

Oregon Daily Emerald

University of Oregon, Eugene

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Day Editor This Issue—Genevieve Morgan
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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.

Legalized Murder in The Name of Justice

IF THE cultivation of the understanding consists in one thing more than another, it is surely in learning the grounds of one's own opinions.—John Stuart Mill.

A FEW weeks ago Bartolomeo Vanzetti stood before Judge Webster Thayer, of Massachusetts, and heard himself and his companion, Nicola Sacco, sentenced to death. In these words he spoke to the court:

"I would not wish to a dog or to a snake, to the most low and misfortunate creature of the earth—I would not wish to any of them what I have had to suffer for things that I am not guilty of. . . I am suffering because I am a radical, and indeed I am a radical; I have suffered because I am an Italian, and indeed I am an Italian. . ."

Unless numerous pleas stir the governor's sense of justice, Sacco and Vanzetti will be electrocuted, presumably for murder, on July 10.

This case, that has dragged on for seven years, embodies more than a simple determination of guilty for murder. Otherwise laborers in foreign countries would not have gone on strike in protest against the decision; such noted authorities on law as Felix Frankfurter, Dean Pound, of Harvard law school, and Dean Hutchins, of Yale law school, would not be urging a new trial; citizens in all parts of the country would not have protested the court's ruling against a rehearing; American labor unions would not be planning a general protest strike; 10,000 persons would not have attended a protest meeting in New York; and newspapers on both sides of the Atlantic, even in Boston, would not be denouncing the court's decision.

Yet the protests have not concerned themselves with the guilt of Sacco and Vanzetti. That is incidental. The question is whether or not these men have been given a fair trial and whether the "dignity of the court" shall supercede the administration of justice.

The facts in the case are these: On May 5, 1920, Sacco, a shoemaker, and Vanzetti, a fish peddler, were arrested and charged with participation in a payroll robbery which resulted in the murder of two men. After a year's delay the men were tried, convicted and sentenced to death. A motion for retrial was made, based on glaring inaccuracies in the evidence—mainly circumstantial—presented to the jury. It was denied. A few weeks ago, nearly seven years after the crime was committed, the supreme court of Massachusetts denied a rehearing, and unless Governor Fuller takes a hand, nothing can save the men from the electric chair. So much for the surface facts.

The men were presumably on trial for murder, but they were connected with radical propaganda, and this element was introduced into the trial. The defendants were under suspicion of the department of justice at Washington, and evidence of former agents indicates that this government agency had a hand in prosecuting the case. From the conduct of the case it was at times difficult to tell whether the men were being tried for murder or for spreading radical propaganda. The murder issue was buried under accusations ranging from draft-dodging

to speaking disrespectfully of Harvard university. Identification of Sacco and Vanzetti as the murderers rested on flimsy evidence and on the secretly given, and later proved perjured, testimony of a gun expert. In addition, another man under sentence of death confessed that the notorious Morelli gang, of which he was a member, committed the crime, which was admittedly professional work. A great amount of evidence has been collected to substantiate this confession. But in the face of all this the court has refused a rehearing.

It is clearly evident that the question is not so much whether Sacco and Vanzetti are guilty of murder as whether criminal trials are to be decided on class and race prejudice, rather than on evidence. There is reason in the charge that two men were convicted not because they committed murder, but because they were radicals. The trial, it should be remembered, was held in 1920, a time when anti-radical hysteria had hold of the country.

The dignity of the Massachusetts courts must be upheld, it appears, even at the sacrifice of justice and decency. Unless the governor intervenes, Sacco and Vanzetti will go to their death, after a mock trial and an appeal in which the trial judge reviewed his own acts. A genuine appeal has been denied, because a retrial would reflect on the court of original jurisdiction.

If Sacco and Vanzetti are executed the dignity of the courts will have been saved at the price of justice. We will have established a precedent allowing political and social beliefs to decide criminal cases, and we will have permitted a court to judge its own acts, like the courts of the inquisition.

Proving That There's No Place Like Home

A HOME is "the habitual abode of one's family," according to the inimitable Webster. But Webster to the contrary notwithstanding, and despite the fact that its inhabitants are "brothers," a fraternity house is not a home and the "brothers" not a family, according to a ruling of the Nebraska supreme court.

The fraternity house, the court decided, is noted for "late hours, queer noises, and the use and abuse of vibrant and sonorous musical instruments." Therefore it cannot be classed as a home. It is a rooming house, not a residence.

The decision was the outgrowth of a suit filed by sleepless residents of an exclusive Omaha residential district against the Phi Beta Pi fraternity of Creighton university. They objected to the proximity of the fraternity house, especially the noises appertaining thereto, and asked that they (house and noise) be outlawed from the district restricted by the city zoning law to residences.

But the court could offer only sympathy, having ruled that the zoning laws are "unreasonable and oppressive." The same description might have applied to the "brothers," and no doubt was by the angry neighbors, but in this case the ruling was unofficial.

The decision, if permitted to stand as a precedent, should cheer the hearts of the users and abusers of vibrant and sonorous musical instruments. But don't cheer, boys, think of the sleepless citizens of Omaha.

the abolishment of the scandal sheet yesterday.

"It has no educational value. We want to get away from the grade idea if we are going to be a real university. Moreover, it gives the office more work than necessary, and costs too much. Instructors are forced to rush with correction of examination papers, and many mis-



The SEVEN SEERS

A news item says that a Rip Van Winkle club has been organized in the East. At last the debate goes have organized.

Today's candidate for the Old Jokes Home is the one about the fellow who told his friend that a nude woman was coming down the street, presently, riding a horse. "I guess I'll stay around a while," said the friend, "it's been a long time since I've seen a horse."

No, Gretchen, you can't buy postal license at the city hall.

SPRING POME

Again the spring
 Has brought the
 Double-flowering cherry
 To its beauty!
 And again along the
 River tracks have
 Re-arisen trilliums
 And butter cups with
 Eyes like golden
 Pheasants;
 And along the
 Grass-bordered path
 The angle worms peep
 Out at you and say,
 "Let's go fishing!"

The professor with the shiny blue serge suit says it's a long lane that has no parked cars on a dark night.

"How are you coming along with the costumes for 'Creole Moon,' Constance?"
 "Oh, sew sew, Bill, sew sew," and she laughed as though her little heart would break.



Scientists would have us believe that vitamins postpone the limit of a person's maturity. Just tell your banker that, however, and see what he'll tell you about science.

SUCH disillusionment!
 ALWAYS I had believed
 THAT our janitors and
 GARDNERS were on the
 WHOLE quite sensible
 LOT and not given to
 PICKING up the fads
 AND fancies that strike.
 COLLEGIATES over night
 BUT ALAS! yesterday I
 DID a small favor for
 ONE of these men and he
 RESPONDED with the
 OLD favorite of so
 MANY co-eds, THANKS AWFUL-
 LY.

"The speaker thrust both hands into his pockets and left the room gesticulating wildly."—San Francisco Examiner. Just try this on your gesticulator.



Why worry about the lack of water in the race, Soc? It always rains enough while the fete is going on to fill the banks to overflowing.

LUY

takes are made in the scandal sheet. In spite of the Missouri system each man has his own way of grading," he continued.

"The argument has been set forward that the student would not know whether he could return, but flunkers have always been informed beforehand anyway," he concluded.

Pledging Announcement
 Theta Chi announces the pledging of Glen Gardner of Los Angeles, California.

CAMPUS Bulletin

Meeting of all sophomores taking military today at 4:45 at the barracks. Everybody come.
POT AND QUILL meeting Thursday night instead of tonight, as previously announced. Place: Mrs. Clara Fitch's home.

Thespian meeting at 7:15 in the Woman's building this evening.

Mortar board meeting today at 5 o'clock in Villard hall. All junior women to be present.

A meeting of the International Relations club will be held tonight

at 7:30 in the Woman's building. Dr. Warren D. Smith will be the speaker. All members urged to attend.

Regular military begins tomorrow again. "Regimental review and escort to colors" May 4 and 11, at 4:50.

May 18 Presidential review.
 May 25 Governor's review.

Regular meeting of Orchestras tonight at 7:30 in Woman's building.



CLARA BOW

"IT"

By ELINOR GLYN
 with
 Antonio Moreno

If you miss it—you will regret it—so, hurry!



PARK
 an
ARROW SHIRT
 with an
ARROW COLLAR

on it. This shirt has the long point collar. It is made of a genuine imported English Broadcloth—the best in collars and in shirts that you can buy.

Ask Your Dealer



Mother's Own Day

Of course she prefers candy. . . We are now taking orders for Whitman's Chocolates in special Mother's Day wrappers—fresh from the Whitman Branch at San Francisco. We mail to all parts of the United States. Come in and look over our assortment.

TOILET GOODS SPECIALIST

Formerly with Owl Drug Co., Portland

Added to Our Staff

Miss Helen Presby has been permanently added to our staff and will take over the Toilet Goods Department beginning tomorrow morning, May 2. Miss Presby is an experienced toilet goods saleslady. She was with the Owl Drug Co. of Portland for three years.

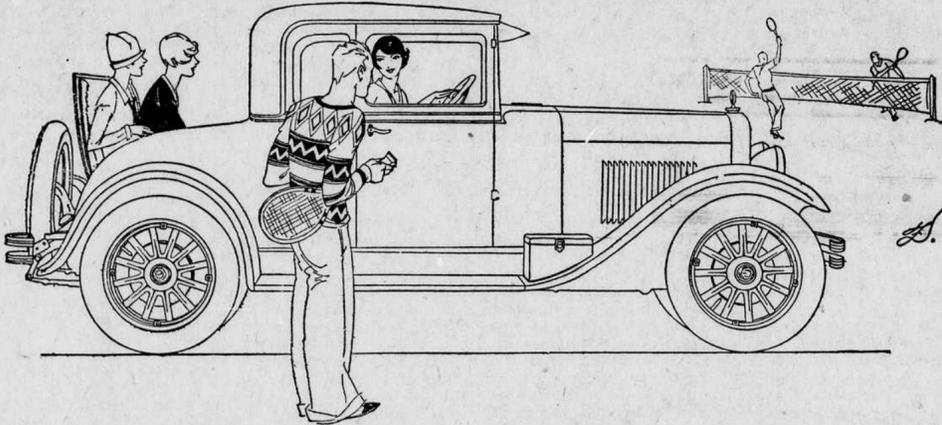
CROWN DRUG CO.

JAMES H. BAKER, '24, Prop.

Miner Bldg.

Call 146

"LA 'ERSKINE SIX' EST CONFORTABLE AU SUPREME DEGRÉ—L'AUTO, PARIS



"Still setting the style pace, aren't you? Glad I'm not the parent who pays and pays and pays."

"Ah, that's the point. It's an Erskine Six and economy is its secret passion. Don't judge its cost by its appearance."

SPEAKING frankly, who cares a fig for bore and stroke, cubic displacement and all of that. The car of today is the one that slips through traffic like an All-American halfback wriggles through a broken field; turns on a dime with nine cents change and pops into a parking space with a hair's breadth clearance front and rear.

To match the spirit of American youth a motor car must have "It." "It" is the ability to chase the horizon all day without panting; smart good looks that do credit to the intelligence of its owner and riding comfort that wins a sigh of complete ease.

That's why the Erskine Six Custom Coupe is taking America's youth by storm. Style conceived in Paris—design by Dietrich, the master designer—speed that lets you decide whether or not the car behind will pass. And, will it stand up? Studebaker builds it—Q. E. D.

Take possession of an Erskine Six today. Drive it over roads other cars fear. Forget the gearshift lever. Revise all your notions of motoring. You're riding in a car that has set a new pace for others to try and follow.

The Erskine Six Custom Coupe, as illustrated, sells for \$995 f. o. b. factory, complete with front and rear bumpers and self-energizing wheel brakes.

ERSKINE SIX

THE LITTLE ARISTOCRAT