

Oregon Daily Emerald

University of Oregon, Eugene

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If any man seeks for greatness let him forget greatness and ask for truth, and he will find both.—Horace Mann.

Abraham Lincoln and The College Critics

At regular intervals, much too frequent, some prophet of progress asks: "What would Abraham Lincoln have been had he gone to college?"

There can be no objection to these queries except for the fact that they are made out loud, and invariably find their way into the newspapers. The question is usually accompanied by an indictment of the modern university, and we are expected to believe that the great men of history would have become mediocrities had they attended institutions of higher learning.

One of the more recent indictments has come from a man well known on the Oregon campus, Professor Charles E. Rugh, of the University of California. After asking the usual question, the professor is quoted as saying:

"Abraham Lincoln would never have been heard of if he had been the graduate of a modern American university. If Lincoln had had knowledge heaped on him in the manner that it is heaped on modern youths, his brain would have become so befuddled as to be useless to him."

While shedding a tear for the sorry plight of modern youth, give thanks to the forces of the universe, not only because America had the Great Emancipator, but also, and most important, because he never attended a college.

Just think of the possible course of events if Lincoln had attended college! He would probably have been an unknown lumber dealer, specializing in fence rails, and not as "Honest Abe," the savior of his land. Had Abraham Lincoln been to college, America might even now be divided, slavery might be flourishing, and the whole course of the world thrown into channels different from what history now records.

How stupendous! Think of the narrow margin by which the country was saved! Whew! Wipe beads of perspiration off your foreheads. In the interest of justice, we can-

not let pass the belief that the idea originated with the Californian. The same tune has been played by many other enlightened and well-meaning citizens, outstanding among whom was the famous and unbelievably-wise Arthur Brisbane. So you see, the challenge may not be lightly discarded.

Just what the arguments of the Rughs and the Brisbanes prove, we are unable to find out. To all obvious purposes they are based on useless conjecture. It's the same old merry-go-round: was Lincoln a great man because of or in spite of difficulties and obstacles that stood in his path.

Transplant the man to the Oregon campus and of course he seems out of place. So would anyone else of Lincoln's time. Can you imagine "Honest Abe" participating in the freshman parade, or even walking several miles on a stormy night to get a library book? Is it easy to visualize the Great Emancipator, from what we know of his supposed characteristics, sitting through an accounting laboratory course? Certainly not. And it is equally difficult to visualize the days when automobiles and telephones were nonexistent. As proof of any point, transplantation of a static figure of one age into an altogether different period is worthless.

Fortunately, Professor Rugh offers the optimistic thought that the next generation's university will be as different from ours as night is from day. How interesting!

An excellent bit of prophecy, but oh, professor! not so very daring. Does night follow day? Yes! Then it is safe to predict that the universities will change and progress.

If they do not keep pace with changes in thought, they are worthless and might just as well quit now as die later of stagnation. If they had not progressed in the past, they would not exist now.

All this is old, threadbare talk, but no one has yet brought it successfully to the attention of the apostles of light.

Poor Abe Lincoln. What a fine hobby-horse he is for these prophets of progress. Oh well, that's the price he pays for fame and honor. He should have gone to college and thereby have found peace and obscurity in both life and death.

Communications

More on the Plumbers

To the Editor: Tuesday's editorial of the Emerald entitled "Spoiling Too Many Good Plumbers" brought to surface of my consciousness a long discarded idea regarding the purpose of education in a democracy. If you ask me why I discarded it, my reply would be, in the first place that it was sporadic, and in the second place that it was too idealistic and incapable of becoming real. If you ask me to narrate it to you I would be at a loss as to how to formulate it. If you insist on me giving you some kind of an answer, I will ask you to go with me to an educator, who, I am convinced, because of his experience in education, will gladly tell us what is the purpose of a state university in a democracy. His reply would be somewhat as follows: The purpose of education in a state university should be an endeavor to develop in each individual the knowledge, interest, ideals, habits and powers, whereby he will find his place and use that place to shape both himself and society toward ever nobler ends. Unquestionably you will agree with me that his reply is brief but sound. However, we needn't be satisfied with his reply, but let us visit other educators, and confront them with the same question. Their experience in education, I believe, qualifies them to give us a reply not less valuable than the first.

The philosopher tells us that the purpose of education in a state university is to enable those who seek it to appreciate the contributions of the men that have gone on before us, and to use their contributions as bases for improving conditions in our own time and leave something worthy of preservation for the future generations to use as a guide in

solving the problems of their generation.

The sociologist affirms that education's purpose in a state university is to help men to learn how to live together peacefully and rationally, serving one another in a brotherly-like manner.

The journalist however, asserts that the purpose of education in a state university is to prepare men and women for the future life in order that they may live a better and fuller life, to foster such ideas that tend to bring about a fuller understanding of each other's rights and deal justly toward one another.

The economist dismisses us with this assertion: that the purpose of education, in a state university, is to prepare men to utilize their time and energy in an effort to make life for mankind more comfortable and harmonious.

The scientist laconically declares that the purpose of education in a state university is to assist the youth in their quest for truth so that they may use that truth for the good of themselves and society.

The psychologist with an adolescent enthusiasm emphatically declares that the aim of education in a state university is to eliminate all fear from youth—to enable them to face life's problems courageously and to solve them and not run away from them—to instill in them enthusiasm and unconquerable desire to earnestly seek for truth—to create in them a desire for a rational and fuller appreciation of human nature in all its forms which will enable them to enjoy life to the fullest extent.

Such, perhaps, would have been the opinions of these educators on this question had we actually interviewed them. Their opinions become fundamentally the same, therefore we can summarize them in some such fashion as this: That the purpose of any state university is not to reject those that didn't happen to be the children of intellectual aristocrats and keep those that are—rather its purpose is to help every

individual that enters its gates, regardless of his family reputation, to develop the best that is in him which will enable him to render more effective and efficient service to his fellow men, regardless of whether or not his service is that what not.

It happens that university students are not the descendants of Locke, Hume, Kant, or Spencer; but rather those of common people. And I venture to say even Mr. Percy Marks with his pseudo-aristocratic conception of his origin, who seems to be worried over misused plumber material would be surprised at the discovery that his ancestors (if traced back far enough) were also soil tillers—and that his intellectual achievement is largely due to the inspiration of some of his early teachers, (to whom he is perhaps not giving credit) and not wholly on his intellectual inheritance.

The trouble lies in the kind of inspiration the youth receives before coming here; hence the necessity of inspiring teachers in our public schools.

CHRIST LOUKAS



Freshman Assembly Thursday morning at 9 o'clock in Villard hall. All freshmen must be present at this assembly, they will be excused from their classes for it.

Inter-fraternity Council meets Thursday night in room 1 Johnson hall.

A practice for tryouts for Orchestras and W. A. A. dancing honors will be held every day this week at Woman's building. Anyone interested please see Miss Scott.

Volleyball schedule changed. Tuesday, juniors, 4 to 5; seniors, 5 to 6. Wednesday, sophomores, 5 to 6, and Thursday, freshmen, 5 to 6.

Band Meeting: All members are urged to be present at a meeting, the E. O. T. C. building at 4 o'clock today, very important as the question of footwear must be decided at this meeting.

Methodist University Girls Bible class will hold a "pot-luck" supper at the campus Y. W. C. A. this evening at 5:30.

All members of senior memorial book committee (listed on front page) Room 105 Journalism building, 5 p. m. tonight.

All girls interested in riflery will meet in room 121 of the Woman's building, Friday at 5 o'clock.

Crossroads will meet tonight at 7:30.

Oregana staff meeting tonight—5:00 p. m. Journalism building. Every member of editorial staff must be there.

Homecoming directorate meet today 4 p. m. 105 Journalism building. Rally committee meet A. S. U. O. office today at 5 o'clock.

Musical Program for Semi-Centennial Week Arranged by Mr. Evans

An interesting and elaborate musical program has been worked out for Semi-Centennial week by John Stark Evans, member of the celebration committee and assistant dean of the School of Music. Much time and attention has been spent on these musical numbers to insure their coming up to the high standards set by the speakers, many of whom are men of national repute.

At the inauguration of President Hall, on Monday morning, the University orchestra will play, and Mme. Rose McGrew will sing a solo. The next day, at ten a. m., Miss Miriam Little, cellist, will appear, and at two o'clock Mrs. W. F. G. Thacher will sing. At the Wednesday morning symposium Eugene Carr will sing a baritone solo, and in the afternoon John Stark Evans will play selections on the pipe organ.

At the Thursday morning symposium, which is devoted to music, the speaker being Willem von Hoogstraten of the Portland Symphony orchestra, a larger program is to be presented, consisting of selections by the Underwood String Quartet, Mrs. Prudence Clark, contralto, Dean John Landsbury, pianist, and Mr. Evans.

At the Pledge Day assembly following the symposium, the glee clubs and the orchestra will appear, presenting the Semi-Centennial song. In the afternoon George Hopkins, professor of music, will sing. On Friday, the alumni, under Mrs. Lawrence T. Harris, will provide the program.

First Women's League Tea Well Attended

The first Women's League tea of the year was attended by a large number of University women, and according to Kathryn Ulrich, president of Women's League, was a decided success.

Mrs. Arnold Bennett Hall, in whose honor the tea was given, and Dean Esterly were present. Kathleen Powell sang, accompanied by Barbara Edmunds, and Lois Everson played a piano solo.

The teas will be given weekly on Wednesdays, from 4 to 6.



EVERYTHING COMES TO HIM WHO ORDERS HASH

Pome
With apologies to Oh! Mar!
But as for me, the loaf of bread
The jug, the desert tree—
A jug, a jag, a jazzy jame
and may that jame be theel!

Why give so much space in the Emerald to fraternity dogs and not to sorority cats?

* Use the word "Valentia" in a sentence.
* "I Valentia my umbrella, why don't you return it?"

FOR CUPID'S CUSPIDOE
Dear Mr. McHoehandle:

How much is Bef paying for publicity? What claim to glory in your column has he? Every dog has his rest (if not the best) of us a chance?

Noble.
Sigma Alpha Epsilon,
14th and Alder Sts.
Phone 1306.

Noble Noble:
We've got the goods on you. If you want publicity just wait.
McHoehandle.



"Oh boy, here's where I shine!" said the bootblack as the R. O. T. C. officer climbed into the chair.

INVENTION
At last. How to make your old cigar boxes a cigar lighter.

Fill box with cigars (any nationality). Then with thumb and forefinger of right hand, take one cigar from box, and the box will be a cigar lighter.

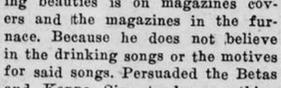


Dick Jones says that he has an awful thirst, but he just can't down a cotton gin.

Hall of Flame



Dean Caswell—because he fills the role of Deacon Bluenose and Mrs. Grundy far more naturally than they could themselves; because he believes the place for bathing beauties is on magazines covers and the magazines in the furnace. Because he does not believe in the drinking songs or the motives for said songs. Persuaded the Betas and Kappa Sigs to have nothing more to do with liquor or liquid than to wash in it or watch it flow under the mill-race bridges.



From Yesterday's Emerald DRY TALKS TO BE NO FEATURE OF PEP-RALLY And so everyone was there.

Yes, the Betas did pledge could men—a frosh has already received a letter addressed to the Phi Beta Kappa house. Are the Beta boys keeping something from us?

Have you heard the "Aimee" song? "Aimee head beneath a rose."

THIS WAY OUT

SEVEN SEERS

Four Mathematics Graduates Teaching

Several of last year's graduates of the mathematics department occupy prominent positions as teachers throughout the state. Elizabeth Lounsbury is dean of girls and advisor of the sophomore class at

the Myrtle Point high school where she is teaching mathematics. Dorothy Schupp is teaching mathematics and English at Oregon City. There are seven University of Oregon graduates on the high school faculty there.

Eula Benson is teaching at Cottage Grove and Arthur Andrews is a mathematics teacher at Toledo.

Juniors Urged to Try Out for Scholarship To Rhodes by Rebec

Juniors interested in attending an English university, such as Oxford, after leaving the University of Oregon are urged to try out for a Rhodes scholarship this year by Dean Rebec, chairman of the examining board. This is to provide them the opportunity to prepare for the scholarship during their senior year. Men who wish to be considered for the scholarship must leave their name and address with Mrs. Clara Fitch, secretary of the examining board, before Saturday, October 16, at her office on the second floor of Johnson hall. Examinations are expected to be held by the middle of next week, and in the interval Mrs. Fitch will be busy looking up the University records of the candidates.

Stephenson Smith, assistant professor of English, W. P. Maddox, instructor in political science, and Walter Barnes, professor of history, all of whom have been Rhodes scholars, spoke before a group of interested students at 4:15 Tuesday afternoon in 107 Villard hall. They discussed the various phases of student life at Oxford and answered questions relative to the courses offered and manner of teaching at that university.

Classified Ads

LOST—Sunday night, an old cameo bracelet. Reward. Anne Wentworth, 840. o12-13-14

FOUND—In Multnomah stadium, after the Oregon-Washington game, an Oregon rooster's lid with a stickpin attached. Inquire at Emerald office. o12-13-14-15-16

FOUND—Black fountain pen near the Woman's building. Phone Mildred Pike, 2022-E.

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Returning—leaves Portland 1:00 a. m. Arrives Eugene 5:30 a. m. (Ready for occupancy at 9:30 p. m.)

Southern Pacific F. G. LEWIS, Ticket Agent. Phone 2200

Colonial Theatre

Today—Last Day

THREE

From Yesterday's Emerald DRY TALKS TO BE NO FEATURE OF PEP-RALLY And so everyone was there.

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THIS WAY OUT

SEVEN SEERS

with JETTA GOODAL CLIVE BROOKS ROBERT AMES Usual Prices

Oregon Players May Take Part In Tournament

International Groups Will Vie for Honors In New York City

Miss Florence Wilbur, instructor of drama, and the members of the dramatics department, are desirous of sending a group of players to represent Oregon in the Little Theater Tournament in New York next spring.

Last year, the University of Oregon was asked to send a group of players in a one-act play to compete with the groups from other parts of the United States and England in an international tournament to be held on Broadway, in New York City, the early part of next May.

No western university group has ever ventured so far as Broadway, but the Oregon dramatists this year are very anxious to be represented in the Little Theater Tournament. One of the things keenly desired is an original one-act play. Miss Wilbur said. "Should it be possible

Harold Kelly, "chairman of construction" on the "Blazing 'O'" bonfire, requests that the following freshmen call him this evening at 5:50 p. m. Dick Rawlinson Walton Crane Walt Henningsen Day Foster Ronald Coleman Dean Creath

for a local group to enter the tournament, it would be extremely interesting to have a play indicative of our own surroundings and environment, and filled with western spirit," she explained.

The Little Theater Tournament was started four years ago, in New York. The idea of the movement was to bring to Broadway, competitive groups interested in the development of the Little Theater Tournament.

The idea has spread throughout the country and in England. Two groups from England participated in the last tournament. David Belasco, dean of the American theater, has taken considerable interest in the movement and to the best group of players at the tournament each year he awards the Bel-

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\$5.45 to \$7.85

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