

# Oregon Daily Emerald

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EDITORIAL OFFICES: Journalism building, Phone 3300—Editor, Local 354; News Room and Managing Editor, 353. BUSINESS OFFICE: McArthur Court, Phone 3300—Local 214.

Robert W. Lucas, editor Eidon Haberman, manager Clair Johnson, managing editor

Assistant Managing Editor, this issue, Wayne Harbert

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## Poor Politics In the Soviet

THE late Soviet refusal to visa the passport of Robert L. Ripley of "Believe It or Not" fame, because the cartoonist attributed the deaths of 4,000,000 peasants in the Ukraine and the Caucasus to the Soviet regime and termed Russia a "gigantic poorhouse," would lead one to believe that the Russ are still the children of Muscovite folk-tales, simple in their likes and hatreds. What makes the refusal particularly childish is its dignification of Ripley to the role of fearless critic of the USSR, when really his greatest forte lies in depicting six-legged calves and freakish vegetables.

There is no danger that Ripley has irreparably slurred the Soviet, for accounts by reporters of the sympathetic and painstaking school of Walter Duranty have retrieved communist fame from such exaggerated notions as the cartoonist has presented.

Shutting Russian gates to unfavouring critics is poor politics, for it tends to detract credence from favorable reports.

## Action Due on Campus Race Track

COMMENDATION is due Dean Wayne L. Morse for his action last week in tracing down and prosecution of the heedless speeder who endangered life by whipping down Thirteenth avenue at something over 50 per.

The man fined was not a student. Although perhaps there are still some speed demon drivers in student ranks, we believe the majority of them are others passing through. They, of course, do not stop to think. The city has no stop signs or no restricted speed laws to cover Thirteenth.

Heavy traffic and the numerous necessary crossings back and forth by hurrying-to-class students necessitates a restricted driving area.

Eugene's city council has had placed before it a faculty-student petition asking for stop signs and restricted speed laws. The council has referred the matter to the police committee. For the sake of safety it is highly important that the committee and the council heed this petition. Must it take a horrible accident example before action is taken?

March 9 the council meets again. The Emerald and the University ask favorable consideration of the petition to make Thirteenth avenue an avenue instead of a race track.

## A German Student's Germany

By Carl-Gustav Anthon

HANS-HEINRICH, a friend of mine and a student of the music school at Stuttgart, was on his way to the city airport.

"I am going home to Hamburg for my vacation. The plane leaves at 14 o'clock (2 o'clock in the afternoon); will you accompany me to the airport?"

"Yes, certainly. But tell me, Hans-Heinrich, did an uncle of yours die recently?"

Hans-Heinrich, besides being a talented musician, was well-known for always being short of funds.

"My uncle? Nein, nein! Do you think airplanes are reserved only for Croesus?"

"Well, at least I thought a second class railroad trip might do. But the airplane!"

"Ha! Ha! The best is just good enough for me!"

Why, the merry boaster! An explanation, please!

It's very simple. The reduction on airplane fares for students is so great that it is just as cheap to take an airplane as it is to travel on the hard, wooden benches of a third class train.

This is amazing and certainly socialist. Since Hitler's accession to power, a great many far more radical and indeed effective socialist measures have been taken. Through the work of a certain organization, bearing the much abused title: "Strength Through Joy," workmen and bookkeepers and everybody else of modest means are now able to pack their grips and patronize the fashionable sea beach resorts and the ritzy mountain resorts in the Bavarian or Swiss Alps—for less money than they would use if they stayed at home.

An example: Herr Meyer, a laborer in the large Reichardt Schokoladenfabrik in Hamburg puts on his best and only Sunday suit of clothes, takes his beloved wife by the arm and the two are off for Oberammergau in southern Bavaria. They will stay at a fine hotel for two weeks, attend the Passion Play, formerly patronized mostly by Americans, they will undertake various sightseeing and hiking trips, and return to their home in high "spirits," much elated. The Meyers had never left Hamburg before. They have both accumulated new "strength through joy." Herr Meyer will now be a good, happy laborer for another year, and—a good Nazi.

## The Safety Valve

Letters published in this column should not be construed as expressing the editorial opinion of the Emerald. Anonymous contributions will be disregarded. The names of contributors will, however, be regarded as confidential upon request. Contributors are asked to be brief, the editors reserving 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.

Editor, the Emerald:

For a liberal institution Oregon has seen a lot of shadow-boxing about military training the last couple of weeks. We have had at least two "opinion steering" committees set up. Queerly enough a majority of the campus leaders who have organized to protect the fair name of Oregon have at one time or another declared themselves in favor of optional ROTC.

With but one exception, campus sentiment, insofar as obtainable, has always reflected a preference for optional drill. The first opinion steering committee, I understand, is over-whelmingly in favor of optional training, but has simply failed to take the initiative in carrying out its declared opinion.

I have yet to hear of a representative campus group, unless it be the so-called Committee for General Welfare, which has ever defended compulsory drill. It would seem that the University has a pretty broad basis for working together for a change to optional.

If, as some say, ROTC is now optional in practice, all the more reason why we should work together to make it optional in fact. If it is compulsory in practice, it is an insult to the student body and faculty, both of which are day by day declaring themselves opposed to it. At least it is time to cut out the hypocrisy and declare once and for all that we are through with military conscription as "educational."

The principle objection to doing anything about it on this campus seems to be the fear that the question would go to the people. Right or wrong, we well know there is no need for an initiative on ROTC if we make clear to the state board that we do not want compulsory drill! It is ridiculous to tolerate something we do not want, and if, as we are led to believe, the state board is trying to act for the best interests of Oregon education, it certainly will respect our wishes in the matter if we make it perfectly clear that we don't want compulsory drill.

We need only speak our minds, making sure that the state board understands us. If the state board refuses to heed our collective voice, it is true an initiative appears inevitable. Liberal sentiment in Oregon is too strong to allow such a group as the state board to pervert its democratic function.

Should we insist on quibbling about petty internal matters we'll soon have an intellectual stymie, in fact we're fast approaching it. If the recently set up campus organizations are vitally interested in doing something there's nothing like going to the bottom of the thing. Why be afraid to do the obvious thing (and, incidentally, the thing that these very campus leaders admit they endorse)? Oregon needn't worry about initiatives and whacked budgets. It could and should settle the issue, right now, by telling the state board in the plainest of words that it demands optional drill.

Charles Paddock.

Editor, the Emerald:

May I quote a passage or two from yesterday's lead editorial in the Emerald:

"This group believes that the people and only the people should have the say in a democracy . . . (this) group at the University may well be called the liberal minority . . ."

What sort of nonsense is this? Webster says quite clearly: "Democracy; a government by the people." Yet the editor of the Emerald not only commits the ridiculous error of re-defining a democracy as something that is diametrically opposed to its actual meaning, but in addition has the unutterable presumption to label the advocates of democracy as "the liberal minority." The alternatives are apparent.

Either the editor has been guilty of grossly muddle-headed thinking, or he does not approve of a government by the people.

That the latter course is the true one is made increasingly apparent by subsequent revelations.

"The direct control by the electorate," the editor blithely continues, "has never been conducive to efficiency in this country."

Now the sham pretense is over! The editor comes out quite frankly and unassumingly. Democracy is a failure! It is inefficient, most terrible of epithets!

"Republican democracy must be reestablished," the editor adds. "Republican democracy!" What mongrel democracy is this? There is either a democracy or there isn't. Important issues are either presented for the people's approbation or disapproval or they aren't. There is no halfway house between democratic government and authoritarian rule.

This latter means of government has a better known name. It is FASCISM. It is an autocratic and militaristic government by the vested few.

Whether the editor realizes, through his deluded idealism that some beneficent and kind "republican democrats" will save the country for the profiteers, that he is brazenly endorsing a FASCISTIC program or not, is unimportant.

The fact remains that the editor wishes to take the power to act on such an all important matter as compulsory military training OUT of the hands of the electorate, where it rightfully belongs, and place it IN the hands of a stubborn and entrenched minority.

There is no eluding this. This is autocracy, plain and simple.

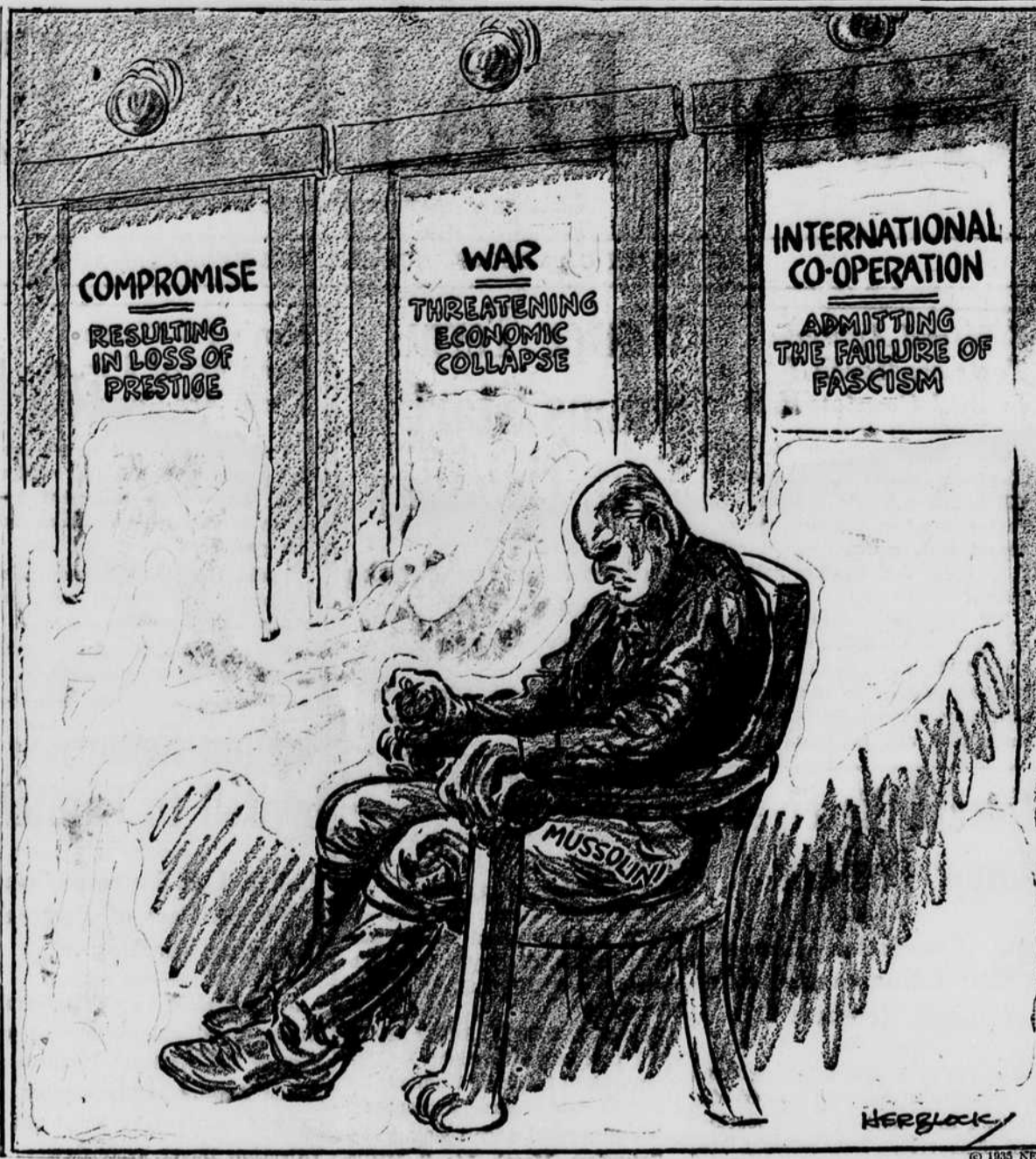
Perhaps the final word on this problem has already been said:

"That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; that, whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or abolish it . . ."

This is not the Communist Manifesto. It is the DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE!

Have we the right to wonder where the editor of the Emerald would have stood in 1776? I think so.

G. P. Hitchcock.



## The Marsh of Time

By Bill Marsh

Spring is here, with hay fever and flunks. Before very long there will be swimming trunks. Classes are getting so they snore right out loud. The professors' heads may be sleepy, but they're unbowed. Why do I sit here, writing this doggerel. I have a cough. I should use a goggerel.

Sleepy days. They make this correspondent think of Mexico, with blue skies and amiable peons snoozing against white adobe walls. Perhaps, even, a fair senorita . . . a Castilian, descended direct from the haughty old aristocracy of old Spain. Oh-hum. Who cares about a senorita, anyway? Hey, move over there, I'd like to sleep too. Si, senor. And tomorrow, we start to study, eh? Yeah. Manana.

And if you don't feel like sitting in the sun and dreaming about Mexico, how about Japan? It'll be cherry blossom time over there before very long. What a beautiful sight. Acres and acres of white blossoms, with a warm breeze stirring them gently back and forth and with gaily kimonoed Japanese sauntering underneath.

And there'll be quaint, Oriental ceremonies. And always, Fujiama, the mountain that was God, rearing its snow crowned magnificence high into the pale blue vault of the summer sky.

Also there are always Japanese taxicabs. Probably the most wild-eyed beast of burden in the civilized world is the Japanese taxi driver. The Japanese are fatalists, you know. They believe that all things are written, and if they're going to die, so be it. And they don't give a whistle toot whether they meet their maker in a collision or not.

I'll never forget, one night a

companion and I hailed a taxi just outside the Oriental hotel in Kobe, and asked him to take us to the Motomachi. (There's where all the bars are.) Well, a ride in a Japanese taxi in broad daylight is nerve-racking enough. But at night . . . Omigawd!

The car's headlights were none too bright, and as we galloped madly down narrow, unlighted streets we felt like we were riding in a subway train. Usually tourists in Japan close their eyes when riding in cabs. It's easier that way. But at night it's not necessary. So we sat there, murmuring silent prayers. We couldn't see anything. Neither could the driver, but that was the least of his worries.

And then, much faster than this writer can put it down, another careening cab loomed up, apparently out of a hole in the side of the wall, and simply raised the devil. There was no customary screeching of skidding tires. Only a shock, and a grinding crash. We slid off the seat and fetched up against the back of the front seat, with our companion's feet in the middle of our face.

Ultimately we managed to crawl out. Already a crowd was gathering. One headlamp remained unshattered, and from its light we could see the competing drivers, rolling up their sleeves, squaring off and making general preparations to settle the matter of who had the right of way.

My companion stepped between the drivers. The crowd resented this. They murmured Oriental rasperberries at us. But we only held the competing factions apart long enough to pay the fare. Then we turned them loose. And what a swell fight!

That's the nice thing about Japan. Interesting things are always turning up in the most unexpected places.

## Air Y' Listenin'?

By Jimmy Morrison

### Emerald of the Air

The Emerald Sportcast will be announced by versatile Don Kennedy over KORE today at 3:45.

### The Air Angle

Margaret McCrae, songstress from the South, and Jay Dennis, song writer and popular vocalist, will be heard in a new series of "Afternoon Recess" programs beginning today at 12:00 to 12:30 p. m. over KOIN. The orchestra will open with "Bugle Call Rag," and then Dennis will sing "Don't Mention Love to Me." Margaret McCrae has chosen "A Little Bit Independent" and "Sweet Thing" as her songs. Specials on "Take It Easy," "Let Yourself Go," and "Life Begins at Sweet Sixteen" will round out the program.

"Harlem on Parade" — sizzling jungle jazz, deep-toned spirituals, plain and fancy crooning, and nimble-fingered piano work, pre-

sented by amateurs from New York's Negro colony—will be Fred Allen's special amateur contest on his Town Hall Tonight programs at 9:00 this evening.

Six acts have been selected after hundreds of aspirants were auditioned: The Jungle Bees, fortissimo instrumental and vocal quartet doing a unique arrangement of the swing tune "Mammy Don't Allow"; Roy Branker, Harlem bootblack, who croons the mill-race tune, "Nagasaki," to his own piano accompaniment; The Judgement Day Singers, featuring "Goin' to Heaven on a Mule"; Mabel McCoy, blues-chanting manicurist singing "The Porter's Love Song"; Bennie Harrie, Lenox Avenue barber, singing "Chloe"; Felix Jones, taxi pilot and amateur baritone, going to town in "Without a Word of Warning"; and Winston Williams, music student, dusting off the piano with "Tiger Rag."

Rosa Ponselle, noted dramatic soprano and prima donna of the Metropolitan opera, will replace Lily Pons for a series of five Wednesday broadcasts with Andre Kostelanetz' orchestra beginning this evening. Miss Ponselle sails for Europe soon to fulfill concert and opera engagements. Perhaps the outstanding number on Miss Ponselle's program will be Tschalkowsky's lovely melody, "None But the Lonely Heart"; on the "must" list for the orchestra should be "China Boy."

### NBC-CBS Programs Today

12:00—Afternoon Recess; popular music. KOIN.

3:00—Woman's Magazine. NBC.

6:00—Rosa Ponselle; Andre Kostelanetz' orchestra. KSL.

6:30—Refreshment Time. Ray Noble's orchestra, Connie Boswell, Al Bowly and The Freshmen. KSL, KOIN.

7:00—Vince Program. NBC.

8:30—Burns and Allen. KSL, KOIN.

9:00—Town Hall Tonight. Fred Allen; Portland Hoffa. KPO, KFI.

Dr. Clark at Home III

Dr. Dan E. Clark, assistant director of extension, is ill at his home with the flu.

## Seven Law Students Enter Hilton Contest

Discussion of New Deal Legislation Is Topic; Prizes, \$50, \$25

The names of the seven law school students who have entered the race for the \$50 and \$25 awards offered by the Hilton prize contest were announced yesterday by Prof. Orlando J. Hollis. They are: Thomas Tongue, Robert Marks, Herbert Skalet, Robert Shaw, Hale Thompson, Otto Vonderheit, and Ralph Bailey.

The date of the final contest has been tentatively set for the week of April 12th. Constitutionality of one or more pieces of New Deal legislation was selected by the law school faculty as subject matter for the participants.

### To Submit Papers

The students entering have been asked to submit manuscripts which are to form the basis of a 15-minute oral discussion. The verbal arguments will be judged by three persons chosen from members of the bench and bar throughout Oregon. Prof. Hollis, who is in charge, said yesterday.

Frank H. Hilton, Portland attorney, is the sponsor of the contest, which has been held annually since 1922. He is donor of the first prize. The second has been made possible through trust funds of the University.

### Last Year Winner in

Ralph Bailey, arguing the matter of one of the recommendations contained in the report of the governor's committee on the improvement of the rules of jurisprudence, won first place last year. This veteran is back to offer stiff competition to his opponents this year again. John Pennington took second place last year.

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