

Oregon Daily Emerald

University of Oregon, Eugene

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Unsigned comment in this column is written by the editor. Full responsibility is assumed by the editor for all editorial opinion.

THERE is no expedient to which man will not go to avoid the labor of thinking.—Sir Joshua Reynolds.

Socratic Broadcasting

(New York Times)

IT is planned by Trinity College in Hartford to broadcast discussions on various subjects after the manner of Plato's Dialogues. As Socrates and Phaedrus stretched themselves on a "delicious slope of grass" beneath a plane tree by the side of Ilyssus, and talked of the nature of the soul and of the "art of winning men's souls by words," so professors in this modern Academy will sit or stand before the broadcasting disks and discourse of things about which there is not as yet agreement despite all the discussions of the ages.

The advantage of this method is that the element of competition is introduced. Wit and wisdom are matched as are strength and quickness in contests of more popular interest. The proposed dialogues might be followed more eagerly if there were introduced some character to let the invisible audience know when a point was scored by one or the other; or, as Socrates said all men agreed to be necessary, to make a recapitulation, summarily reminding the hearers, at the end of a speech, of all that had been said. But Socrates and Phaedrus got to the end of their dialogue with no other recapitulation than the hopeful message that "nature has implanted a love of wisdom in the mind of man."

It is that instinctive love of wisdom which exalts above all other arts that of winning men's souls by means of words, and which gives encouragement to all such efforts to enlarge the scope and influence of what the Greeks called "rhetoric." Plato thought of its use not only in courts of justice and in other public assemblies, but also in "private conversation on matters great and small," instancing the conversations of Nestor and Ulysses to while away their leisure on the plains of Troy. Had he but known of the possibilities of "broadcasting" he would have added these to the conversations that have come to us from Homer's time. Immensely more significant and important are these in that they reach the many and not the few.

One would suggest as a benedictory prayer for these present-day dialogues the one Plato ascribes to Socrates as he parted from Phaedrus:

"Grant me to be beautiful in the inner man, and all I have of outer things to be at peace with those within. May I count the wise man only rich. And may my store of gold be such as none but the good can bear."

A Very Fine Speaker

(Minnesota Daily)

DR. WILLIAM B. RILEY has come to the University, and gone. Now that his series of lectures before students and faculty has been concluded there seems to be little need for comment.

The University public gained very

Allied Arts League Will Meet Today

Students of the school of art and architecture have been devoting most of their time to term problems and meetings for the past week. Today the halls and class rooms are decorated with signs to the effect that there will be another important meeting this afternoon at 3:00 in the lecture room. The meeting will be for all members

little from the series except realizations, demonstrated principally yesterday afternoon, that Dr. Riley is a very fine speaker. What the University public expected to hear, and what it failed to find out, was why Dr. Riley believes as he does and exactly what the basis of his opposition to the teaching of the theory of evolution is.

This is due largely to the fact that Dr. Riley persisted in arguing false issues. Never, in the course of his series, did he admit the existence of Christian evolutionists. Always he argued Christianity, as identified with the fundamentalist movement, against atheism, which he made synonymous with belief in evolution. Many scientists and clergymen contend that no such issue exists. Be that as it may, we do not believe that the University public will generally accept Dr. Riley's conclusions when argued upon so flimsy a premise.

Almost equally bad, from the standpoint of scholarly criticism, was the speaker's utter failure throughout the entire series to back up his dogmatic statements with proof any more substantial than oratorical flourish and more dogma. This cannot be doubted by anyone in Dr. Riley's audience who heard opposition contentions continually dismissed with the single phrase, "Absolutely false," and his own upheld with "It is the truth."

Such is the method of the revivalist, not the scholar. In view of the fact that this is a University composed of more or less intelligent students and faculty members, it seems entirely likely that the complexion of the scholastic universe will be very little disturbed by Dr. Riley's coming and going.

It's the Sun's Fault if You Flunk

(Daily Kansan)

MATHEMATICIANS have found the perfect alibi. The only difficulty lies in establishing the supposition as a fact. If the matter is finally accomplished, we owe to the poor instructor in algebra.

Results of experiments conducted in Chicago indicate that arithmetic is difficult when the skies are overcast, but easy when the sun is shining. It has been further estimated that approximately one half of the days in the year are cloudy. Herein lies the alibi. Arithmetically speaking, nearly every other day should be gloomy; mathematics classes are held on alternate days; therefore, if one flunks, it is the sun's fault.

A warning should be issued, however, against trying this line of reasoning in a literature or history course. The report of the experiment shows that these two types of work are much easier when the sun is behind a cloud and harder when the day is clear.

Fortunate, indeed, would be the student taking algebra alternating with literature, if he could depend on the sun. He would have an invincible alibi every day. If by mistake the sun should happen to shine on the wrong day, complications would result. The luckless student would have to prepare his assignments for every meeting of class.

Arrange the courses in the right way and no preparation should be necessary—providing, of course, that the sun could be depended upon, which it cannot. Blame your flunks on the sun, but just try to make the instructors see it your way!

of the allied arts league and tips from those who know give the impression that those topics which will be discussed will deal with Jury Day, various social events of the coming term, various campaigns and exhibitions which will be scheduled for the next term. One matter which will probably be of greatest interest to the students at the meeting and probably to the campus at large will be the ball planned for next term.



YOU'D NOT KNOCK THE JOKES WE'VE USED IF YOU COULD SEE WHAT WE'VE REFUSED.

FAMOUS REMARK NO. 857364
"How did you like what Tot Jones thought of the Guild Hall play, 'Contrast'?"
"I didn't find out. I only read her criticism in the Emerald."

The good old year of 1926 is nearly over and at any day now we expect to see various and sundry persons' opinions as to the best this and the best that of the year. Everything will be discussed from the "Fifteen Biggest Murder Trials of Year" to some other atrocity such as the stock jokes which Jimmie Gilbert pulls in his lectures. For the best wise crack of the year, however, we would give the credit to Cass Baer Hicks of the Morning Oregonian. She wrote: "Gentlemen may prefer blondes, but cheer up brunettes, there are still college students."

We warn the robins that are so enjoying the little berries on Friendly hall. They will get the blues if they are not careful.

A definition of an egotist is the man that goes down the street by himself singing—"Hail, hail, the gang's all here."

IT SURELY IS EXAM TIME—EVERYONE EATING MORE AND MORE, PLAYING CARDS SEEING SHOWS AND NO STUDY—JUST THE SAME OL' TALK—'I DON'T KNOW NOTHING.'—'MORE DAMNED PAPERS TO WRITE.'—'SURE WISH I COULD BEGIN AGAIN.'

Dear Santa Claus:
We A. T. O. men have polished up our chimney and made it almost as good as new and cleared the hearth of all rubbish which has accumulated since last Christmas, including spittoons, dirt and Bob Galloway. We sincerely hope, kind sir, that our endeavors will be recognized by the gift of many more campus wrecks to park in front of our door so that the Phi Deltas can no longer claim their superiority. As an alibi for our lack of them, we will state that the junk man neglected to go up Kincaid street. We will endeavor also, Santa, to keep our youngest pledges in bed that night so that they won't peek to see what you put in their (borrowed) stockings.

Signed with sincerest hopes,
**BEN JORDON
CARL JOHNSON
HAL BRUMFIELD**

Kappa Alpha Theta will release from pledge Ted Ruch and Harold Sox, if either makes Rhodes Scholarship.

Right Out in the Lighthouse
Synthetic snow in front of the Art building almost caused three artists to freeze to death upon viewing the ground.

HEAR YE, HEAR YE, THE XMAS BELLES ARE PEELING
Santa has at last arrived—no, he has been with us since the fall term disguised in the plump personage of one to wit, Marion Anderson, he of the Azure-wheeled Centaur otherwise known as a Chrysler Coupe. The watchful eyes of his class-mates know that he owns one but they still walk home from their 11 o'clocks. Ah ha, the reason being that within that blue chariot ride the fair maidens of Delta Delta Delta. Trailing after him like the woodland nymphs of Aphrodite they jabber glibly as they cast flattering remarks about their "Frying" Pan, who hustles them into the vehicle and straightway spins them to the little brick house on the hill.

PRETTY POSIE
A certain Delt, tall, dark, and answering to name, Maurey, leads a model existence, you see he poses.

MORE ANON

SEVEN SEERS

Pledging Announcement
Sigma Beta Phi announces the pledging of Margaret Blackner, Los Angeles, California.

Hungry After a Show?
Stop At The **SNAPPY SERVICE** on your way home and grab a hot sandwich or a cup of coffee
5c
Hamburgers Our Specialty
Snappy Service
No. 4
46 E. 10th St.



Social Swim at the Woman's building, Friday 7:30 to 9:00. Students and faculty invited.

Sigma Delta Chi meets today noon, Anchorage.
Unaffiliated students have pic-

tures taken any day this week at Kennell-Ellis studio for the 1927 Oregon.

Grades in men's physical education will be posted in the lobby of the men's gymnasium Monday, December 13. No changes in grade will be made after 6 o'clock Wednesday, December 15.

Philosophy club—Meets Monday, Dec. 13, at 7:45 in men's room of Woman's building. Professor John

Mueller will speak on "Psychological Factors in the Aesthetic Experience."

Allied Arts League—Important meeting in lecture room at 3:00 this afternoon. Everyone be there!

Pledging Announcement
Theta Chi announces the pledging of Henry Lumpee of Vale, Oregon.

A Cup of Tea By a Cozy Fire

The very thing to settle your nerves for that exam.

The Anchorage

We wish you a Joyous Vacation and invite you back

Home for Christmas

Special fares to points in California, Oregon, Washington and Idaho.

Sale dates, December 14th to 18th inclusive and 22nd, 23rd and 24th. Final return limit January 4th, 1927.

Watch daily papers and window cards for announcement of special trains.

Southern Pacific Lines

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New stylings and colors
At \$3.50
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I am therefore offering my entire stock of Diamonds, Jewelry, Watches, Silverware, Clocks etc. at Public Auction to the highest bidder. I have placed my store in the hands of Mr. A. Kingman, Auctioneer, of San Francisco.

Auction Sale Starts Saturday, December 11

At 2 P. M. And Will Continue a Short Time Only.



BRISTOW'S

Two Sales Daily
2 P. M. and 7:30 P. M.

827 Willamette Street
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