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Compulsory or Optional? A Problem for the Board

ON January 31 people of the state will go to
the polls in a special election to vote on,
among other things, whether or not the payment
of a \$5 fee should be placed in the hands of the
state board of higher education. The bill, placed
on the ballot by a referendum of students the
latter part of last spring term, if passed, will
give the board authority to make the fees op-
tional or compulsory but not to exceed \$5.

It should be understood that this bill provides
a different setup than the old type of "compul-
sory" fee regulation as in effect prior to the
attorney general's opinion which ruled out the
former system. The difference in the proposed
setup from the former traditional one lies in
the control of the money IF and when collected.
Previously the money was merely collected by
the board, at the voted request of the students,
for their activity program. The bill appearing
on the ballot January 31 would place the activity
program under direct supervision of the state
board of higher education where, under the bill's
implied theory, activities are in the main educa-
tional, the supervision rightfully belongs.

If the people of the state are willing to en-
trust the state board of higher education with
responsibility of administering an educational
program of millions of dollars, they should be
willing to give the board authority to supervise
and regulate an educational activity program.

The Emerald feels that those students who
have objected to the administration of student
fees by an organization not under the direct
supervision of a duly constituted state authority,
have perhaps had some justification for their
complaints on that principle. However, should
they object to the proposed law, they are unduly
condemning the state board of higher education
as being unqualified as to its functions of ad-
ministering educational affairs.

The implications of the bill as regards the
ASUO setup are complicated. Next term the Em-
erald will attempt an analysis of the situation in
ASUO administration that will probably be en-
lightening and encouraging to those students who

object to the payment of a compulsory fee. The
Emerald is certain that should the state board
decide on a compulsory collection of the fee that
it will take into consideration students to whom
the burden of paying \$15 yearly is unbearable.

Cooperation extended by the ASUO staff to
the Emerald and the supporters of the bill is
necessary and will be an indication of a willing-
ness to iron out a situation that has caused
needless strife on the Oregon campus.

Students going to their homes over the hol-
idays should make every effort to explain the
necessity for the passage of the bill.

The Safety Valve

Letters published in this column should not be construed
as expressing the editorial opinion of the Emerald. Anony-
mous contributions will be disregarded. The names of com-
municants will, however, be regarded as confidential upon
request. Contributors are asked to be brief, the editors reserv-
ing the right to condense all letters of over 300 words and to
accept or reject letters upon the criteria of general editorial
importance and interest to the campus.

To the Editor:

For some few years I have been wondering
just how a highly trained, competent, news execu-
tive of the "big" type might attack the Russian
situation.

Mr. Smith's discourse on present Russian con-
ditions seems to fill the bill.

It was beautifully done, the inferences were so
adroitly patterned and shaded that a group of
economically conscious individuals might not
have appreciated the unholly subtleness of the
speech—much less a spoiled, luxury-loving mess
of potage, such as Dr. de Villiers claims we are.

Even the unthinking man might inquire,
cocoanuts or brass rings? Why does it matter
how much the relative income of the worker is
IF he is obtaining life's essentials? Money doesn't
seem to count with these Russian people, as the
person who does the work actually reaps the
resultant cultural benefits as typified by the
opera and the theatre, or food and housing—a
pitiful state of affairs!

On the other hand we have one large building,
seemingly congested by sheltering 13 families
where formerly one one family resided. Would
it be boorish if one were to ask where the other
12 families had been living in the past—no chance
of the gutter or some rural hovel, I hope?

Then we have these poor workmen who had
been of some previous economic consequence. One
wonders what the exact living conditions of their
hirelings had been previous to the revolution—all
cake and truffles, I suppose.

As for the single mode of individual life, I
wonder how any man can justify poverty, sordid
crime and mental torture of a number of people
in order to develop one rugged, highly individ-
ualized play boy.

George Slaetzer.

To the Editor:

We've heard a lot lately about the glamor of
war and how false it is. Some of us even enter-
tained the fond idea that University of Oregon
students were ready to call a spade a spade, and
chuck this "rah, rah, we want a fight" stuff out
the window. In fact the whole state has begun to
take it for granted that Oregon really is a liberal
school, and that the student body no longer al-
lows itself to be fooled by such shallow stuff as
the super-patriots are wont to peddle.

Evidently it is beginning to be true. Maybe
that's why somebody got scared and decided that
students were sizing up ROTC for what it really
is? So scared, in fact, that he pulled the army's
old, old ace in the hole to rally the boys around—
sex appeal. The Little Colonel, I believe, is the
catch phrase around which we are asked to throw
our war dance fetish.

Of course we are opposed to war, we question
the ROTC as part of the war machine, but oh
boy, you can't see around a curve, and most
figures have curves, and who wants to think
about the horror and uselessness of war when he
can be feasting his various emotions on the dear
little co-ed officer?

We had to swallow our pride as an enlightened
school when we resorted to using our women to
make hell itself inviting. We can thank Seaboard
and Blade and its brain trust for the fine lead-
ership in the move. There is but one consolation.
Somebody IS scared! It's been a long time since
our campus war lords have felt constrained to
resort to SA as their means of insulting our
native intelligence.

Irvin Buchwach
Charles Paddock
Glenn Ridley
Sam Blikman.

Smith Unfolds

(Continued from Page One)

there isn't any reason to expect
that the Soviet government will
not last a long while," he main-
tained.

Soviets Fear Foreign War

A foreign war is the constant
dread of Russia, its leaders fear-
ing a coalition of capitalist pow-
ers to destroy the whole commu-
nistic order. Such a peril, the
speaker averred, would probably
prove disastrous to the country.

"It is a curse in all Russia to
have much money . . . a person is
apt to be very unhappy . . . he is
very apt to land in jail," he said in
telling of the self-subsistence of
the old aristocratic class of czar-
ist days. In Moscow, families have
destroyed all signs of pre-revolu-
tionary days so as not to appear
as people of means. Living condi-
tions there are bad, quarters be-
ing cramped, families reduced to
circumstances with which they
can barely get along.

Former Aristocrats Satisfied

These adverse social conditions
do not seem to bother the younger
generation, probably, he ventured,
because they never knew better.
Smith told of a tailor and a furni-
ture man who each owned, during
the days of the Romanoffs, lead-

ing stores in Moscow. Today both
are reduced to the laboring class,
but content because they have a
job and enough to eat.

Unemployment in Russia is un-
known, the lecturer admitted, but
the average monthly wage of a
Moscow worker is 65 paper rubles
—about \$1.50. The necessities of
life are correspondingly low, how-
ever. Americans on relief would
be unhappy with the meager wag-
es of the Russian laborer, Smith
guessed.

Tourists Get Wrong View

A summer tour of Russia of-
ten gives visitors the impression
life there would be ideal, but the
former newspaper man said such
is not the case, the winters, with
long, cold, miserable nights being
a bitter contrast to warm summer
days.

Wittily, Smith told of the larger
Russian alphabet, making it pos-
sible for government officials
there to name more organizations
with letters, sly poking fun at the
New Deal.

Films in the Soviet are too heav-
ily loaded with propaganda to be
much amusement, Smith charged,
the Russians themselves express-
ing little interest in them. Opera
and plays are much more popular
with the people, although Lenin
allows few of the working class
to attend.

Stage of the World

(Continued from Page One)

tional commerce is being closed
up. Oil, metals, minerals, coal,
and munitions are in that torrent.
Could Italy conduct further war
without these things, which she
can't, there is always the step of
naval blockade, by the greatest
navies in the world, left to be tak-
en. Blockades shut off food, too,
and men don't see their women and
children go hungry very long be-
cause a visionary dictator would
like for them to. They quit. The
war stops.

Merry Xmas

Yes, Il Duce is doomed, and his
people will suffer mightily. Even
without the British, the French,
and the League in the fracas, it is
questionable that Ethiopia can
be defeated. If she is, she must
be before the rainy season starts.
That is due in about six months.
Tanks, airplanes and Italians
aren't ducks.

I have great confidence in this
augury. But a better conclusion
about the whole affair would be
the words Shakespeare put into
the mouth of Puck, "Lord, what
fools these mortals be."

Send the Emerald to your friends.
Subscription rates \$2.50 a year.



The Marsh of Time

By Bill Marsh

Business Trip

Comes it now from Portland,
the only graveyard in the world
with electric lights, an amusing
little squib. It seems that it's pos-
sible to buy liquor in Portland and
get it delivered, merely by calling
up the state warehouse at the east
end of the Burnside bridge, spec-
ifying the poison required and giv-
ing the permit number.

So-o-o-o, rings the telephone,
and the attendant takes a man's
order for expensive grogs to be
delivered to a room in a smallish
hotel in a none-too-genteel district.
The permit number was duly re-
corded and the beverages sent on
their way.

Seconds later, rings the tele-
phone again. This time it's a lady,
a lady with a cultured accent. She
ordered liquors to be sent to a
highly respectable home in a high-
ly respectable residential district.
And then she gave the SAME per-
mit number as had the gentleman
a few seconds previously.

The attendant stalled, some-

what bewildered. The lady, sens-
ing the hesitation, proceeded to
explain. "It's my husband's per-
mit," she said, "but I'm using it.
He was called to San Francisco on
business yesterday."

WOW!

Nice Kitty

Bubonic plague, scourge of Ori-
ental countries, is carried by rats.
So the far-seeing British colonial
government has taken simple steps
to keep the plague at a minimum.
In Hongkong it is absolutely com-
pulsory for a cat to be kept in
every single Englishman's house-
hold. In the larger homes, the
law requires that three cats be
maintained.

Hail, then, to the modest kitty,
guardian of health in the white
hordes of Britain's Asiatic empire.

From the Brooklyn Daily Eagle:
The size of the American woman's
hand has increased more than a
full glove size in the last 20 years.
Shucks, digging for gold makes
anybody's hands get bigger.

The Second Symphony of Bee-
thoven will be presented by the
78-piece University of California
symphony orchestra in a program
Sunday night at 9 o'clock.

Next Tuesday evening the Casa
Loma band will play "At the
Jazz Band Ball" and "Hallelujah."
Deane Janis will sing "Every Now
and Then," Pee Wee Hunt featur-
ing "If I Had Rhythm in My Nur-
sery Rhymes," and Kenny Sargent
will sing "Why Shouldn't I?"

Rubinoff will play "Stringin'
Along," an original composition,
as his principal solo during the
Chevrolet program this evening at
6:00. He will also solo on "I
Wished on the Moon." Other se-
lections include "Indian Love
Call," "I've Got a Feelin' You're
Foolin'," "Truckin'," "Top Hat,
White Tie and Tails," and "Treasure
Island."

Gala ceremonies at the opening
of NBC's new studios in Holly-
wood will be on the air for 90 min-

Warner Prize Contest Again Open to Students

For the tenth consecutive year
the Warner prize contest is open
to students interested in the Far
East. Two hundred dollars in prizes
will be awarded by the commit-
tee, Dr. Harold J. Noble, chairman,
for the best essays on Eastern
Asia and its problems. First prize
will be \$100.00, second prize \$50.00,
third prize \$25.00, and fourth prize
\$25.00. The essays will be about
5000 words long and must be sub-
mitted on or before March 6, 1936.
To be eligible a student must have
taken a course in Far Eastern history,
Asian geography or one
dealing with the economic and po-
litical problems of the Orient
whether on this campus or at some
other university. History 491-2-3,
Geography 428, or Economics
446, 447 fills the requirements lo-
cally.

The essays may deal with the
history, economic or political or
social problems of the countries of
Eastern Asia, their mutual rela-
tions, or their relations with the
Occident. Those interested in art
may participate in a similar con-
test directed by Mr. Jiro Harada.
Interested students should con-
sult with Dr. Morris, Dr. Jameson,
or Dr. Noble, who comprise the
contest committee.

The contest is sponsored by
Mrs. Gertrude Bass Warner with
the expectation that through the
studies and thought involved will
come a greater understanding of
the peoples of Asia, and in the
hope that a greater interest in the
Orient may be stimulated on this
campus.

Princeton students can now cut
as much as they like, so long as
their standing remains unimpaired.

be surprised. We'd feel gloomily
satisfied.

But the people who really burn
our soul like a blow-torch are the
cranks and Christs up in Port-
land who foam at the mouth all
over V. Earl whenever we happen
to mention that a college man has
taken a drink. What do they think
we run up here—a corral for
camels? Prohibition has been re-
pealed, Gabriel, and incidentally, one
swallow does NOT equal the
Johnstown flood.

Where anybody ever got the idea
that this is a "country club school"
we don't know, unless it was from
Corvallis' cagey propaganda push-
ers.

Our population is made up of the
sons and daughters of middle-
class families in the majority, and
any attempt to lead them into
riotous living (much less put an
original idea in their heads) is
foredoomed to failure.

And yet Oregon is supposed to be
a hot-bed of radicalism! Ye Gods!
Celeste Strack is allowed to talk
on the campus, and immediately
this tepid matrimonial bureau be-
comes a sea of red banners in the
steam-heated skulls of reactionary
editors. Nuts! It fair makes us sick
to our tummy.

We're glad we can quit for a
breathing spell!

Clark, Marsh

(Continued from Page One)

Thomson's national column also
ran around 30 per cent.

An interesting reaction was the
good reception accorded the week-
ly Emerald Magazine section with
Henriette Horak's Chit Chat rat-
ing 50 per cent drawing power,
and Bill Barker's short story about
40 per cent. Clark's Hell on
Wheels drew about 50 per cent.

On the sport page the football
story ran about 60 per cent, the
basketball and intramural stories
about 50 per cent, and the others
a little over 30. McCall's Sport
Quacks batted about a 50 per cent
average.

Jimmy Morrison's Air Y' Listen-
in' cracked a 35 per cent reaction,
while another editorial page fea-
ture, the Safety Valve, counted
only 20 per cent.

Short stories and columns broken
en up drew better averages than
long solid mass-of-type stories.

The directive principle of educa-
tion should be directed toward a
more efficient parenthood, says Dr.
William A. Shimer, secretary of the
United chapter of Phi Beta Kappa.

Press Group To Hold Meet

Annual Conference To Open January 23

Plans for the eighteenth annual
conference of the Oregon Press as-
sociation were furthered at a meet-
ing of the faculty of the school of
journalism yesterday and the date
for the occasion changed from
January 23, 24, and 25 to January
16, 17, and 18. This change will
enable delegates to be present on
the campus at the time of the
Oregon-Oregon State basketball
game.

This conference, which will be
made up of newspaper men from
all parts of the state, will be spon-
sored by the school of journalism
in cooperation with Sigma Delta
Chi, and Theta Sigma Phi, men's
and women's journalism honorar-
ies. Dean Eric W. Allen, journal-
ism head, is in charge of arrange-
ments.

Meetings of the Oregon Editor-
ial association, and the Oregon Ad-
vertising Manager's association
will be held in conjunction with
the conference and special sessions
will be given over to these organi-
zations.

Robert W. Ruhl, editor of the
Medford Mail-Tribune will preside
at the conference. Ruhl gained na-
tional recognition last year by
winning the William Pulitzer prize
given for conspicuous newspaper
service.

According to tentative arrange-
ments, Sigma Delta Chi and Theta
Sigma Phi will sponsor one of
the luncheons and will assist with
the program at the banquet which
climaxes the conference. The Eugene
Gleemen, local musical or-
ganization, under the direction of
John Stark Evans, will contribute
to the entertainment of the even-
ing. This group has proved popular
at former banquets of the
press conference delegation.

Official program plans will be
formulated at a meeting of the
executive committee of the state
editorial association in Portland
Saturday. Dean Allen and Profes-
sor Arne Rae, state field man for
the organization, plan to be pre-
sent at the meeting.

Attendance at Williams College
chapel has fallen to 100 daily. The
service is no longer compulsory.

HOME FOR CHRISTMAS



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| LOS ANGELES | 24.30 |
| MEDFORD | 4.95 |
| KLAMATH FALLS | 5.50 |
| ROSEBURG | 1.30 |
| GRANTS PASS | 4.20 |
| SALEM | 1.75 |

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STANDARD PULLMANS, plus berth, ALSO
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Daily from Dec. 16 to 24, inclusive, we will operate
a new train from Portland to San Francisco, leaving
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P. M. next day. Coaches, tourist and Standard Pull-
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