that the administration by regents or trustees is inconsiderate of the highest ideals of education. While believing, according to Pritchett, "the college as it is conducted today provides intellectual offerings of great variety and high intrinsic value," these academicians believe "it fails to create an atmosphere in which these opportunities appeal to students. Good courses, good teachers, unequalled equipment," he says, "characterize the modern American college; a rare table is spread for the student, but there is no appetite for the feast."

Faculty critics have further contended that the college is "ruled by college boards having little interest in the ideals of the teacher. The president and the board are swayed by the all-devouring lust for numbers, and everything is sacrificed to that end. To maintain such numbers the standards are lowered, exams are made easy, discipline is softened. As a consequence other interests than intellectual ones are absorbing the minds of the college community."

Such is the nosegay presented to us by intellectual professors, dons, and deans. But an inventory should tell the University of Oregon that it has an honesty in education shielding it from the brickbats of any such bad-actors or ill-thinkers.

In the first place, we are not led by a man who is slave to numbers. Neither are we led by citizen-boards cow-towing to the caprices of the public fancy. The disregard of numbers, necessitated in part by the inadequacies of building space, though it may serve to raise the standards a trifle, denies education to no one sincerely interested in securing it. The selection of the applicant equipped intellectually has created that atmosphere of learning which critics find lacking in most universities. And finally, we apparently have few if any faculty members complaining the student body will not partake of the feast rich in intellectual nutriment.

As for financial conduct and social life, the answer to the critics is, we have no money to waste, because the taxpayers keep close guard of our purse-strings; and our famed democracy will speak for itself.

The University, set in a show case as it is, the object for all to behold, after all can be deemed a sound investment, an alma mater commanding our loyalty and respect.

Talbot Jennings, president of the University of Idaho student body, has written a letter of appreciation to the A. S. U. O. for the courtesy shown the Idaho basketball team. He ex-

presses admiration for the fighting spirit of the Oregon team and "trusts that our athletic relations with Oregon will be as pleasant next year as they have been in the past." Although beaten twice by the Gem stagers, Oregon returns the good wishes. The splendid showing and the clean-cut appearance of the Idaho team was typical of state university type of teams, and Oregon holds the friendship of the Idaho institution in high regard.

An amendment to the by-laws of the student body constitution to standardize forensic awards and to make the awards distinctive, will be presented in this morning's meeting of the A. S. U. O. As various activities develop it becomes necessary to identify the awards given for successful competition and there is no reason why this change should not be made. Oregon debaters have made an excellent showing this year. The coach and the team are to be congratulated.

Campus Bulletin

Notices will be printed in this column for two issues only. Copy must be in this office by 5:30 on the day before it is to be published, and must be limited to 20 words.

Herman Club—Meeting Thursday noon at 12:30.

Beta Alpha Psi—Meeting at College Side Inn at noon today.

Dial—Meeting Thursday, March 6, 7:30, Y. W. C. A. bungalow.

Eutaxian—Dinner meeting at the College Side Inn, 6 o'clock tonight.

W. A. A.—Mass Meeting this afternoon at 5 o'clock in Villard hall.

Eastern Star—Meeting at Woman's building Thursday, 4 to 5. Important.

Women's Forum—Meeting at 7:30 Thursday evening. Full attendance desired.

Oregon Knights—Meeting in Condon hall tonight, 7:15. Chancellor of Exchequer will be elected.

Freshman Classes—Meeting Friday afternoon, Villard hall, 3:15. Will vote on special assessment for sport awards.

Women's Forum—Meeting at 7:30 tonight. Full attendance desired. Followed by meeting of Executive Council.

Delegates to Corvallis—All those desiring to attend Corvallis convention, March 7-9, meet in "Y" hut, Thursday 5 o'clock.

All Women Students—Mrs. Virginia Judy Esterly extends an invitation to tea this afternoon from 4 until 6, at 667 East 12th.

Lutheran Students—Meeting Sunday, March 9, 5:30 p. m., Trinity Lutheran church. Program for spring term to be discussed.

Pan Hellenic Council—Oregonian picture to be taken at 12:45 today. Steps of Administration building. Two delegates requested from each house.

ONE YEAR AGO TODAY

Some High Points in Oregon Emerald of March 6, 1923

The women's varsity debate team will meet the women's forensic machine from O. A. C. in a dual debate tomorrow night.

Latham, center, and Shafer, guard, have been named as members of the all-Northwest mythical basketball team.

A new registration system, whereby the student will register only once during the school year, will be discussed at the next meeting of the faculty.

Scoring 2533 out of a possible 3000 the girls varsity rifle team has defeated the Utah marksmen in a telegraphic meet.

An editorial in the Emerald of this date says, "In every college there is a place for a comic. The Lemon Punch is here to stay."

Alberto Salvi, noted harpist, will appear on the campus on Wednesday evening, March 14.

The most drastic changes ever proposed for the constitution of the A. S. U. O. will be voted upon at the student body meeting to be held Thursday.

Phi Beta Kappa will elect members this afternoon.

BAKER UNIVERSITY PLANS TO BROADCAST BY RADIO

University of Kansas—Baker university is making preparations to broadcast its programs and athletic events in the future by installing a broadcasting plant. The work is being done by Charles O. Gosh and other students in the science department of the university. Application has already been made to the government for a definite wave length. The station when completed will have a sending capacity of 200 to 300 miles.

Coming Events

TODAY

11 a. m.—A. S. U. O. meeting. Villard hall.

3:00 p. m.—Mrs. Saidie Orr-Dunbar, lecture. Chamber of Commerce rooms.

4:6 p. m.—Dean Esterly's tea. 667 East 12th street.

5:00 p. m.—W. A. A. meeting. Villard hall.

8:30 p. m.—"School for Scandal." Guild hall.

FRIDAY, MARCH 7

8:30 p. m.—"School for Scandal." Guild Hall.

9:00 p. m.—Prof. C. A. Gregory, "Tests and Measurements." Radio.

SATURDAY, MARCH 8

8:30 p. m.—"School for Scandal." Guild hall.

SUNDAY, MARCH 9

4:30 p. m.—Vespers. Methodist church.

7:00 p. m.—Open Forum meetings. Congregational church.

Communications

Letters to the EMERALD from students and faculty members are welcomed, but must be signed and worded concisely. If it is desired, the writer's name will be kept out of print. It must be understood that the editor reserves the right to reject communications.

THANK YOU, MR. TIFFANY

To the Editor: May I congratulate you most sincerely on your editorial of March 4, "Dreams and the Ten Millions." It is one of the best Emerald editorials I have ever read and the sad part about it is that it is too true. My judgment is that it could be reprinted to advantage for campaign literature.

A. R. TIFFANY.

MANY STUDENTS WILL ATTEND CONVENTION

Program of Volunteer Movement at Corvallis to Include Notable Speakers

At least thirty and possibly as many as fifty students will attend part or all of the state student volunteer convention, held at Corvallis this weekend. A meeting will be held this afternoon at the "Y" hut at 5 o'clock to make final arrangements for transportation.

Two important developments of the program have been received from Robbin E. Fisher, conference chairman. Paul Blanchard, representing the League for Industrial Democracy of America, speaker at the recent Indianapolis convention, will be at Corvallis for the conference. He is now visiting and speaking before student bodies of the colleges of the Northwest. An at-

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tractive feature of the program, a pageant with a cast of 250 or more students, will be given Sunday night, it has been definitely decided.

The first session of the conference begins Friday evening at 7 o'clock, and the last part of the program will be the pageant Sunday night. Other interesting parts of the conference will be open forum discussions by the students on world problems, talks by Dr. Harold Bowman of Portland and Dr. and Mrs. Henry White, returned foreign missionaries.

Those attending from the University of Oregon are planning to go to Corvallis in automobiles, some leaving here after the afternoon classes Friday, while others will not leave till early Saturday morning. Any desiring to attend who have not already signified their intentions of attending part or all of the convention, may do so this afternoon at the hut. Especially is it imperative that those driving cars should report if they can take one or more students with them,

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according to Lester Turnbaugh, who is in charge of the Oregon delegation.

STAR TO BE INVISIBLE

Eclipse of Huge Aldebaran by Moon to Occur Sunday Morning

Aldebaran, a star with a volume 33,000 times larger than the sun and so far away that light from it takes 50 years to reach the earth at the rate of 186,000 miles a second, will be hidden from view of earthly observers early Sunday morning, March 16. "The phenomenon will occur just after 4:15 o'clock," said Prof. E. H. McAllister, of the astronomy department. Aldebaran is a giant red star, the principal one in the constellation Taurus, the bull. "This eclipse is

classified by the astronomer as occultation," said McAllister. "The moon occults many stars each month, but for the most part, these stars occulted are so faint they can not be seen without telescopic aid, and the occultation of a bright star is rather rare."

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