

Oregon Emerald

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Now You Chase Me

THERE'S THAT taint of spring in the air again—the warmth, the soft breezes, that for some means baseball, for some means graduation, for some means forsaking the smoky air of the Side for politics.

The season of the ear-to-the-ground-political-observer is near at hand. In fact, the interpretative campus wiseacre has missed those first rumbling if he hasn't had his lobes in winter mud. The girls are beating the season this year, with elections only six days away.

We will never forget our baptism in campus politics. We were awed by the expected presence of campus minds. Most of the boys were on hand, in fact it soon became evident that there had already been "a little meeting." The campus big shots talked and smoked. They smoked and talked. Everyone who was mentioned for office was either ineligible or modestly didn't want to run. There were two outstanding and noticeable things about that meeting, which was a typical one—everybody talked and nobody said anything and everyone was afraid to go home for fear those remaining would ding himself and his party after he left.

THE LADIES are starting, nay, have nearly completed, the annual drive, and there's none of this stalling. The girls are too clever and besides the University has regulations about that sort of meeting for coeds. If a girl doesn't get her beauty sleep, no amount of powder will erase those tell-tale wrinkles.

There's an air of secrecy about the ladies' campaigns. "It's a secret, ha, ha," declares the AWS, WAA, and YWCA.

Mystery surrounds the women's nominations. There are to be no political lineups, no coercion, no hasty choices. President of the AWS Martha McCall lies awake nights because she fears she might talk in her sleep. Other officials have deemed it necessary to give up the pause that refreshes, because you never can tell what a lime coke will do to a girl's tongue.

No sirree, the ladies are keeping this thing clean. There will be no politics involved, sir. Lead-piping, muck-raking and ticket-swinging—all this "you vote for me and become co-chairman of" stuff is definitely not allowed.

HOWEVER, the ladies aren't a bit adverse to a little game of "ring around the rosie" and "drop the handkerchief." They are determined that, this year, the delicate precision of their preliminary work shall not be scorching by the crude, purifying light of the public eye. Nevertheless, don't let them kid you, lads. Political competence and the ability to intrigue shout aloud from their subtle, secret, hidden actions. They may not know the score when it comes to basketball, but politics—they have got something there in knee-length stockings besides pretty legs.

Two years ago they dropped the handkerchief at the Theta house. Last year the hanky fell on the Pi Beta Phi steps. The Kappas are clapping their dainty hands with glee, for popular Gail Buchanan is practically in office. The voting? A mere formality. Not that the coeds are crude enough to go in for strong-arm work, appointment swaps, or ballot box stuffing—these measures are held in disrepute, to be used only as a last resort. Now, this is where feminine genius comes into the political picture. A candidate is picked, someone who can uphold the traditions of the office, as well as wear her clothes with the proper decor. Then another candidate is chosen, not because she's going to be a strong contender, but because she's not going to be a strong contender. Not very sporting, eh? No race there but all very clever. A Pi Phi won last year. The logical opponent to Miss Buchanan is a Pi Phi—her name will not appear on the ballot, because, well, it

wouldn't look good twice in a row.

Yessir, they're dropping the handkerchief at the Kappa house. Next year it ought to be the Alpha Chi Omega house—no use moving out of a neighborhood until you've exhausted the possibilities. Maybe the Alpha Chis can use this tendency to pass things on to the neighbors as a rushing point next fall.

Blind Alleys of Education

AN OFTEN-HEARD defense of grades is that they are useful information to pass on to prospective employers of University graduates. All we can say to this is that phrenology, the reading of sheep's livers, astrology, or palmistry would give the future bosses of college graduates almost as accurate an estimate of their scholarship. That, of course, is an exaggeration, but it does give an indication of what we think the value of the present grading system to be.

Grades can be earned without the exercise of any high degree of scholarship. In fact, under our present competitive system of education, where grades are to a large degree unfortunately a goal in themselves, there has grown up a technique of grade-garnering.

Actually, there are several techniques. One of them, "apple-polishing," is rarely successful, and it would be an unkind reflection upon conscientious members of the teaching profession to say that it is. Other techniques, however, are highly successful. Cheating, while it does present some dangers, may be got away with if the student is careful, and even a bungling cheater may go unpunished through a professor's hesitancy in making a point of the matter; it can be very fruitful in booming the GPA. "Spotting quiz-questions" and studying only the material on which one is certain to be examined is a technique rich in A's and B's for the alert student, but its success is dependent upon having a prof who expects merely to have his attitudes "parroted back" to him. There are many such pros, however, and their courses—labeled "pipes" in undergraduate jargon—may be discovered with small inquiry.

BUT THE FACT that comparatively high grades may be obtained with a minimum of study is not such an indictment of the grade system as the fact that in their very essence they can furnish only an inexact estimate of a student's scholarship.

Dr. Warren D. Smith, in an article written for Thursday's Emerald, summed up the grade tom-foolery excellently.

"To work out a grade-point average to the fourth decimal place where you are comparing work in utterly different subjects, taught by different teachers using diverse teaching methods, is, in my opinion, quite unscientific . . ."

"I know of courses, here and elsewhere, of such character and with teachers of such temperament that if one were to get a 'C' grade in them, this grade would be the equivalent of an 'A' in some other course. Grades, except in subjects like arithmetics, are highly subjective indices of achievement."

We agree with Dr. Smith that the grade system "belongs where its name suggests, in the grade school."

What is called for is a recognition that college is college, and not a grammar school. What is needed is a technique of education adapted to the higher realm of learning through the exploration of which a university is supposed to lead its students. Grades, quizzes and all the "police" folderol used to keep third-graders in check have no place in an institution like the University of Oregon.

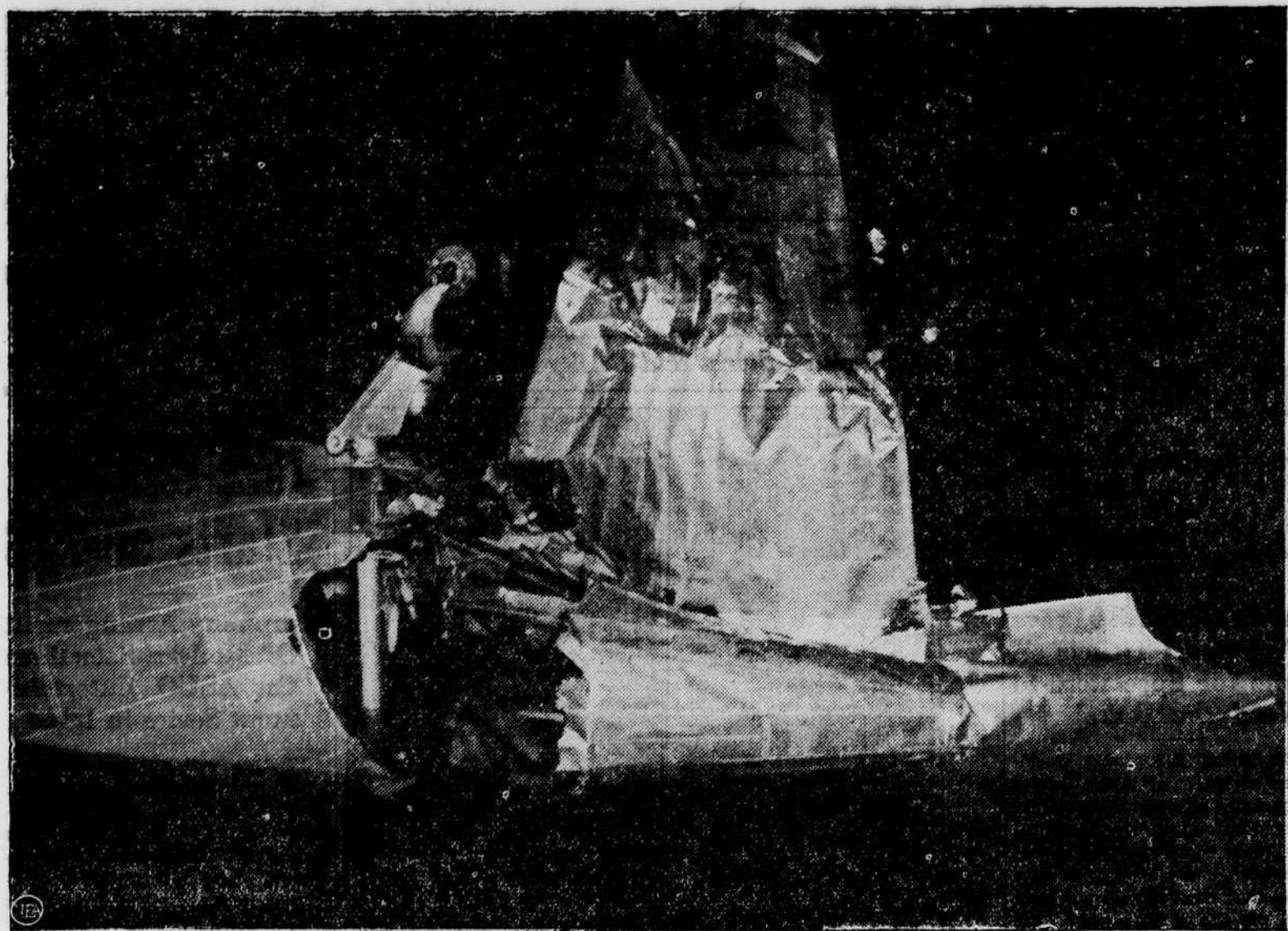
Let us abolish grades and do as the more progressive universities throughout the country are doing—establish merely a scale of "passed with distinction, passed, and failed." Such a system contains all that is essential to higher education: honors for genuine scholars, passage for the fair-to-middling, and flunks for those who deserve no better.

WE'VE PEGGED away at this subject so insistently this past week that Emerald readers pick up their morning papers and exclaim, "What, still kicking that dead dog?" But it is an important issue, and one on which no effort is wasted if it serves to bring it to the attention of those who guide.

The University of Oregon should recapture some of that pioneering spirit which still distinguishes the people of this state. We should wall off those old blind alleys of education which are established on the traditional but ill-founded notion that education is merely a competition for honors. The honors in themselves are empty, unless they represent true scholarship—which they are unlikely to do in a competitive system.

Genuine scholarship is not to be pursued through competition, for there is only one path to the true scholarly goal of truth, beauty and goodness—and that is persistent study on the part of the individual student in co-operation with his fellows, with ready access to good books and facilities for observing life, and with the guidance of inspiring teachers.

Death In San Francisco Bay



One second, her pilot was talking to the San Francisco municipal airport about landing conditions, as passengers put on their hats and coats, ready to disembark . . . a second later the Los Angeles-San Francisco airliner above crashed into the shallow water of the bay, nosing over and killing the eight passengers and crew of three. Reason for the tragedy was not revealed when the plane, shown above, was raised and examined.

No man works at TAYLOR'S. adv.

EMERALD'S Quiz of the Week

By ELISABETH STETSON

Next week the test will be given to three faculty members to see how closely they read the Emerald. Their scores will be compared with the three of this week. Katherine Coney, senior in English, and Mortimer Heinrich, junior in pre-med, tied for first place as each answered eight questions correctly. Gail Ferris, freshman in physical education, scored six out of the ten questions. Any suggestions or comments on the quiz are welcome. Please turn them in at the Emerald shack. The answers are elsewhere in the paper.

1. The Dime Crawl evidently didn't crawl this year as a top record of dimes was hit. The final sum collected was: a. \$100. b. \$110. c. \$127. d. \$150.

2. The donut champions of basketball this year are: a. ATO. b. Abba Dabbas. c. SPE. d. Phi Deltis.

3. Duke of Swindom Ellington who will swing into it with his boys at the Senior Ball was really named by his mother: a. Ralph Roosevelt. b. Edward Kennedy. c. John Sullivan. d. Patrick Arthur.

4. George Varoff, "Oregon's own world outdoor record holder in the pole vault," although he failed to show his championship form, placed third in a meet last Saturday at: a. Boston. b. Chicago. d. Louisiana. d. New York.

5. The newest campus letter organization in an attempt to outdo President Roosevelt's alphabet soup groups, has chosen for a name: a. TCLACA. b. SCTTSOC. c. STCSTCOO. d. MGMAGM.

6. According to Oregon State's own Dr. Parr, the students who show the greatest tendency to cheat are: a. Former members of Boy Scout or Campfire Girls' groups. b. Children from families with incomes over \$5,000. c. Older students, the older they grow, the more they cheat. d. Students who have missed a lot of school through illness.

7. "Smarty, smarty had a party" seems to be the iden of Mortar Board for their Smarty Party which is to honor: a. All women three pointers. b. All women making the honor roll. c. Oregon State Mortar Board chapter. d. All "underclass women smarties."

8. Hans-Erich Schurer, German exchange student at Stanford, recently bought himself a \$3,500 car, with enough parts to build another car, in Germany with German money because Hitler only allows him to exchange a few marks into American money each month. He can have how much American money? a. \$100. b. \$26. c. \$50. d. \$200.

9. With surveys abounding on the campus, Columnist Moore in his "Footlights," fell left out so he decided to have one too, only his was on movies, not cheating or sparkling eyes. According to his poll what picture was the campus favorite? a. "Mr. Deeds Goes to Town." b. "San Francisco." c. "Anthony Adverse." d. "Mutiny on the Bounty."

10. H. Riddem Ragged's blood curdling campus masterpiece "Black Menace," in which so many of the prominent campus lights and faculty figure even if they don't catch Riddem's subtleties, promises another murder for next week. It is the murder of: a. Din Toomas. b. E. V. D. Brophy. c. Tom Masters. d. Steffanie Jeevenson.

Cheating Result of

(Continued from page one)

tempts to free the students from habits of rationalization in regard to cheating, so that they may think in more grown-up terms about education. He favored more scholarships for the deserving needy students.

A good deal of the cheating may be eliminated if the institution were to see to it that the instructors make the proper arrangements, apply the proper supervision, and use the right type of examinations with the assurance that every student would be dealt

with fairly, said Dr. James H. Gilbert, dean of the college of social science.

Dr. Gilbert prefers small classes with an abundance of oral quiz work, frequent written tests, finals covering the entire course and comprehensives in year courses.

"Adequate proctoring would cut down the amount of cheating," said Dr. C. Valentine Boyer, president of the University, "but it wouldn't eliminate it because the more a student is challenged the more ingenious the student will become in cheating."

The use of more comprehensive examinations and basing the probabilities of a student's promotion

entirely on them also has been a popular suggestion among the teachers.

"I am sure that comprehensive examinations are a method of eliminating the tendency to cheat on the part of the student inasmuch as it makes the student do his thinking in advance," said Dr. Samuel H. Jameson, professor of sociology. "In my opinion the giving up of the comprehensive examination at the University of Oregon would be a retrogressive step in the field of education."

Several of the professors favored the establishment of a general college.

When both the general and the scholarly types of students mingle, Dr. Jameson said, it is merely an illusion to keep the so-called academic standards. If the students were divided into the general college type and the scholarly type the standards for the latter would be higher than they are now, and it would be possible to maintain these standards, he explained.

Dr. S. Stephenson Smith, professor of English, suggested the development of a code of honor among the students.

"So long as the faculty members exercise police power, it is up to them to detect cheating and to punish it, but the moral effect of this situation is bad because the students feel no responsibility in the matter," Dr. Smith stated. "What I should like to see is a group of student leaders who would try to develop student opinion and a sense of student responsibility to end cheating."

The honor system is a strong tradition in the law school where it has been in operation for a long time with a great deal of success, but most of the faculty do not favor it for the campus as a whole.

"Our situation is much more favorable to the honor system, because we have a rather small and compact group," explained Orlando J. Hollis, professor of law.

Most of the faculty members were certain that the honor system, even though it proved efficient in the law school, would not work as well on the campus at large.

"Honor, as I see it, is a function of primary group relationships," explained Dr. Moore of the sociology department, and I can't see it working in large groups. In small colleges it might work all right, but I do not think it would be effective in a heterogeneous group of 3,000."

There is not yet a high enough intellectual standard in the average home to furnish the universities and colleges with the academic type of student necessary for the honor system, said Dr. Moore.

"My observation is that non-motivated students are tempted to cheat," explained Dr. J. R. Jewell, dean of the school of education. Dr. Jewell repeated an old quotation that he had heard when he was a student, "you can lead a horse to water, but you can't make him drink unless you salt him first."

"If the vast majority of the college students were to regard cheating as unintelligent and stupid, it would stop immediately," said President Boyer.

Tune 'er Out...

By JACK TOWNSEND

Again Saturday comes around. And so again we have no best bets for the week-end, because there are so many, and we can't do justice to all of them.

To begin with we have the Philip Morris company extending their advertising to the CBS networks. Opening Saturday night with the premier of their new circumstantial evidence program, the P. M.'s will present Russ Morgan and his orchestra and Phil Ducey, and the rest of the gang in a short half hour.—KOIN—8:30.

Incidentally, they will keep on with their Tuesday night ensemble over the NBC nets.

Also on the Saturday 'must' list we find that the Hit Parade is expanding its time to 45 minutes. (Pretty soon they'll probably be back to the old hour program.) Carl Hoff will lead the Saturday night broadcasts over KOIN—7:00.

Joe 'Blacksheep' Penner and Jimmie Grier's orchestra team up Sunday afternoon to bring a pretty good half-hour out of Hollywood. Joe's on Park avenue, in case you don't know it, and seems to be doing right well by himself.—KOIN—3:00 Sunday.

I Love You from Coast to Coast—The NBC's Valentine to all of its fans will be aired this evening over the NBC red net. Picking up sidewalk interviews from the nations foremost cities, (Please turn to page four)

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Corner Broadway and High Streets
Minister: A. J. Harms, M.A., Th.D.

(Sunday Morning, 11 o'clock)
"WHITHER BOUND AMERICA?"

"God of our fathers, known of old
Lord of our far-flung battle line
Beneath whose awful hand we hold
Dominion over palm and pine
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet
Lest we forget—lest we forget"

(Sunday Evening, 7:30 o'clock)
"DEMAS, THE DESERTER"

Will You Be Lucky?



Can You Get a Ticket to the Senior Ball?

Well, maybe you can. But you'll have to hurry!!

The number of tickets is limited

The Senior Ball has a glorious record, but never has it presented such a great band as DUKE ELLINGTON

Come along and really put on the dog, but get in your ticket bid now.

They can be purchased at ASUO ticket office or your house representative.

Tickets \$1.50
Monday, Feb. 15

Duke Ellington

CONCERT

McArthur Court
7:30 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 15

Prices: Res. 75c
Gen. Admission, 50c.

