Literary Gossip

by

PAT MORRISSETTE

There is something virile and commanding about a donkey. It is not that he is a natural born ass, or that he insists upon his asininity, but the fact that he has the satisfied mein of pretended docility. Colonel E. Hofer, editor of "the west's only literary magazine"—The Lariat, loses nothing in comparison with this splendid animal, for the Colonel has many things to be said in his favor. It is true that his occasional dig at The Dial, literary experiments, accepted authors, and his glorification of poor poetry and pot boilers, has naturally led his efforts into the pitless ennui of irrelevant criticism snubbed in the east as unexasperating — because unauthoritative, and simply overlooked in the west. It is true that his policy is almost universally regarded as a good example of what progressive literary radicalism is not. And yet—and yet—we love to read his magazine. We read it with the same interest we sometimes find in the comic section of a newspaper, and his comments receive the tepid smile we once bestowed upon the doings of Andy Gump. Let's quote a bit from here and there.

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Colonel Hofer's characterization of Theodore Dreiser: "Theodore Dreiser, one of a large family of poor European immigrants."

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On the technique of William S. Hart: "With one hand he pats her on the head, puts the other arm gently about her shoulder and kisses her on the forehead right where she parts her hair." (Well done, Colonel, well done.)

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An acute observation regarding the origination of poetry: "Many a babe in arms can be stilled by simply beating time on his forehead with the first finger." (Aye. But you know, Colonel, Freud does not trace this to poetry. We always knew Freud was wrong.)

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And here's a deep one: "It is said many of Bach's works were composed in French and translated into the original afterwards." But let's leave the Colonel alone. He's getting us all tangled up.

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We have just been looking over a first folio edition of Beaumont and Fletcher. The original owner has written his name on the fly-leaf. The lines are so thin and shaky that one pictures the fellow writing with a long white quill, drawing carefully—and with his tongue in the corner of his mouth. One always has an insane desire to lisp when reading the early editions—those in which the "f's" take the place of the "s's." A line like "fhe ftood fo ftill and filent" is enough to drive anyone to baby talk.

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As we've mentioned baby talk we might as well add that Arthur Weigall's biography of Cleopatra "has attained the honor of a second edition." The honor, perhaps, belongs to Cleo's traditional reputation. That's what a reputation'll do for a woman.

CAPTAIN McCLURE ASSIGNED TO WISCONSIN

Captain Walter R. McClure, U. S. A., University of Oregon graduate and member of the class of '13, has been assigned to R. O. T. C. duty at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wis., according to Colonel Sinclair, local R. O. T. C. head.

Captain McClure was formerly a leading track athlete at the University, and in 1912 represented Oregon and the United States in the Olympic games at Stockholm, Sweden.

World Minus Convention and Intricacies

By X

Ludwig Lewisohn seems to be one of our foremost advocates of the abolition of conventions. At least, he has recognized the absurdness and futility of some of our petty conventions. That conventions are necessary now, he admits, and he realizes that with sudden abolition, chaos would replace conventions.

But in the future, a gradual dissolving of these bonds of conventionality could be accomplished and men would be free and still retain judgment. The world would then produce happier, nobler and better people. Ah, the joy of speaking to one we have not formally met and the satisfaction of looking through our "Saturday Evening Post" without fretting about "What is wrong in this picture?"

Through the lips of Bornheim, the poet in "Don Juan," come these words, "Life is insanely intricate. Civilization will die of dry rot unless we make it simpler. It is not a question of things, it is a question of emotions. We must learn to live emotionally in a larger, simpler, nobler way. There must be more detachment and flexibility, less force and tenacity. It is a pity that people cannot be born orphans for one generation and contract no ties. They need to be pried out of their hectic emotionalism, their hectic possessiveness. Oh, for one generation free from the three most pestiferous influences of history—the home, the church, the school."

Radical and impossible, but it is a very interesting future to consider. And I see fulfillment of his desire for a generation of orphans in that great scientific future in which a generation having lived, dies, and a new generation is produced—produced, not born. They are chemically made. Life then would certainly be more "insanely intricate."

When I think of a future void of conventions, I see a huge, barbaric looking cafe, where men and women flop spinelessly, drink their soup, guzzle wine from huge mugs and sop their bread in sweetened coffee. Ugh! horrible picture. At least, conventions help us retain a spine.

Doughnut Sports Defended; Council Said to Stand Alone

(Editor's Note—The following article expresses what is apparently a growing campus opinion toward doughnut sports. Short communications on this subject would be welcomed).

By Ed Fraser

The agitation for the re-establishment of some sort of program of intramural, or doughnut, athletics is constantly gaining headway on the campus, and from the numerous expressions of opinion, it seems the inter-fraternity council greatly over-rated the sentiment against the system when they took action against the plan last term.

In fact, practically the only persons on the campus at present who will go on record as being against intramural athletics, are the members of the same inter-fraternity council who were instrumental in passing the amendment which did away with the system, and as far as that goes, not even all members of the council favor the complete abolishment of the doughnut program.

The real reason for the action of the council was the fact that they believed the program caused hard feeling between the different organizations, because of the various victories and defeats, but a little thought on the proposition would no doubt have convinced them of the error of this argument, for any feeling of this sort which has risen out of the program has been more than compensated for by the benefits which the men have derived from the various sports.

The intramural system for the last two or three years has been one of the best methods by which the men of the University, and especially the freshmen, have had of becoming acquainted, and it is a fact that more men have become friendly during the progress of doughnut sports, and through their competition in doughnut athletics, than by any of the numerous "mixes" or other gatherings for this purpose.

The fact that practically every man that has ever competed in any of the sports is strong for the system, and roundly critical of the inter-fraternity council because of its action last term, proves beyond a doubt that the system was a success, for who is more capable of judging the success or failure of the plan than the men who have actually competed?

The value of doughnut sports to the University in the developing of of varsity men was also evidently overlooked by the inter-fraternity council it seems, for they neglected to remember that such men as Zimmerman, Gowans and Gillenwaters have been found in basketball, and that a great many baseball players and track men have also been developed through the system of intramural competition.

Another argument for the revival of the competition is that all athletes and members of the coaching staff of the University are thorough believers in doughnut athletics, and believe the council pulled a bad "boner" when it went on record as being against the system.

Although every one is not in favor of the system as it formerly existed, it is a fact that if the question came to a vote, an overwhelming majority would be returned in favor of some sort of doughnut program. The plan which seems to be favored most, is that of cutting out all sports with the exception of those in which the University is represented by varsity teams.

Since the action abolishing the system came from the students, the school of physical education has refused to commit itself on the subject of getting the system re-established, so any such movement will have to orginate entirely with the students.

Game Is Lost to Visiting Orientals

(Continued from page one)

Jack Bliss was sent in to pinch hit for Williams and the burly boy smacked a three-bagger to left. Sorsby then followed with a home run to right. Terril flied out to center. Ross then singled, but Hobson, Bittner and Latham failed to connect and the game was over.

Except for the two disastrous innings, the fifth and the sixth, the game was a close affair featured by good fielding and concentrated batting on the part of the visitors. The varsity hit Yuasa for a total of thirteen bingles, but failed to concentrate them at the right moments. Following is the box score:

MEIJI

	AB.	R.	H.	E.
Inaba, 3b	3	2	1	1
Nidegawa, r	5	2	2	0
Kumagai, cf	4	1	2	1
Yuasa, p	5	0	1	0
Daimon, c	5	0	0	0
Hayashi, ss	4	1	1	0
Smachi, 1b	4	1	2	0
Nakagawa, 1	4	1	1	0
Yokozawa, 2b	3	3	1	0
Totals	37	11	11	2

OREGON

	AB.	R.	H.	E.
Sorsby, m	5	1	2	0
Terrill, rf	5	1	1	1
Ross, 2b	4	0	2	0
Hobson, 3b	5	0	1	0
Bittner, ss, p	5	2	2	1
Latham, 1b	5	1	2	1
Wright, lf	3	0	2	0
Peterson, lf	0	0	0	0
Cook, c	4	0	0	0
Pil, p, ss	2	0	0	1
Ringle p	1	0	0	1
Williams, p	0	0	0	0
Bliss*	1	1	1	0
Totals	40	6	13	5

*Bliss batted for Williams in ninth.

Summary: Struck out by Pil 4, by Bittner 1, by Yuasa 2, base on ball of Pill 2, off Yuasa 2. Hit by pitched ball, Inaba 2, by Pil. Sacrifice hits, Kumagai, Ross. Double play, Ross to Latham. Home runs, Sorsby, Kumagai. Three base hits, Nakagawa, Latham, Bliss. Hits off Pil 4, runs 5 in 4 1-3 innings.

Oregon to Have Two Birthdays

(Continued from page one)

birthdays. The first was October 17, 1876, when the halls of Deady first opened. The second is April 26, 1924, when the first milestone of the Gift Campaign was safely passed.

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In the days of 1872 the washwomen were pledging one day's work out of each week for a certain number of weeks to help the University, according to Dean Straub.

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The same spirit that prompted those people to sacrifice for the University is at work today, the dean thinks.

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Last night, for the first time in 46 years, Dean Straub forgot a name. It wasn't a member of the freshman class, however, that he failed to recall. It was merely a former governor of the state, Mr. Withycombe.

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That shows how exciting things were.

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Ben Dorris and Judge Walton were the workers who raised most of the funds back in the '70s.

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If they couldn't induce the farmers to give money, they would take a bushel of wheat or a cow.

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Even the boys who stole chickens were sometimes willing to divide with the University, the dean says.

PHI LAMBDA THETA TO HOLD INITIATION TODAY

Phi Lambda Theta, women's national education fraternity, will hold initiation this afternoon at 4:30 in the women's room of the Woman's building. A banquet will follow the initiation.

Read the Classified Ad Column.