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OREGON DAILY EMERALD

Friday, April 11, 1941

Show

Side

By RIDGELY CUMMINGS



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Nearer Reality

THERE are few questions of University policy that can raise the ire of faculty and student camps more than the publishing of house grade averages. Indeed, the anti-publication quarters do have many points in favor of their argument, particularly in relation to house pressure causing students to take "pipes" in order to keep the GPA up. But say what you will, there are few news stories printed during the term that carry such a "wallop" in the field of reader interest today. For Oregon is becoming scholarship-minded.

Publication seems especially right at the present time, because of the constantly increasing University grade point average, the progress in standards of scholarship which Oregon is making during the 1940's.

THE all-University average published in yesterday's Emerald showed a 2.429 rating for the school as a whole. This was a definite upward trend over the 2.35 earned by Oregon undergraduates during fall term and the 2.41 marked down for winter term a year ago.

A great step has been taken when a state of grade-consciousness has been attained. For many years cooperatives, dorms, and independents have held the top-ranking place in all scholarship comparisons. In 1941, they still maintain number one spot in most instances. But close on their heels are the fraternities and sororities. And that new spurt of power from the Greeks may be attributed, it would appear, to the stress that interfraternity council and Panhellenic places at the present time on study rules and scholarship development in their respective fields of student government. The fight for first-class scholarship for the University of Oregon has not been won. But the interest has been created . . . and the graph moves upward. President Erb's dream comes nearer reality.-H.A.

UNION NOW!

By Ann Reynolds

Another three-hour session Wednesday of the special studentfaculty committee to work on Student Union program resulted in a decision to throw open to the entire student body one meeting of the group. This meeting will be probably scheduled for Wednesday, April 23. The purpose of the general meeting is to make sure that the students have expressed their real opinions in regards to functions of the building. Any students who are interested in bringing up any point concerning the student union movement should attend the meeting. The time and place of the discussion group will be printed in the Emerald. Students should watch for the chance to make suggestions effective by defending them publicly.

Hard-Working Committee

In the past week we've seen a different form of action on our program for a student activity center. Not because we feel that the committee deserves the publicity or the praise, but because they're really doing the hard work of investigation, we think the students should know what's being done. Before the University can start even the drafting of building architecture it is naturally necessary that a great deal of statistical planning be considered. An example of the kind of facts that the committee discusses is for instance the discovery that the site north of the Y hut was entirely out of the utilities district and also that if the building was situated opposite the art museum a great deal of money would have to be spent in the exterior architecture so that the building would not be incongruous with the elaborateness of the other structures. Again the building must not be built in among a group of very old structures since its modern architecture

It is not my fault if the Emerald chooses to spell Rousseau's name without any u's, but for the rest of yesterday's column

International

I'll take the rap -and yesterday there appeared to be an unusual number of hecklers.

Jim Goffard, psych assistant, wanted to know what I meant by the "humanitar-

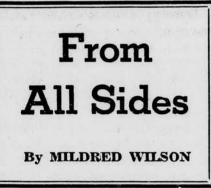
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the British empire," but even Jim had to admit that there is a difference in degree if not in kind between England's treatment of India and Germany's treatment of Poland. To the extent that both subject peoples are exploited by force, to just that extent is the rule of the ruler impermanent; and although the purist may say one should not compromise with evil, still it is true that the civil courts and sikh policemen of India are much more palatable to western eyes than the concentration camps and ghettos of Poland.

Not Apologizing

However, I don't wish to be an apologist for British imperialism. I was merely pointing out that just as one evil does not excuse another so its existence does not excuse fascist oppression.

Gene Edwards, drama student, raised a much more serious objection. I say serious because it opens a broad field. Gene objected to my quote from Rousseau about the essential goodness of man, which makes it unnecessary for him to be bossed and kicked



around by divinely appointed rulers.

He admitted that Rousseau probably said something along those lines, but insisted that now that I am a big boy and a college senior I ought to have realized that the great masses of human beings are not fit to govern themselves.

Potential Fascist

I promptly accused Gene of being a potential fascist, to which term he objected, but it seems to follow that if one thinks the average human is not fit to govern himself then a boss is what he needs.

It may be idealistic to have such sublime faith in the decency and reasonableness of one's fellow men, but I submit that the whole theory of democracy rests upon just that assumption.

Virginia Hammond, English student proved the most irritating heckler of all. First she said she didn't like the way I use the English language, but I pointed out that that was a feminine and subjective reaction and that she'd have to be more specific. Then she said I couldn't accept Rousseau and God, too.

God and Rousseau

I said that if it had to come to a choice I'd still take Rousseau, but why couldn't I have both? "You'd have to study philosophy to understand," Virginia replied loftily.

I asked a few more questions and caught some sort of a reply about "divine order," but it was all very confusing. Perhaps Virginia is right: I need more philosophy.

To get down to facts. Yesterday the U.S. took over the responsibility of defending Greenland.

Three Miles to Go

This expansion of the Monroe Doctrine puts the American defense zone within three miles of the proclaimed German war area in the north Atlantic. The Germans claim their counter-blockade zone extends to Iceland and its territorial waters, which is just three miles from southeastern Greenland. (The news stories say it is only three miles. On the map it looks more like 30 miles, but anyway it is quite close.) Under the agreement signed between the U.S. and Denmark this nation is to build fortifications, naval and air bases on the huge island. It's all to be done on a lease basis, the title to revert to Denmark when and if Hitler is kapoot.



The New Longer Patriotism

NOT so long ago a cartoonist for a popular magazine put the whole thing in a nutshell. He depicted two fliers bailing out of a plane. Flier K was showing Flier Q two cigarettes -one obviously longer than the other.

Almost any magazine you pick up has full color ads showing two beautiful military men, one showing the other this amazing thing - a longer eigarette. If national defenders use the product, you really ought to, too. Our country must be prepared Now isn't that a roundabout appeal?

and and the second **T**T is not only in connection with cigarettes that one observes the national defense motif rampant. Advertisers of quantities of brands of everything are beginning to discover that the country must be defended, therefore you should buy what they're selling.

What could be the benefits from such a super-abundance of this type of advertising? From the standpoint of the country's actual preparedness, there could be none. From the standpoint of propaganda, patriotism is merely cheapened. Patriotism is really a very fine thing. You don't buy it over a counter.

The cartoonist put it well. Flier K and Flier Q are suspended wordless in mid-air, ogling at two cigarettes. Ah, the new patriotism is longer, and packed lighter.

What the two fliers don't seem to care about is that they haven't opened their 'chutes yet and the ground is coming up to meet them.-P.E.

When the rainy skies of the past two weeks gave way to sunshine yesterday, first-year students regained a semblance of faith in the seven month onslaught of "propaganda" they have heard from veteran upperclassmen dealing with the wonders of "Spring at the U."

would clash with its surroundings.

Student Polls

Every member of the committee has served some way in his own particular subcommittee. Some of the group conducted a student poll on the desired facilities. Others have been investigating site possibilities and still others have looked into the finance of the program. Although to some it may appear that the movement for our building is slowing down this is certainly not true for on the contrary the work being done is far more widespread than before and is including many of those students who before hesitated to put time on a rumor. Apparently it was the \$250,000 that turned the tide but at any rate under the guidance of the committee a lot of hard but necessary work is being done.

The Word Is Heterogeneous

Perhaps one of the most important discoveries that has been shown to nearly every person working on the student union program is that the only word for the purposes of the building is heterogenous. By this we mean that the functions provided for in the various other colleges are so numerous and unclassified that the student union buildings have become miniature main streets. For example we will not be able to say that the sole purpose of our building will be for a place to dance because in that building will perhaps be included smaller banquet rooms as well as the large one, game rooms, bowling alleys, committee rooms, student offices and even a barber and beauty shop. Thus the building will be almost a complete unit of

Classrooms at Westminster college will be done over in colors like salmon, apricot and "cool green," in an experiment to relieve the monotony of the drab walls for students and thus keep the sleepy ones awake.

-The Silver and Gold.

* * *

An unnamed fraternity at the University of Kansas was having a terrible time with its freshmen. Exceedingly lax in performing their telephone answering duties they were rapidly gaining a bad disciplinary reputation for the frat.

In an attempt to reform matters 29 reluctant freshies were assembled in the library and informed that for each time the phone rang more than twice, all freshmen would receive one stroke from a sturdy paddle.

The phone rang. Without a word, 29 freshmen jumped to their feet and raced toward it.

-The Daily Kansan. * * *

Publicly, forcefully and spectacularly expressing its political opinion the University of Colorado's daily publication recently left its fifth column blank-except for the words-"The Silver and Gold tolerates no fifth column."

-The Silver and Gold.

group life in itself. Although some of these additional facilities may come gradually the building must be built with the purpose of enlargement in mind. The attractiveness and use of the building depends on foreseeing the University of Oregon in the future.

There is a possibility that Greenland, 1,200 miles from England, may be used as a transshipment point for American aid to Britain. At least the senators are talking about it. They're talking about convoys, too.



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