

# Oregon Emerald

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## Still It Persists

**"A** BOLISH IT; let's at least be civilized."  
 "Retain it; it's the proving ground of every aspiring fraternity man."

Thus commented leaders of opposing factions in a controversy over "hell week" at Washington State college.

But the rank and file of Pullman students voted by a four-fifths majority to do away with the childish barbaric practice. Which goes to prove our contention uttered some weeks ago, that the American campus is coming of age.

Washington State students are but concurring in an opinion long favored by university administrators and national fraternity leaders all over the country—which, however, is apparently ignored not only on the northern campus but among a number of fraternities here at Oregon.

**WHAT ARE fraternities waiting for?**  
 They know the wide unpopularity of "hell week" among the majority of students. And they know the disapproval frequently expressed on the practice by faculties in numerous universities. Still they persist in continuing it.

Are they awaiting the day when university authorities will step in and abolish it? If they aren't, that is certainly the procedure they are counting on; for educators who believe firmly in the higher purposes of schooling are not going to put up with the situation much longer.

Fraternities have two alternatives. They can maintain the notion that they are composed of mature young men capable of regulating their own affairs and demonstrate it by abolishing "hell week" on their own initiative. Or they can continue to offer "hell week" as proof that they are childish incapable of running things for themselves, in which case university authorities may with perfect justice step in and put things in order. They can take their choice.

## If a Thing's Worth Doing...

**THE PAN-HELLENIC** council's plan to change women's rushing conditions by setting the rushing period back one week into vacation has gained the support of several campus authorities and has a scant margin in sororities, as shown by a tentative vote yesterday.

Under the proposed plan, the strain of a combined rushing and orientation week would be alleviated by setting rushing back. After the sorority rushing and pledging, under council regulation as at present, was over, the girls would be free to concentrate upon the administration's freshman week program.

Backers of the plan have admitted that it has many weak points which may raise serious problems and which should be corrected before it is accepted and put into effect. Chief among its benefits is the fact the strain of an over-jammed pre-enrollment week is somewhat lightened. Stretching the rushing and orientation period out over a period of two weeks, however, has obvious disadvantages.

**EVERY SORORITY** on the campus will mandatorily require the presence of each member during the rush week period. Under the present setup, approximately 800 sorority and potential sorority members descend upon the campus one week before registration. The suggested plan would bring these girls to the campus two weeks before classes begin, and during the second week at least 400 or 500 of them would have nothing to do or would return home, necessitating four trips before enrollment.

The plan has been advanced as a means of establishing rushees as pledges in houses before freshman week and registration. This undoubtedly would for many girls reduce the problems which surround any such abrupt environmental change. It is not entirely defensible, however. No girl should make the choice of pledging or not pledging or undertake the difficult selection of a four-year home without first hearing the aims and purposes of the University expounded in the meetings of freshman week.

**BACKERS** of the plan have indicated also that girls not intending to pledge sororities would not have to come to the campus for the rushing period. This might result in great loss for both girls and living organizations because there are undoubtedly many girls, knowing little of college life and of sororities, who would not appear for rushing but who might have pledged houses had they been rushed.

The work of the pan-hellenic council in recognizing and attempting to cope with the problem of an over-crowded orientation per-

iod is deserving of commendation. The plan which they are now considering would require great adjustment and might add greatly to the expense of rushing.

As long as the council is considering reform along these lines, it should go a step further and consider a plan which more nearly approaches the ideal than any other advanced in regard to rushing. This plan's objections are as many and as strong as those which can be made to the one now under consideration—it has long been the bugaboo of sorority and fraternity heads—but its advantages are undoubtedly far more material than are those of either the proposed or the present system. That plan is one calling for one term's deferred pledging.

## Saving Themselves Grief

**WE CAN'T** for the life of us understand why anyone should be disturbed about the severance of class organizations from the ASUO, or why there should be any move started to re-attach them. Yet such were two reactions to the intentional failure of the executive council to mention classes in the new by-laws.

Classes gained nothing under the old connection that could not be effected in a situation in which they existed separately from the ASUO. The main fruits of the old-time liaison between classes and the student body were the continuity given the inherently transient class organizations and the establishment of an effective control over their finances. But these same ends may be achieved by other means. As we have already pointed out, the classes may, by comparatively simple changes in their old constitutions, arrange for their continuity of organization. And, as for their treasuries, they may be put under the care of the University business office. And, incidentally, by doing this the classes will save themselves a lot of grief.

**THERE CAN** be no doubt that this grief was building up. Long before the executive council with due premeditation—although the matter was not brought to a vote—left class regulations out of the by-laws, there was a growing resentment of the injustice in requiring participants in class activities to have student body cards. This was a hold-over from the time prior to 1935 when compulsory membership in the ASUO was abolished. In those days every student was a member of the student body, and the requirement of membership in the larger organization did not exclude anyone who wanted to engage in class affairs.

But today this requirement would work an injustice, and it will be fitting if the classes, when they meet to discuss the situation, should vote to maintain the independence granted to them by the executive council.

We realize that such a statement, coming from a paper owned and supported by the associated students, may sound rather queer—perhaps even a little disloyal. But there is such a thing as justice, and the warmest supporter of the ASUO would not deny its being granted.

Moreover, from the standpoint of the associated students, it is doubtful whether there is great prestige in the class connection anyway.

## Campus Comment

(The views aired in this column are not necessarily those of the Emerald. Communications should be kept within a limit of 250 words. Courteous restraint should be observed in reference to personalities. No unsigned letters will be accepted.)

### SMOOTH DICTATORSHIP

To the Editor: The editorial yesterday which criticized present administrative tactics in the handling of women's student government was certainly very much to the point.

If any one phase of our student affairs needs airing and cleaning it is decidedly this field. Smooth dictatorial steps have every year characterized the handling of AWS, YWCA, and WAA officers.

Particularly questionable is the way the girls chosen for officers are nominated each year. With Mussolini-like tactics, our personnel officers head a committee of the past year's officers to pick the nominees for the year following.

Going still further, this small non-representative group not only hand-picks the candidates, but then proceeds to keep or try to keep their names secret. (Except of course from a few of the high and mighty in our leading (?) houses). And then, as you mentioned yesterday, to climax the entire matter, the ballots are burned immediately after counting!

New I don't doubt the sincerity of the personnel officers. And I don't doubt the sincerity of some of the past officers who support the system. But I do think this sincerity could be just as effective if it would come out of the dark closet and appear in broad daylight. Covering up things and burning ballots just doesn't give the average person the impression of any inclination towards fair play and sincerity.

I do feel that perhaps the nominating committee is the best means of selection, and that ASUO officers would be better administered if such a system were used. BUT, when such a committee is to pick the candidates, it should be a TRULY REPRESENTATIVE group and not the way it is now.

A great many co-eds on this campus very justly feel that they have been given a dirty deal yearly in this dictatorial administration. Keep hammering away. You certainly have a just cause.  
 LLOYD TUPLING.

## Pacts End Sit-Down Strike, Workers Happy



Union employees of a General Motors Fisher body plant at Flint, Michigan, streamed from the building as the 44-day sit-down strike ended with signing of pacts between strikers and union officials. Scenes of wild jubilation marked the end of the strike as workers left the plants joyously, after living in them for six weeks.

# BLACK MENACE

By H. RIDEM RAGGED  
 EPISODE SEVEN

What Has Gone Before: Tom Masters, reporter on the Oregon Daily Emerald and self-instructed amateur detective, is awaiting the arrival of the Black Menace, who has threatened the life of Din Toomas, when a strange voice answers a remark by Toomas that "The Black Menace would not dare come in here."

"Death Before Sunset!"  
 It was an awful foreboding silence that settled over the College Side; even the seniors had stopped their shouting. It was the Side's proprietor, one Mr. Smith, who afterwards labelled it the most amazing display of silence the students had ever put on in the history of his establishment. Even one of the waitresses, a Miss Eyebrows by name, admitted her complete astonishment.

But it was not to be for long—a heavy clomp of feet on the narrow staircase leading to the League of Liberty broadcasting room turned all eyes, and a murmur of hushed remarks rose on the air.

The steps were slow and deliberate, their hollow beat a maddening mark of time. Din Toomas in attempting to get the very best view of the voice's owner, stood up in his seat and grimaced just a little when he saw the occupant of the next booth, Tom Masters.

Suspense, if suspense there was, had its effect on Toomas—he leaned so far forward over the back of his seat that he was having difficulty keeping his balance. Meanwhile, the stomping feet came lower and lower—Toomas wiped a bead of sweat off his brow.

A wide-eyed feminine face in a booth on the west wall, gulped, gasped, "Look, it's the black menace!"

It was too much for Toomas. He fell face down on Masters' table. The "voice" reached the bottom step, faced the assembly with a wide grin. It was Major Cuddelly.

Life at the College Side resumed its normal pace almost immediately. The Major's moment of glory was but fleeting; by the time he'd gone out the door, the incident was covered with cobwebs in the Stygian darkness of College Siders' minds.

Toomas extricated himself from a tangled position in Masters' booth, explained awkwardly that he "just thought he'd drop in for a minute, anyway," laughed heartily about the whole affair, and resumed his place with Honey Lorraine.

So highly ridiculous was the whole aspect of the preceding incidents that even if wandering eyes had seen the cloaked figure standing statue-like on the balcony, they would not have brought excitement to the brain.

Masters wagered with himself the chances that the Black Menace would show himself here—here, with laughing voices, the hum of idle conversation, rattle of dishes, and waitresses scurrying about in the aisles. How utterly out-of-place, ridiculous.

Yet if Masters had looked once more at the balcony from whence Cuddelly had made his appearance, he would not have thought so rationally. Like some mysterious lord of a secret cult looking down from a lofty pulpit for a proper sacrificial victim, the hooded figure surveyed the mass of humanity below. Beady, sparkling eyes darted back and forth behind narrow slits in the black hood narrowing his head; twitched, like the tail of

## Piggers' in

(Continued from page one)  
 ankles. When they had settled down with a long board, called a centerboard, extending from the foot of the bed to the head between them, it was the practice of the mother of the house to come and tuck them in and see that all was well. Then in the chilly darkness plain and fancy bundling ensued. The custom was in high favor with the men and women of the time and at the height of the bundling period girls who refused to bundle were likely to become spinsters. The preachers however fought it tooth and nail. A story is told of a Congregational minister, Reverend Seth Pethwick, who was the chief of the bundle busters. One night during his travels he stopped at a strange house and was invited to spend the night. When he found out that he was supposed to bundle with one of the handsome young daughters he was so incensed that he stood up all night in a shed and died of exposure.

## Shark's Tooth Fossil Given Geography Head

A rare fossil of a prehistoric shark's tooth, found by a student near Eugene, is now in the possession of Dr. Warren D. Smith, head of the department of geography. The fossil is from an undetermined specie of the genus notidimus. This genus is known to have existed millions of years ago, according to Dr. Smith.

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 MARCH 6



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 Gus will put out the Mixtures  
 Wotta Deal!!  
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## Campus Calendar

**Infirmary patients** today are: Alyce Rogers, Bernard Kliks, Lois Onthank, Dorothy Reburn, Betty Brady, Joe Goding, Barbara Espy, Ruth Stanley, Jeane Larsen, Joan Jacobson, Mrs. D. A. Collis, June Martin, David Cox, Ken Skinner, Vernon Johnson, William Dalton, Ted Thompson, Irwin Elder, and Beverly Brown.

**Westminster current problems** forum meets tonight at 7:30.

**Travel group of Philomilete** will meet in the Women's lounge at Gerlinger Thursday at 4:00.

**Freshman commission meeting** at 4 o'clock today at the Y bungalow.

**Gamma Alpha Chi** will meet this afternoon at 4 o'clock at the College Side.

**YWCA sophomore commission** and the yarn doll sale committee will meet at 5 o'clock this afternoon at the Y bungalow.

**Victor P. Morris**, acting dean of the school of business administration, will speak tonight at 8 o'clock at the Y bungalow. The public is invited.

**MORRIS SPEAKS**  
 Victor P. Morris, acting dean of the school of business administration will speak at the YWCA cabinet meeting at the YWCA hut Wednesday at 8 p. m.

## Campus Comments

O-h-h-h, boy! as Martha Ray would say. We feel like spring. In fact we practically went to sleep standing up today. \* \* \* We're almost too lazy to notice what's happening, but we couldn't help hearing that Walt Miller, who had a little difficulty about the gold standard last week, has again turned to the Alpha Phi for safe-keeping. \* \* \* Formal time is not over yet, so a note from Doc Near about appropriate handkerchiefs for tuxedos, reminds us that you can get just the right size and shade of white at Eric Merrell's. \* \* \* Although toggy experts say it is too early yet for whites, Bob Boyer was unable to resist the chance and turned out Monday in sparkling shoes and slacks. \* \* \* Spring horse-back riding was evidently too much for Judy Siegrist, laughing Theta, who was seen about the campus yesterday with her arm in the air, having broken her collar bone last week. She's still laughing, however. \* \* \* Something new, and perhaps old, as father would say, are the new Arrow detachable collar shirts, called ideal for street and evening wear. Drop in at Eric Merrell's and take a look at these as well as the new spring sweaters. \* \* \*  
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# "APRIL Romance"

Richard Tauber with Jane Baxter  
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