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## The Good and Bad Of the Student Union

THERE has been some agitation on the campus  
lately for an expanded support of the newly  
formed American Student Union, which was  
formally organized last month at a meeting in  
Columbus, Ohio. In the report of the first meet-  
ing, published in the January 7 bulletin of the  
Student Union, the first conclave of 500 students  
was termed "an impressive cross-section of the  
growing progressive movement in American  
schools, meeting in a period of the most desper-  
ate reactionary outbreak which has visited the  
nation."

The idea of centralizing student activity and  
discussion revolving about heightened interest in  
national and international affairs and education  
is encouraging. The dullness of the average col-  
lege student with reference to active interest or  
acquired information about contemporary affairs  
is a marked fault. And to organize such a group  
as the American Student Union might well be a  
step in the direction of stimulating debate and  
discussion on topics that will some day directly  
affect college students as adults.

However, there are also dangers in such or-  
ganizations especially when they are set up on a  
national scale with centralized publications in the  
hands of enthusiastic and ambitious young men.  
Too often their success is expressed in terms of  
exciting confusion and conflict.

The danger does not lie in the presence of  
communism or the promised growth of subver-  
sive and destructive un-Americanism.

The danger lies in the rotten psychology and  
the accompanying lack of tact in dealing with  
subjects to which the average American is sensi-  
tive.

For instance, in the Student Union program of  
six major planks, there is one:

1. Peace: Endorsement of the Oxford pledge  
committing the Union against "support of any  
war which the United States government may  
undertake"; support of an annual strike against  
war and the war preparations of the United  
States government; carrying on of a vigorous  
campaign for abolition of the ROTC.

Assume that the foregoing is absolutely  
justified. Assume that the physical and economic  
isolation of the United States makes future war  
entirely unwarranted. Assume that the statement  
presents the correct policy for preventing war.  
Assume all of this. Yet, what is the result.

For a group of young people to arbitrarily  
declare that they will not support ANY WAR  
WHICH THE UNITED STATES MAY UNDER-  
TAKE is the finest example of stupid technique  
and "red flag waving" that could be constructed.

The truth of the matter is that very few of  
these young enthusiasts are communistic. But  
they lead with their chins in adopting courageous  
sounding programs that, while satisfying their  
own subconscious desires for sensationalism, stir  
up needless antagonism in the public press and  
among naturally conservative and matured  
society.

The University of Oregon group, if it recog-  
nizes the necessity for prudence and tolerance,  
and steers clear of the control by and affiliation  
with similar student organizations of a less  
desirable nature, might well receive the support  
of the students in general.

## Can Townsend Economics Justify a Third Party?

THERE are many minority groups talking  
about third party action and trying to muscle  
into the major planks for the coming political  
inferno, but one of the most persistent and most  
insistent is that group headed by the benign Dr.  
Townsend, creator of the \$200 a month old age  
pension scheme. The leaders of the major parties  
who might like to use Dr. Townsend as a fall  
guy in order to obtain the votes of the old gentle-

man's followers, are repelled from the idea by  
the very evident order of bad economics.

The Townsend scheme, in order to pay its  
stipulated \$200 each month to each citizen over  
60 years of age, plans to finance it by a simple  
expedient called a two per cent turnover tax—  
a two per cent tax on each sale of the product,  
not on the retail sale alone.

Townsend ballyhoo has estimated that there  
would be between eight and ten million persons  
pensioned if the scheme were put into effect. By  
simple arithmetic, then, we come to an annual  
total cost for pensions of between 19 and 24  
billion dollars.

Competent economists have computed that  
1932 turnover transactions in the United States  
—the Townsend tax base—amounted to 400 bil-  
lion dollars. A two per cent tax on this would  
yield only a third of the necessary revenue.  
Moreover, economists accept the fact that a  
two per cent turnover tax amounts to a ten per  
cent retail tax. Therefore, to finance the Town-  
send plan would require a retail tax of 60 per  
cent. This would hardly serve to invigorate retail  
trade.

Moreover, Townsend boosters overlook the  
fact that their money—coming from sales taxes—  
creates no new markets, but merely transfers  
buying power from one group to another, finan-  
cing said transfer at the expense of the average  
citizen, the wage earner, the office worker, who  
supports the country's retail trade.

The Townsend plan sounds nice. But like other  
nice things, it has to be paid for. It won't work  
unless it is paid for, and it looks, from an eco-  
nomic and not a humanitarian standpoint, as if  
it would cost too much.

Nevertheless, Townsend and his loyal seekers  
after something for nothing are forces to be  
reckoned with in the coming battle of the polit-  
ical giants.

## 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 con-  
tributors will, however, be regarded as confidential upon  
request. Contributors are asked to be brief, the editors reser-  
ving 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.

My dear Chuck:

Your prejudiced, inaccurate and highly emo-  
tional letter has caused me much sorrow and  
shame. Did it come from a student in the arm-  
chair disciplines of social science or literature, I  
might forgive the blunders appearing therein,  
but for one who is a science major (in spirit if  
not by registration), no such forgiveness is pos-  
sible.

For the benefit of Emerald readers let me  
state the thesis: Should Quartz Hall be herein-  
after designated as the "Rat Shack" or the  
"Mouse House"? Naturally, you, as nursemaid  
to the mice, are supporting "Mouse House" as  
the preferable appellation. On what grounds? Be-  
cause it is euphoniously perfect. But did you,  
Chuck, ever try to say "mouse-house" aloud ten  
times as rapidly as possible? If you have, you  
ought to know that the sound by the tenth time  
will have degenerated to that unlovely noise  
"mouh-houh." Or better ask the first person  
you meet on the corner of 13th and Kincaid at  
midnight of a clear Saturday evening to pro-  
nounce "mouse-house." The probability is very  
great that the sounds which come forth will be  
"mouh-houh." Would you disgrace our worthy  
building in such wise?

Another of your arguments is frankly ad  
hominem. You say plaintively (that is not like  
you) that the rat has always received publicity  
and it is high time the mouse got some. Do you  
realize that the rat's fame is based upon signifi-  
cant accomplishments? Were the mouse to make  
equal contributions to our knowledge of the  
world, he too might have "news value." Were I  
to list the bibliography on the rat it would extend  
six times (by actual measurement) around the  
world. How many times can the mouse circum-  
scribe the globe? Not even once, I should surmise.  
No, Chuck, emotional appeal is no substitute for  
sound achievement.

It is true that Dr. Heustis's mice matri-  
culated at the University some seven years ago, but even  
before that date rats have been surreptitious,  
albeit, willing inhabitants of the campus. It is  
natural for rats to seek out a superior environ-  
ment; mice (poor dears, like many students)  
must be fetched unwillingly to school.

But this is the worst—"the ladies coo over  
the mice and ignore the rats." I doubt the ver-  
acity of this statement, but granting its truth,  
it makes the mouse out a very sissy-sort of  
animal. As a matter of fact, mice are very femi-  
nine. The chorus of high-pitched little squeaks  
which greets my ears when I open the door to our  
building bears close resemblance to the noises  
emitted at a sorority pledge-party. Rats, sir,  
never squeak.

Lack of space and the editor's indulgence  
prevents me from writing more. In closing let  
me suggest a compromise name for our building.  
Let it be called hereafter "THE RAT HOUSE"—  
a truly distinguished name for what is probably  
the most worthy building on the campus.

Cordially yours,  
Calvin Hall.

## Campus Calendar

(Continued from Page One)

The International Relations club  
will meet tonight at 7:30 in the  
women's lounge of Gerlinger hall.

The YWCA dance committee  
will meet this afternoon at 4  
o'clock in the College Side.

Black Maria will meet at the  
College Side at 7:30 o'clock to-  
night.

Senior Cops will meet at 5  
o'clock in the Susan Campbell re-  
creation room.

The wavelength of light is about  
one fifty-thousandths of an inch.



## The Marsh of Time

By Bill Marsh

### Thanks

Whoever the broken down bard  
was in yesterday's safety valve  
column, many thanks from both  
of us. Barney and I have often  
gotten our heads together and won-  
dered if the stuff we write had any  
plausible excuse for existence. Un-  
til yesterday the answer baffled  
us.

But now, thanks to you, my dear  
sir, miss or madam, we go joy-  
fully on our way, serene in the  
comforting knowledge that no mat-  
ter how bad either of us gets, we  
can never quite achieve the ulti-  
mate in butchered rhyme and met-  
er, that literary nadir of your  
horrible poetry.

Some jokes are like wine. Age  
lends to them an aroma, an inef-  
fable something which cannot be  
acquired except by the passage of  
time. This one made its first ap-  
pearance when Barnum was still  
running a sideshow.

It seems that a sideshow midget  
departed this earth. So the owner  
of the show placed the midget's  
mortal remains in a small coffin  
and let the coffin remain for a day  
at the funeral parlors in order that  
the midget's friends might have a  
chance to pay their last respects.

Sometime along toward noon,  
a single visitor appeared, entered the  
room where the body lay, then  
presently came back out. The fu-  
neral director looked up from his

work. "Did you shut the door when  
you came out?" he inquired.

The visitor shook his head.  
"Better go back and shut it,"  
the director advised. "The cat's  
gotten in and dragged him clear  
outside three times today."

### Moscow

Russia now has, under arms, the  
largest standing army in the world.  
Compared to last year's record of  
940,000 troops, she now has 1,300,-  
000 soldiers. The Soviet union is  
also building submarines, destroy-  
ers and increasing their land force  
of tanks and gas warfare units.

The University of Kentucky has  
unearthed prehistoric skulls on its  
football field.

They were the days when foot-  
ball was a man's game, and ladies  
in the stands were expected to  
faint at least once a quarter.

### Spelling

A newspaper publisher, a maga-  
zine editor who is also a Phi Beta,  
a successful lawyer, and an Eng-  
lish teacher got themselves waxed  
in a spelling bee with a team of  
New York City high school boys a  
day or so ago.

Publisher, editor and English  
teacher that can't spell. Well, the  
world is up side down these days  
anyway, so it can't make much  
difference.

person or by phone.

The pleasure is all yours.

How does one write a column  
anyway?

We have never found out. These  
occasional faint scrawls you see  
sully the editorial page of the  
Emerald are arrived at by a pro-  
cess of unconscious thought trans-  
mission. We just write and there  
it is. Practically no mental effort  
whatsoever.

An attempt to analyze the busi-  
ness this evening was a complete  
dud (so was the column, but that's  
beside the point). First we sat  
down and ran a fresh sheet of pa-  
per in the machine. Then we sat  
back and whistled a selection from  
Il Trovatore. Nothing happened,  
so we switched to the St. Louis  
Blues. That, too, brought forth  
nothing but groans from the as-  
sembled staff. Two unidentified  
military marches were equally  
fruitless, and the Red River Valley  
evoked cat-calls from the news  
room. We quit.

We thought about Alpha Phi.  
There didn't seem to be anything  
there, so we thought about Sigma  
Nu. All we could get out of that  
was a mental image of Bill Barker  
talking about second-hand cars.

We tuned in on College Side next  
and got a sharply outlined picture  
of Ted Hunt bidding four clubs and  
going down five. Since we were his  
partner, this seemed hardly funny.  
Then the crystal cleared and we  
saw Mrs. Smith sitting in a booth  
increased in a large pair of blue  
spectacles. The spectacles were  
protection for an eye damaged by  
an encounter with a dog. Some  
kind friend had placed a saucer in  
front of the stricken lady, backed  
by a sign labeled "Help the Blind."

## Air Y' Listenin'?

By Jimmy Morrison

### Emerald of the Air

That popular team—Ned Gee and  
Chuck French, who have appeared  
many times on the air via KORE,  
will once again entertain you at  
3:45 today with vocal and piano  
selections of popular nature.

### Local Bands

Scott Held and his band will be  
at Willamette park tomorrow  
night, direct from an engagement  
at the Trianon ballroom in Seat-  
tle. Students here from California  
who danced to his music in the  
South last summer, report the band  
went over very well there.

Gerry McLean and his Willam-  
etteans and Eddie Scroggins' Jeff  
Beachers (augmented to ten pec-  
es) have been signed to play for  
the President's birthday ball Janu-  
ary 30.

### The Air Angle

Organized only six months ago,  
the Sophisticates, a new Chicago  
girls' singing trio, specializing in  
"symphonic jazz" or modern har-  
monies applied to popular and  
semi-classical music, began making  
their bid for national recognition  
Tuesday. They are Mildred Maur-  
er, 20; Marie Nash, 19; and Jane  
Willard, 23. The Sophisticates will  
be heard Tuesdays, Wednesdays,  
Thursdays, and Fridays each week  
from 9:15 to 9:30 a. m. over an  
NBC-KGO network.

Chalk up another probable song  
success for Johnny Green. The ver-  
satile maestro of the Jack Benny  
program has written a new  
tune, "The Night Is Beginning,"  
which Kenny Baker will sing on  
the Benny show Sunday. Lyrics to  
the new number were written by  
Gus Kahn, veteran lyricist.

Green is the author of such song  
hits as "Body and Soul," "I Cover  
the Waterfront," "I'm Yours,"  
"You're Mine, You," "Easy Come,  
Easy Go," "Out of Nowhere," and  
"Rain, Rain, Go Away."

Deane Janis will sing "So This  
Is Heaven" and Pee Wee Hunt will  
warble a new ditty, "If You Want  
to Dance You Got to Pay the Fid-  
ler," as highlights of the Camel  
Caravan tonight at 8:30.

O'Keefe's "Disreputary Theater"  
will be running full blast with his  
Broadway hill-billies in action,  
while Glen Gray's Casa Loma lads  
will play "Singing in the Rain,"  
"Every Time I Look at You," and  
"Ding Dong Daddy."

Joe E. Brown, wide-mouthed  
screen comedian, and Percy Grainger,  
outstanding pianist, will share  
top guest honors of Bing Crosby's  
Kraft Music Hall on NBC at 7 to-  
night. . . . Lanny Ross will sing the  
new hit "Alone" and "Cling to  
Me" on the Show Boat at 6:00  
o'clock. . . . Frank Fay, comedian,  
will again be among Rudy Vallee's  
guests, at 5:00 during the Variety  
hour.

NBC-CBS Programs Today

9:15 a. m.—The Sophisticates,  
girls' trio. NBC-KGO.  
10:00 —You Name It. KGO.  
(Please turn to page four)

## PROMENADING with POLLY



Fellow members of the WEAKER SEX—  
we must all join together in this extraordinary  
year of OPPORTUNITIES—What am I talk-  
ing about?—why LEAP YEAR, of course—  
It will be four long years before this great  
occasion will arise again—and then most prob-  
ably we will all be too old—but NOW we are  
in the PRIME OF LIFE—so they say—The  
merchants of EUGENE are cooperating with  
us by showing the absolutely most ALLUR-  
ING clothes and things to help us win the  
heart of that SECRET Romeo— You know  
confidence in your appearance is the very best  
way to get confidence in your personality—  
so—it's high time we were all dressing up a  
bit . . .

—To start at the bottom of things  
—how is your figure?? Probably if you  
would take on new SHAPE if you  
stocked up with some very spiffy new  
FOUNDATION GARMENTS . . .  
THE BROADWAY, INC. carries two  
of the very best nationally known  
products—the BON TON and the  
PRINCESSA—in girdles and bras—in  
your size and style—Expert CORSE-  
TEERS will be in the store ready to  
fit YOU . . .

Are you having a hard time finding GRADUATION CARDS  
for your high school friends—Then try the ORIENTAL ART  
SHOP—They have a fine selection of commencement cards—  
also very appropriate gifts—We suggest you make this store  
your next stopping place—

"What are little girls made of?? SUGAR  
AND SPICE and every thing nice—that's what  
little girls are made of"—and you think so  
too when you see these simply COLOSSAL shirt-  
maker frocks of the new "sugar and spice"  
material—The one POLLY fell in love with was  
of TOURQUOISE blue with big brown CON-  
CAVE buttons—The dress is made with the in-  
verted pleat giving the ACTION BACK and a  
split skirt—It really is a DREAM . . . and only  
\$12.95 . . .

To get down to fundamentals again—you know there is  
nothing like a neat coiffure to strike the eye of every male . . .  
BERT KOEPP in THE MILLS BEAUTY SALON will give you  
the most DISTINCTIVE hair-cut—just to suit your features  
and personality—if you haven't already become a steady cus-  
tomer of his—now is the time to start—one appointment and  
you will be convinced . . .

I suppose you are all shopping for INITIATION presents  
this week—anyway we are, and one glimpse into the window of  
the GIFT SHOP invites further inspection . . . We simply  
couldn't resist the collection of little DOGS and other ANIMALS  
—Some are the FURRY variety—then there are china figures  
and other kinds—Some are actually no more than a half an  
inch long and high—They absolutely won POLLY'S heart . . .

### CO-ED'S CORNERS By Jane Lagassee

Can it be a thrill  
Coming to me from the gloom?  
Oh no, it isn't a thrill,  
It's a BETA'S room.

Every girl wonders at some stage in her college life—that  
is if she ever uses her imagination—just what a boy's room  
looks like in a fraternity house. Here's the answer to your  
maiden's prayer. A hint to the wise will be sufficient so tip  
toe quietly or if you fear the risk, clear your throat loudly  
and we will ascend to the second floor of the BETA domicile.  
It's mannish from top to toe so please bring your imagina-  
tion with you. Mine failed after one glimpse into this world  
untouched by feminine hand.

JOHN ALLEN and his teammates, JACK NEWMAN and  
BILL CRANE, were "at home" though I can't say they were  
having tea hours. One step over the threshold dampened my  
artistic spirits. It was comfy, yes, and neat too, but what a jolt  
to my illusions! The window facing the mill race was draped  
with brown velvet curtains and the window to the left was  
curtained with gay print—maybe I'm wrong but this certainly  
was no symphony in brown.

Three desks of various size, color and descriptions disclosed  
books, papers, ink and ash trays (full of ashes). One black  
roll top desk that looked as though the auctioneer had called  
it and it couldn't come, stood in one corner, a brown steamer  
trunk in another corner, and a black book case with books  
varying from freshmen English comp to Webster's best leaned  
against one side wall. On the top of the book case rested a  
radio with its clear sharp tones booming, "Little Man You've  
Had a Busy Day."

To be sure no boys' room would be complete without a tie  
rack or two in the most conspicuous spot, with brown, purple  
and blue ties leering at every visitor. Table lamps showed the  
room was at least conducive to study though we won't go into  
that. A floor lamp near the book stand looked a little the worse  
for the wear but with a stiff upper lip was battering for the  
survival of the fittest.

The round wastebasket in the most inconvenient spot in  
the room was the other half of a Palmolive and Peet soap  
box, and the three chairs that assumed the air of having  
weathered many a storm took their places as valuable articles  
of service.

A brown tappa cloth adorned one wall and the sign—gasp!  
for eleven and one half cents—took its place on the table.  
Two closets on either side of the door as you entered the  
room were not open for inspection but a closet is a closet in  
any language so we will skip that.

You can understand this is a man's world, but why not, a  
man's a man for all of that and underneath it we like his  
nonchalance.

Feeling kind of blue and discouraged??—There is nothing  
like a good SHAMPOO and FINGER WAVE to fix you up and  
put your spirits back to the top—Your friends will notice the  
improvement too—you know you owe "old sol" something for  
this lovely display he has been putting on the last few days—  
Just call KRAMER'S and make an appointment—You won't  
even have to go down town as the SALON is on KINCAID  
on the campus . . .

SCOBERT'S STYLE SHOP is featuring some new PRINTS  
in a variety of lovely colors—These dresses are as good as a  
doctor's prescription for what ails you . . . They put life into  
your MIDWINTER WARDROBE . . . and more important,  
into yourself!!!

POSITIVELY the latest in college footwear are those new  
sport oxfords with brightly colored soles—red, gray, blue and  
brown . . . A pair for every costume and mood—These will  
complete your LEAP YEAR costume—Be sure to see them at  
GRAHAM'S SHOE STORE . . .

POLLY strolled to class the other day in the greatest of  
ease with her new Permanent with soft waves and small end  
curls she got on one of the LOVE'S BEAUTY SALON'S new  
Frederic machines. She has a distinction all of her own and  
so can you!

Now is the time for all wise CO-EDS to BUY and SAVE!!!  
These shoes you saw at BURCH'S are now being sold at less  
than half price. Don't miss these amazing values—See those  
brown suede oxfords with perforated tongues—A BARGAIN—  
Believe POLLY!!!

## World Famous

(Continued from Page One)

music carries the pathos of genera-  
tions of heart-break, frustration  
and tragedy which is found in the  
true Russian people who, until late  
years, have been the puppets but-  
feted about by one harsh ruler af-  
ter another, in the midst of war-  
fare for centuries, losing regardless  
of the identity of the victors.

### Poignant Theme to Songs

Borders changed, the people  
adapted themselves to their new  
rulers only to have others replace  
the last, piling disciplinary cruelty  
upon cruelty until the heart and  
spirit of these people was com-  
pletely broken and their outlet in  
song, both that of the native peas-

ant and that of the cultured com-  
poser carries a hopeless, incomplete  
quality which is so poignantly  
touching to those of the western  
world whose very life is freedom.

## Politics Needs

(Continued from Page One)

were able to stand on their own  
feet and not be afraid of displeas-  
ing someone.

Governor Martin further be-  
lieved that nothing would help  
this country more than the move-  
ments now being fostered to help  
youth.

"Not these pseudo-youth move-  
ments for the purpose of doing  
away with war."