

Oregon Emerald

University of Oregon, Eugene

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A TRAVESTY ON CULTURE

University lecture halls they teach of labor problems, and of the improvement in the conditions under which laborers have worked since the advent of the industrial revolution. They teach of labor's efforts to secure shorter hours and suitable working conditions. They instruct embryonic community leaders in the problems involving employee, employer and public. They teach modern theories of social reform. They offer a course designated as "labor and remuneration." An extension service guides workers in improving the use of their leisure hours.

Yet, to the University's shame, in these same buildings janitors are arriving for work at 6 o'clock in the morning and leaving at 6 o'clock at night. They are made to take a 2 1/2-hour recess in the middle of the day, the hours when formerly they accomplished their work most efficiently and most conveniently. They must remain on duty until the buildings are locked at 6 o'clock at night.

The fact that conditions almost equally unsalutary have existed for the past 20 years does not alter the essential features of the case. Such things as child labor and steel-mill brutality were accepted evils 20 years ago. And never, so far as we are able to learn, have janitors at the University worked until 6 o'clock at night—a weary close, indeed, to a day which begins at 6 o'clock in the morning. Nor does the continuation of a harsh labor condition for 20 years condone an apparent violation of the state laws.

A chief executive and his trained assistants are working night and day in Washington to spread nationwide the principles of shorter hours and fair remuneration. If it should become necessary, as Executive Secretary Pallett has intimated, to place janitors upon an hourly salary basis instead of a monthly basis, then that action should be taken. It at least could be construed as an effort to apply the standards of labor reform to this institution. Much more in line with present social trends would be the rearrangement of hours so that the janitors could have the late afternoon hours for rest and recreation. The Emerald has the statement of a member of the janitorial force that if it were not for the 2 1/2-hour "lunch" period, the main work of the day could be completed shortly after three o'clock. The buildings could then be locked by the watchman, as was done last year.

Yet we can readily imagine the storm of disapprobation that would arise if the administration, in tardily attempting to organize a reasonably humane schedule of hours, should make drastic cuts in salaries which are already pitifully low.

There can be no gainsaying the fact that the hours of the janitors are too long, and that they do not make for maximum efficiency. The people of this country are now placing implicit faith in the principles of the National Recovery act to lead them out of the quagmire of economic distress. Then what a travesty it must seem to the average citizen, this relic of the sweatshop age surviving in the very home of progress and culture!

EXIT ANOTHER TRADITION?

INDICATIONS are that the leaders for Homecoming this year are not any too anxious to have the traditional bonfire. It is another case of waning interest in a collegiate tradition. And maybe this waning interest is not to be condemned.

The past few years have seen a rapid decay of the old rah-rah spirit that used to prevail so much on every campus. At Oregon in the past two years we have done away with the frosh lids and the

paddings on the library steps. They had stopped serving their purposes.

So it is with the bonfire. Very few students joined in the parade to the bonfire the last year or two it was held on the butte. Last year, with the fire on the heights, the attendance was even smaller. There was a time when all students and the majority of faculty members joined in the march to the fire. But those days are gone. The spirit of the bonfire is no longer there. Why administer artificial resuscitation to the tradition again this year?

One of the principal charges against the bonfire has been that it takes a large number of freshmen from classes for a couple of days before the fire and disorganizes study hours. Householders near the scene live in terror until the last spark is extinguished. An unsightly, blackened scar left on the hillside is the only enduring memento. And there is usually a bill to the freshman class for somebody's shed or fence that has been mistaken for scrap lumber.

Much consolation was derived by the few first-year men who were privileged to spend the night guarding the bonfire, for freshman girls brought hot coffee and doughnuts or sandwiches up to the brave guards. And they got a kick out of it because it was collegiate. We know, we did it.

But why not say goodbye to another tradition that has outlived its usefulness? It was great while it was youthful and spontaneous. Now it is due for an honorable discharge.

STRATEGY OR ERROR?

GERMANY'S action in bolting the world's disarmament conference at Geneva probably quickened the pulse of the world as much as her invasion of Belgium in 1914. Memories of the last conflict, its attendant misery and subsequent chaos, have left the world powers in a position comparable to a rheumatic old man with St. Vitus dance.

Whether Germany under Hitler's guidance qualified herself as a super strategist or committed a diplomatic blunder, only coming events will tell.

Hitler's rise to power qualifies him as a super showman. Dictators in order to upset constitutional authority must secure control of certain internal institutions—the army, navy, militia and police. Next in importance is control of all agencies that may be used to mold public opinion—the press, telegraph and telephone lines, radio, theatres, churches and schools.

Solution of some very controversial question, usually internal, produces the spark that assures gaining control of the agencies just mentioned. Germany had many of those internal problems, some of which perplex other governments as well, but several peculiar to Germany alone. She was a defeated nation, disarmed and loaded down with reparations, her colonies and foreign commerce gone, torn by a post-war revolution with complete change in form of government—a country with no strong centralized government except in war and a multitude of political parties and factions.

Hitler proved himself a master musician by striking one popular chord after another until he produced internal harmony where a short time before only discord prevailed.

While his acts have met with the almost unanimous approval of the German people, not so with the rest of the world. Guilt for loss of the war was placed by him and his followers on the shoulders of the "less than one per cent" of total population, the German Jews. His treatment of those people, whether right or wrong, actual or magnified, is one domestic issue that stirred up a storm in foreign quarters and reacted to Germany's detriment.

Walking out on the disarmament conference, if it proves to be a blunder, would be Hitler's second great error. On the contrary, it may turn out to be a diplomatic stroke of genius, and will temporarily at least serve the purpose of diverting the attention of the world away from the anti-semitic activities.

The mere fact that the conference adjourned following Germany's withdrawal indicates the gravity of the situation and the importance to the rest of the world of Germany's participation in the deliberations. Every nation fears the consequences of another war, not knowing how many of the powers will enter or how they will line up. For that reason, if no other, Germany may be able to secure concessions when the conference reconvenes that she would not otherwise have secured. In that event her recent action will have proved to be a bit of first-class diplomatic strategy.

UNITED INDEPENDENCE

A WEE bit tired of having things done—or not done—for them by various campus groups, the unaffiliated women of the University of Oregon have at last determined to do something for themselves.

Their union should awaken an interest in campus affairs impossible among scattered individuals. Unaffiliated students rank above the average in every grade list, but too often an independent woman has spent four years at the University without discovering the wealth of educational and recreational activities offered outside the curriculum.

Sponsors of the new organization say that they hope to cooperate with the Greek letter groups and the women's dormitories, but also to preserve their independence. Their aim is to help each girl make new friends and realize her responsibilities to the University and to herself.

After listening to Dr. Reinhart for about an hour, we still can't pronounce "Goethe" the way he does.

Anyway, winter will be holding forth in Portland on November 11. If it isn't, the treats will be on us at the corner of Sixth and Alder at high noon.

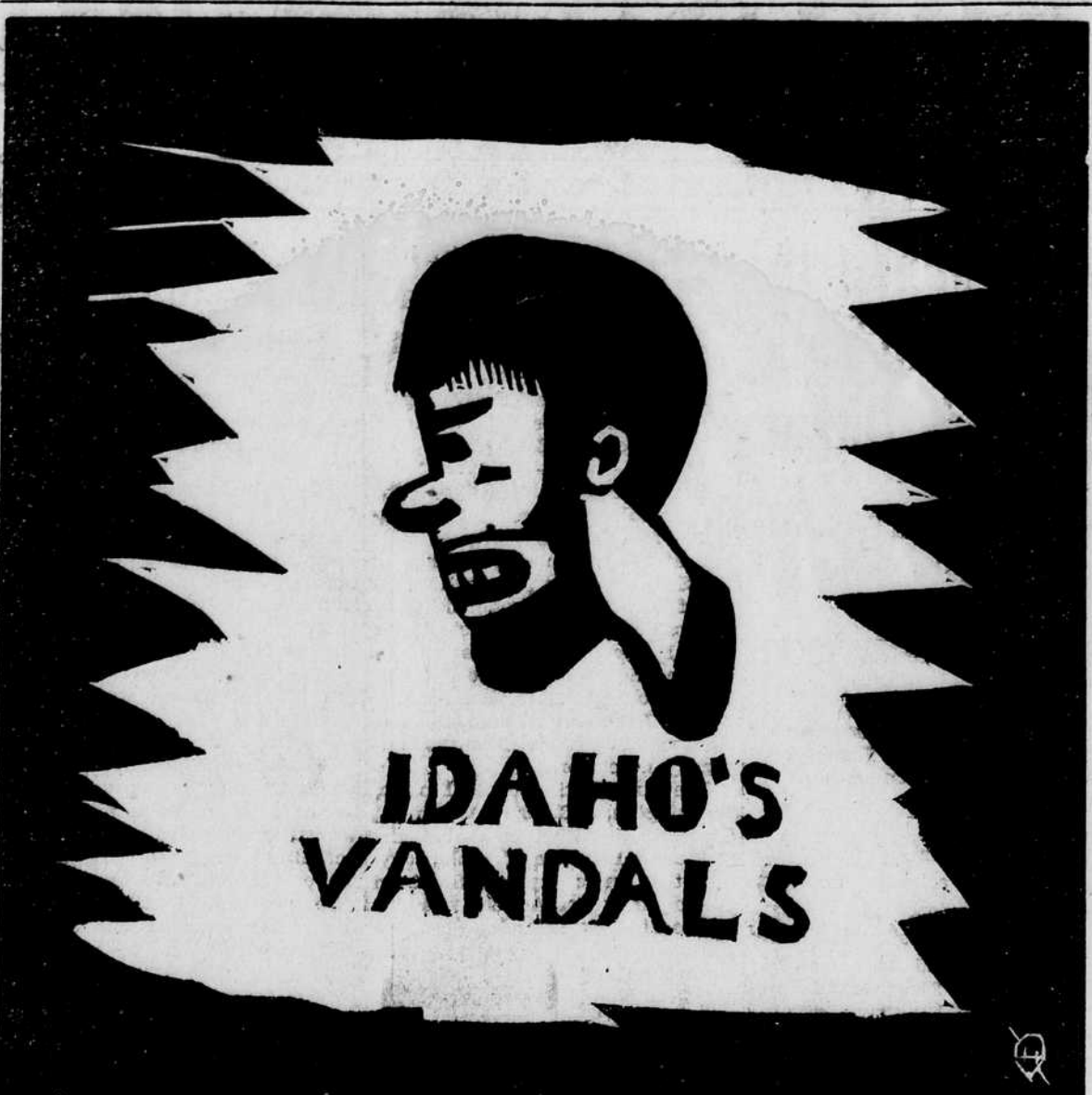
What with all the winter we had last spring and all the summer this fall, we don't quite know whether to get a heavy suit or a light one with that money we just got from home.

Our hopes for a new library took a big slump when we saw repairs put on the present building. Some passers-by at first thought they were beginning to tear the old building down before it fell down.

So far the only hunting reports heard around the campus are of two Chiny roosters bagged by the campus cop while on an expedition down the valley Wednesday. Several of the boys have been gunning for deer but are keeping quiet about their luck.

Duck Hunting

By STANLEY ROBE



Case of the Harvard Scrubwomen

By ELINOR HENRY

FOR two cents, muttered President A. Lawrence Lowell of Harvard University, I'd throw out all the Widener Library scrubwomen and put men in their places.

This isn't, you will notice, a direct quotation, but it does sum up a situation similar in several respects to the University of Ore-

gon's apparent disregard of minimum wage laws. Because state inspectors had pointed out too strenuously what they had been mentioning politely for nine long years—that 35 cents an hour was not 37 cents an hour—20 Harvard scrubwomen were fired. Half of them were dismissed arbitrarily on November 1, 1922. The others were put out on the Saturday be-

fore Christmas. A few were taken back on as chambermaids at the dormitories at 32 cents an hour, but all the others were, both literally and figuratively, "left out in the cold."

But for a kind-hearted minister who tried to do something for an ex-scrubwoman mother with five children, public notice might never

(Continued on Page Three)

Reading and Writing

PEGGY CHESSMAN, Editor

WITH sincerest apologies to Don Herold, we copy from the windows of the Co-op a slogan that is very appropriate for this column: "Nibble a book. Gnaw a book. Keep a book going all the time—it's a way from routine and boredom. It makes a whole day better, to look forward to your book. You roam new fields and cities. You refresh. Walk to new worlds through the door of your nearest book."

Since Hitler is quite the center of interest at the present time, it is quite appropriate that his autobiography, "My Battle," should appear just now. This head of a great European state tells his life story, his aims and methods, his social, political, and economic philosophies in this book (complete with swastika and salute).

Another non-fiction book that has created no little excitement among readers is Stefan Zweig's "Marie Antoinette—The Portrait of an Average Woman." In Germany this 500-page book is acclaimed his masterpiece. It has been printed in 15 languages, and was selected recently by the Book-of-the-Month club.

Scarcely a year goes by but someone attempts a biography of Queen Elizabeth. This year being no exception, Milton Waldman presents his story of the life of the Virgin Queen, and her only true love. In his preface he states that his book is different from all others in that it does not deal with the trifling personal matters and love affairs of the ruler, but explains her fierce passion for her country. "England was her husband"—that is the theme of his whole subject matter, in which with a great deal of sincerity he shows her development of the land she loved from an insignificant island to a farflung world empire.

Waldman is the author of a history of the matrimonial negotiations between Queen Elizabeth and Philip of Spain, a book he quite cleverly calls "King, Queen and Jack."

Students of recent English history will find E. F. Benson's "King Edward VII an unusually fine biography. The Saturday Review offers the following criticism of it: "King Edward has been lucky in his biographies, thus escaping the horror of our time. Mr. Benson, after his memorable book on Charlotte Bronte, has needed and has used a broader brush for this portrait of a more robust personality. The book is written with Mr. Benson's customary skill and zest and a clearer image of King Edward has not yet been made by anyone."

The traveller, the sportsman,

and the boulevardier are all here with the statesman."

"Bubbling in the same manner which won her innumerable friends in Washington, D. C., the sister of Ex-Vice-President Curtis, in her first attempt at this type of literature, "Dolly Gann's Book," gives a vivid and exuberant picture of life in the capital city, of her life as official hostess and an adventurer in politics. The social life she calls a "tempest in a teapot" in one of her short chapters.

"Esquire," a quarterly for men, has just made its appearance on the campus, and it is something for young men, and young women, too, to notice. Its contents are divided into sports, humor, cartoons, photography, fiction, and articles. It prints material by such authors as Ernest Hemingway, Nicholas Murray Butler, Ring Lardner jr., John Dos Passos, Douglas Fairbanks jr., Bobby Jones, Gene Tunney, and Joseph Auslander.

Particularly outstanding are the full-page colored cartoons by William Steig, oil paintings by Jules Pascal, and pages and pages of colored fashion plates showing just exactly what the undergraduate male or upperclass man will wear and when.

Emerald of the Air

MARY LOUISE EDINGER has 165 column inches of data on what the "400" of these here parts is doing, have done, and will do. (That seems like a round-about way of saying that society news of the past, present, and future are in order, but anyway, it's our style and we're stickin' to it.) To get on with this document, this society broadcast originates in the studios of KORE at 4:30. Get the Emerald-of-the-Air habit. Tune your noise-maker in for this campus feature every day. The KORE kilocycle number is 1420.

Dear friends:

Did you ever think of it—buying jewelry is just a little bit different than buying anything else. Here's the point I'm trying to make: Mr. Skeie has been in the jewelry business for 25 years. He has handled a lot of merchandise during that time and he knows the "inside" on every make of watch or clock that's manufactured. He knows jewelry values from A to Z, and when you buy from him, you get the benefit of all that experience.

In other words, it isn't necessary that you learn the jewelry business in order to buy a ring. That's part of the service of this store. You get what I mean, don't you?

TICK

"If it comes from Skeie's it must be good"



discovered exactly WHAT happened in Room 1001 at the Meany, but we will. And are we an old many.

OGDEN GNASHES
Breaking the Ice
"Beer is fine,
But gin saves time!"

99 and 44-100 per cent pure!

The Emerald Grets

The men have it all to themselves today. That's a good sign, boys.

ANTONE YTURRI
Tony comes from the Basque settlement up in Jordan Valley, and if they all dance like he does, there should be a general exodus east among the women.

MIN YASUI
A walking encyclopedia—that's Min. Knows something about everything, and plays a swell game of chess, besides.

ED HARRIS
BEN GROUT
DAVID A. MORRIS
TOM STYLES

The Safety Valve

An Outlet for Campus Steam

All communications are to be addressed to The Editor, Oregon Daily Emerald, and should not exceed 200 words in length. Letters must be signed, but should the writer prefer, only initials will be used. The editor maintains the right to withhold publication should he see fit.

To the Editor:

I believe that my dear friend, E. N., should be educated as to the general workings of our business staff before proceeding any further in his statements on uninformed facts. In the first place, I would like to tell him that we have found it to our advantage to place men on the staff whom we believe to be best qualified for the position. The three students picked to contact the men not in living organizations were all well qualified in that they are enthusiastic, capable, and well acquainted with a large number of students in that group.

I believe that E. N. is trying to make too great a distinction between fraternity and non-fraternity men. I can see no advantage to be gained by it.

Is it necessary for someone to always be creating friction between the two groups when they should be working together with just one object in mind—to make our University a bigger and better one? This is no time for controversies.

Ed Cross.

Mannequin

By PATSY LEE

HERE is an intelligence quiz, my dear students, for the socially elite of the campus. What do the following numbers mean to you? 662-950-868-674 O. H. What—a chemistry formula! In your hat, and they aren't telephone numbers either.

Who is afraid of the big bad wolf? And speaking of not-so-distant lands, do you remember, or how could you forget the lovely policeman on the sixth floor? Six feet six and at least four feet wide, natty blue uniform, shiny badge—a former Iowa tackle (good foundation).

And now for more practical things. Do, by all means, get your knitting out. Knit sweaters, dresses, anything—but knit. It is the latest and most practical fad which has swooped down upon us for many a moon. Knit any place, but never look idle—it just isn't the thing, and knitting is more profitable than biting one's finger nails at tense moments. Mannequin chooses Mary Ming for the limelight because she continually knits a flame-colored sweater on huge, wooden needles.

You must possess a lovely large bag to carry your knittin' in, too. Home-spun bags in gorgeous oranges, blues, and yellows are inexpensive and spacious, and very swanky to carry around.

More from the fashion center concerning chapeaus. "The smart hats at present all have a sort of hairy appearance. Besides the turbans in tweed and rough wool which are essential to the college wardrobe, there are caps made of monkey fur, and all the possible toques and berets made in long-haired rayon velvets and plushes. Hairy woollens with long white Jarres over angora backgrounds give a very frozen effect. Long-haired felts of the taupe type and flat felts having long white hairs are all the vogue."

Speaking of shapes, the helmet type prevails for the toques, turbans, and even for the cloches. All the crowns, except for berets, are high, irregular, most unexpected in their drapery, and are even knotted right on the top.

Berets have not said their last word, and one of the leading designers, Rose Valois, has devoted all her attention this season to many tricky berets which are extremely novel. Most of her models have that up-and-down swoop.

Glen Hieber lost his lovely new chapeau in Seattle, notwithstanding the fact that he guarded it most carefully. Frances Spence is most chic and luxurious in her ermine coat and toque hat.

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Shoes-Retail—(Cont'd)
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A strategic point in the battle for sales

Today's intense competition calls for new and more effective merchandising methods. Several plans pioneered by Bell System men are proving helpful.

For example: the "Where to Buy It" section of the telephone book. Here local dealers are listed beneath the trade-marks of advertised products—such as Plymouth, Greyhound Lines, Exide, RCA Victor. This service helps manufacturers to reduce substitution, helps dealers to increase sales, helps you to locate the brand you want.

BELL SYSTEM



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