

From where I SIT

By CLARE IGOE

An oddity of campus fashion is presented by the Pi Phi lassies, who greet these days rain-clad in white rain-coats and shapeless, none-too-becoming white hats. It seems that a couple of girls bought them, the sisters thought they were just too cute, the thing grew and grew, and now the line of ghostly figures makes a weird procession through late afternoon crowds at the Side.

The coats we don't mind, but the hats—hmmmm.

A strange thing indeed came to pass the other night. With one of our friends, we journeyed around dinner time, to the Gamma Phi house for a bit of discussion with one of the members thereof. Up to the door we marched, rang the doorbell—and waited. No response. We peered in. The place was lit up like the proverbial church, but not a soul could be seen. Doors to the dining room were shut.

We rang again. Ting-a-ling went the bell, echoing, we felt sure, to the farthest reaches of the house. Still no answer. Not a sound, not a voice. The rooms had a neat, pleasant, vacuous look of complete emptiness. It

was as if everyone, gathered chummily at the dinner table, had been stricken suddenly with a plague, and we pictured their sitting there still, a charming smile frozen on their dead faces, hands, stilled forever, poised beside their plates.

By this time the thing was getting pretty sinister. We rang again, and again. Still that deathly silence. We leaned on the bell. No answer.

Well, we thought, if that is their attitude, all right, and we turned away, remembering with relish the remark made by Pollster Jack Bryant, who once mused "Let's see... how would the Gamma Phis vote? They'd vote 'no' on anything, wouldn't they?" Per haps, we thought, this business of not answering the bell was just a part of the general negative policy of the Gamma Phis.

Walking along with these thoughts in mind, we heard the sound of merry voices in the air. Turning, we saw the door to the Gamma Phi house open, and out walked two girls, laughing and talking, quite alive and showing no evidence of the plague epidemic we by now firmly believed in.

Oh well, we said.

In the Mail

FOR FRIEDMAN

To the Editor:

I hear that Benny Friedman is interested in Oregon's coaching job. With all due respect to our favorite son candidate (and all respect is due him for the strong Oregon lines he has built year in and year out) I feel that if Friedman is available he ought to be signed. Outside of the big name angle, which in modern highly publicized football does carry weight, a brilliant performer like Friedman is certain to inspire smarter football at Oregon. Moreover, his years of graduate study and experience in big-time professional football equip him for this job.

The next few years are sure to mark a swing to coaches trained in the graduate school of professional football. Why shouldn't Oregon get the jump on this trend and build some championship teams in the next few years? Yours for Benny Friedman.

—W. W.

FALSE PANACEA

To the Editor:

The case for a new grading system has been ably stated. It seems only too evident that the present plan puts too much emphasis on grades as the only valuation of the student, and that these grades are not always a true indication of the student's worth. However, before tossing the whole method of grading out the window, it

would be only wise to study thoroughly the proposed remedy.

Entrance requirements at Oregon are lamentably low. Modern educators realize that everybody is not fit for college work. Professor Linn, of Chicago university, said in a recent article "in our state universities which must admit any young person whom any state high school has permitted to pass through—in such institutions a large proportion of the undergraduates are being educated beyond their capacities," and later, "the trouble with us is that we continue to educate them, or in permitting them to clutter up our educational institutions." This is, I am afraid, only too true of the University. In a system without grades and without failures we would only be encouraging those unfit for academic training to remain here indefinitely.

But the damage would not stop here. The point has been raised that some students fail to take certain courses because they are reputed to be stiff. These students, using the term to designate all those registered in the University, do so in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred because they are not willing to do the work required. And while quite probably they would sign up for the courses under the new plan, I fail to see that they would change their minds about studying. This group would swell the enrollment of the "good content" courses, but it would also slow up class work.

The instructor could either go slower to help these students learn something, thus harming the content of the course for the better students; or he could go at his usual pace, thus soon leaving the poor student hopelessly behind so that they would lose the benefit of the class; or he could run the class on two or more standards, thus doubling the work of the already overburdened Oregon professor.

One of the most serious consequences of large class enrollments would be the elimination of the personal contact between student and professor which is so helpful in those "stiff" courses which only students willing to work sign up for. The student will still desire to take the easy courses in order to get "passings" to take home. The solution for the "pipe" course is not to make it impossible to fail any course.

While the present grading system should be revised, this remedy may be worse than the disease.

EDWIN ROBBINS

Send the Emerald home to Dad every morning. He will like to read the University happenings.

Quackenbush's
HARDWARE, GLASSWARE

Oregon Emerald

LEROY MATINGLY, Editor

LLOYD TUPLING, Managing Editor

WALTER R. VERNSTROM, Manager

The Oregon Daily Emerald, official student publication of the University of Oregon, published daily during the college year except Sundays, Mondays, holidays and final examination periods. Entered as second-class mail matter at the postoffice, Eugene, Oregon.

Editorial Board: Darrel Ellis, Bill Peace, Margaret Ray, Edwin Robbins, Al Dickhart, Kenneth Kirtley, Bernadine Bowman.

Gag Rule

FOR the past four years, at least, there has been one salient point in the policy of every Emerald editor. That is the refusal to permit the appearance in the paper's columns, wherever possible, of any material of such a nature as to be derogatory to our neighboring institution and fellow unit in the Oregon state system of higher education—Oregon State college.

On a few occasions, untimely and ill-advised references have slipped in, just as such stories slip into any paper. But these occasional slips have always been accidental and there has been strong reproof awaiting those in error.

The "rule" was formed with several reasons in mind. It seemed to be a waste of good space to carry on the bickerings back and forth which once characterized the columns of The Emerald and the Barometer and which had little appeal for the student reader. The "exchanges" were in poor taste. The comparisons gained were not good ones, for the two schools could both profit more by looking further afield and to schools of their own types to find new and applicable ideas for self-improvement. And, above all, they were, when the policy was inaugurated, and still are units in the same system—bedfellows nursing from the same bottle and with the same parents and the same ultimate objectives.

ONE of the valuable opportunities which the so-called "love feast" at Corvallis last term produced was the opportunity to talk over with intelligent Barometer Editor Ed Burchell such matters of policy. Mr. Burchell confirmed the abstinent policy explained above in his own words and the policies of the two papers are, it seems, very similar on this point.

The meeting also produced a couple of other things of note. A student committee chosen from among those present was named by ASUO President Barney Hall and ASOSC President Bob Henderson. It was instructed to meet for the consideration of inter-school problems, a duty which opens a wide field in which the committee should, eventually, do a great deal of good.

The most important event of the evening was the diversion of the general discussion by Director of Athletics Percy Loecey to the matter of compulsory fees.

WATCHING the progress of the evening (and subsequent perusal of the Barometer) revealed that Director Loecey had addressed a student convo, or assembly, that morning, telling of the tremendous deficit of thousands of dollars with which OSC was faced.

Director Loecey told the gathering of student leaders, early in the evening, that Oregon State must return to the compulsory fees system if ASOSC is to continue in business.

Throughout the evening the subject kept recurring. Oregon State students, in general, seemed to believe it feasible—the University's representatives, with one exception, had little to say in the matter.

Now, when anyone talks compulsory fees around here, that's news—and despite rather pointed statements about no "publicity" the story appeared in The Emerald and in other papers.

Although it has little connection with the occurrence of a recent incident, of which all

this rather lengthy explanation is preparatory, it should be said that Mr. Loecey's proposal for a return to compulsory fees made no distinction between educational and athletic fees but, rather, specifically asked the return of both.

There has long been a great deal of doubt that the people of Oregon or the state board would sanction the collection of fees on a compulsory basis to support athletics. This is admitted even by a good many of those who believe educational activities deserve the compulsory fee return because of their educational qualities.

BEFORE Saturday's basketball game the committee appointed at the "feast" held a meeting. Oregon State students, it developed, have investigated the fees problem and modified their beliefs, generally, and now advance the suggestion that the battle for educational activities on a compulsory basis be undertaken.

But the committee, it seems (and it should be remembered that it includes an equal number of students from both schools) was also asked to consider the possibility of a "gag rule" for the press connected directly with both institutions.

The measure was wisely rejected. In part, it was designed to stop uncomplimentary references to the two schools in the student dailies. The avoidance of such instances, it has already been explained, has been a part of Emerald policy under at least four editors. It is, also, the aim of the Barometer under Editor Burchell.

BUT the salient factor which makes the matter worthy of such lengthy discussion (and a tender topic it is, too) was that this proposal meant censorship. Censorship—not the exercise of editorial discretion from within but the hand of suppression from without. And the main purpose of this suppression was to be the prevention of the publication of anything which might oppose the battle for compulsory fees.

We don't know the situation at Corvallis, but there are so many newspapers in this state and so many correspondents on this campus that such an action would have been futile.

If it were possible, it seems highly improbable that The Emerald would submit. It has struggled along for 40 years, now, without benefit of censor.

WE don't believe that Editor Burchell had any hand in the suggestion. He is probably undergoing the same feelings in regard to it that the staff of The Emerald is—not so much relief, for the suggestion was asinine, but of more than slightly amused incredulity that a college-trained mind could produce such a medieval idea.

There is not much use referring to the fascistic nations where censorship is rampant today. A map of the world with those parts under a censored press colored black appeared in the editorial section of Sunday's abbreviated Oregonian—and there was more black than white, excluding the high seas.

But this proposal does indicate one thing—the extremes to which the human mind can torture its logic. If Oregon and Oregon State students can conceive and venture to suggest such an idea, it seems more explainable that entire European nations have fallen for fascism.

SIDE SHOW

Edited by . . .

Bill Cummings, Campus
Paul Deutschmann, National

Campus

Fanned by the excitement of a basketball thriller Saturday night at Corvallis, the traditional spirit between Oregon and Oregon State blazed again over the weekend, and, on the part of Oregon State, almost reached the point of another victory parade.

The game could almost—but not quite—be classified as an upset. The Beavers played over their heads, taking advantage of the crippled Oregon quintet; and, too, their scientific, slow break with its set plays was demoralizing and exasperating to the fast-breaking Ducks. As a consequence, sparks flew. A couple of mid-floor free-for-alls were narrowly averted. Oregon's superior team should win both of the final games in the "Civil War" series, and the defeat of the Ducks Saturday night should, in the long run, do them more good than harm. It's

heads-up ball from now on, or else.

No sparks flew at the good-will meeting held in conjunction with the basketball game. The lineup for Oregon's diplomatic quintet was Elizabeth Turner, Virginia Regan, Noel Benson, and Zane Kemler, along with ASUO Prexy Barney Hall. Compulsory fees were again discussed but no important action was taken, according to the Duck Diplomats. Oregon seems to be lined up against, and Oregon State for, the issue.

Officials of the University Ski club have joined officials of the Mitt and Mat club in a drive to have their respective activities listed as minor sports for inter-collegiate competition. The skiers have already lined up tentative meets with several coast universities.

Members of the Mitt and Mat club have made considerable

headway toward the minor sport goal, but seem to have neglected the all-important step of taking the matter before the educational activities board, which decides such questions. Both skiing and the mat sports are officially recognized by several colleges and universities on the coast as minor sports, so the student-organizers have good reason to expect success.

Orides Members To Sell Turnovers

Members of Orides are conducting an apple turnover sale on the campus tomorrow. "Turnovers just like the ones your mother makes," Vivian Runte, Orides president announced at last night's meeting. Elizabeth Linn is general chairman of the sale which will last from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Send the Emerald home to Dad every morning. He will like to read the University happenings.

Enrollment Emphasis Make 'Grades Problem' Difficult

ELSEWHERE in today's editorial page appears a communication from one of the ablest and keenest-minded students on this campus, Edwin Robbins, in which he questions whether the substitution of a new system for the old alphabetical grading isn't applying a cure worse than the disease.

Robbins' letter, as do most adverse comments, hits indirectly at the central weakness of the proposed system—that it is a compromise measure, a step in the direction of Continental and English systems, which both emphasize individual study and study organization.

The plan as proposed here by Dr. Warren D. Smith would remove some evils of the present system and would emphasize those things, to a certain extent, which makes the English system desirable. But it does not include the final comprehensive examination which puts the teeth in this most liberal type of education—therein it is weak.

ROBBINS indicates the weaknesses of the American or Oregon system when he says "entrance requirements are lamentably low." But he is wrong in assuming that the grade system serves as a substitute for entrance examinations. It may force a student to cheat to avoid hard labor and makes grades, yes; but the percentage of those it flunks out of school is negligible. Flunking out of Oregon is a lengthy and difficult process indeed.

Dr. Smith's proposed change is not the ideal answer to the problem. If no other reason than that it stops the process of making unprincipled cheaters out of students who under no impetus will become scholars, the change is justifiable.

Grades do not eliminate the unfit—but the pressure of obtaining them keeps many capable students from taking all the difficult

courses they wish to take. The good students are affected by the pressure for grades just as much as are the poor students—in the long run they are hurt most because they, too, must make concessions to GPA, which prevent them from achieving their higher potentialities.

WHEN educators say our colleges are attempting to educate the unfit and the un-educatable, their statements are not criticisms of a grade or grade-less system. True, everyone has the right in this democracy to advance himself to the full extent of his opportunities and his capabilities; and those opportunities should be increased. But increasing those opportunities for those who have no educational capabilities is not the duty of the university. It may be the duty of the general college. Educators, condemning the laxity of our system, are hitting at the efforts to make university education universal—thus usurping for higher education the field of the general college.

OREGON, in a recent survey, was eighth from the bottom on the list of states ranked according to the money spent, proportionate to population, on higher education. This state rates, if not first, very high in the percentage of eligible students who attend its colleges.

The source of error in the system is obvious. It is the enrollment-hungry policy of taking in everyone to gain more appropriations which makes it difficult to establish any successful grading system. But the same or equal difficulties face the competitive system as face the less competitive approach. There are a certain number of students whom no system will help to become scholars; and it is no use making unethical cheaters and corner-cutters of them in the attempt to do so.

Campus Calendar

House librarians will meet in the browsing room at 4 p.m. today.

There will be a WAA council meeting this evening at 8 o'clock in the women's lounge in Gerlinger hall.

The staff of "Lemon Punch" meets today in the Journalism building at 7:15, it has been announced by Don Seaman.

Phi Beta Upsilon meeting at 5 o'clock in the AWS rooms in Gerlinger.

YMCA cabinet members will meet at 5 o'clock this afternoon in the Y hut.

Heads of the houses meet today at 4:45 in the AWS room in Gerlinger.

Kwama meeting today at 4:30 in the AWS room of Gerlinger hall.

Members of the senior ball directorate are asked to attend a meeting today at 4:00.

Phi Delta Theta fraternity will entertain Kappa Alpha Theta sorority at an exchange dessert Wednesday. Their informal dance will be held February 19.

Theta Chi fraternity held an initiation for 13 men last Sunday.

Full Program

(Continued from page one)
Erb to Speak

The annual banquet will be held in the Osburn hotel with Dean Eric W. Allen of the school of journalism acting as toastmaster. Then banquet features a talk, "Professor and the Press," by Donald M. Erb, president-elect of the University. The Eugene Gleemen conducted by John Stark Evans will give a complimentary request appearance, honoring the editors and publishers; and William Lamme, contest chairman. Sigma Delta Chi, will present the best weekly newspaper contest awards. Following the banquet, the publishers will attend the basketball game between the University of Montana and the University of Oregon at McArthur court.

Ladies of the conference will be entertained by Theta Sigma Phi at the home of Miss Margaret Ray, 1307 E. 19th avenue from 3 to 4:30 p.m.

Ad Men Meet Saturday
Saturday morning the advertising managers will have their ining under the direction of Harry S. Schenck, McMinnville Telephone-Register, president of the advertising managers' department. Following their meeting, William W. Loomis, publisher of the La-Grange, Illinois, Citizen, and president of the National Editorial association, will address the gen-

eral session on "Facing New Problems." A adjournment for luncheon will follow the semi-annual business meeting with Mr. Baker presiding.

The luncheon in John Straub Memorial hall will be in observance of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Oregon chapter of Sigma Delta Chi, journalism fraternity. Speakers will be Mr. Loomis, who is also national honorary president of the fraternity; Governor Charles H. Martin; Frederick M. Hunter, chancellor of the state system; and C. Valentine Boyer, retiring president of the University. Henry N. Fowler, Bend Bulletin, will act as toastmaster. The election of new officers will close the conference for another year.

Delta Phi Alpha Meets
Delta Phi Alpha, German honorary, will meet at Gerlinger hall Wednesday at 8:15 p.m. to make plans for this term and talk over the initiation program.

New Waterfall Mile-High, Now Seen by Flyer

NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—Report of a mile high waterfall in Venezuela, discovered by an American aviator while flying over the interior region, was made here tonight by an instructor in the College of New York.

According to Jimmy Angel, the aviator, the stream of water falls from a high plateau above the clouds and into jungles 5000 feet below.

KAPPAS HOSTS TONIGHT
Kappa Kappa Gamma will be the guests of Sigma Chi for an exchange dessert Tuesday night.

IS YOUR RADIO A CRIPPLE!



You must have a "healthy" set to appreciate the quality of today's broadcasts. Let our experts check your radio and give it new life at prices you can afford.

DOTSON'S
RADIO &
ELECTRIC STORE
Phone 202 11th & Oak

RADIO REPAIRS



"MR. AND MRS. NEWT"

Improve Your Dancing

Class or private lessons in tap or ballroom.
Special rates to college students.

Merrick's Dance Studio
861 Will. Phone 3081

THE TYPEWRITER IS AS MODERN AS THE
AUTOMOBILE OR STREAMLINED TRAIN—
TYPE YOUR PAPERS
RENT A TYPEWRITER—PUT IT TO WORK
(All rent paid allowed on purchase)
OFFICE MACHINERY & SUPPLY CO.
1047 Willamette Phone 148

Today's Emerald

IS made possible by the following advertisers

Consequently they deserve your support!

- University Bus. Coll.
- Quackenbush
- Lucky Strike
- College Side Inn
- Merrick's Dance Studio
- Office Mach. & Supply
- Dotson's
- Dudley Field
- Chesterfield

PATRONIZE THEM!