

*Jam for
Breakfast*

By TED HALLOCK

Very, very interesting note received from an over-ambitious Hess in the Beaver midst. From Corvallis, dated Feb. 21, the, shall we say, effervescent epistle states quite emphatically that "the Barometer doesn't have a 'damn thing in it,' AND, that 'every joke or interesting news bit has been taken from other college papers such as the Emerald.' Believe it or not, friends, some unsatisfied chum at Silo Tech actually made with this immortal bit of prose, which has got nothing whatsoever to do with music in any form. Thanks.

Even more interesting is what Tom Beecham said. Tom spied what we have been trying like mad to say for two terms, in two sentences, and stop looking for a moral. Said Mr. B, "the true test of music is the manner in which it is delivered. Any music, even Count Basie, (still Beecham's own stuff) is acceptable, if it's playing is impeccable, yet spirited as characteristic of the mood being interpreted." Sir Thomas revealed further marks of being an excellent critic as he went alone.

Beecham Gets Irked

Referring to friend Edward Martin, Tom asked if we would submit the color of Titian; the analysis of Da Vinci, or the detail and shading of Rembrandt, to any renovation by the Los Angeles moderns. Slightly more emphatic, he designated Freddie's endeavors to be "a foul prostitution of art," while emitting an additional four million eight hundred and three epithets equally as lovely. So at last the words which are truth have been said, and by someone whose ideas cannot be contested, as can mine.

Being as how everyone dotes on the swell dance band that Art Holman has; and being as how no one ever lets up on that score; and being as how Art and men are to play tomorrow night at the benefit ball at the Wintergarden, we would like very much to hear a very select grouping from Mr. Holman's musically immaculate bunch play a little off the elbow stuff. (For the Holman benefit: ad lib jazz, not of the "what the heck do we do when the lights go out variety.")

An All-Star Gang

For such a definitely all-star aggregation we would nominate from Art's fold, the following: trumpet, Robert Carlson (winner of some large medal in 1938 for being the state's fair-haired boy on a Buescher type 2-A horn); percussion, Vernon Culp (he also plays cymbal at the Underwood concerts); clary, Phil Luato, (clary, Phil, means clarinet) a-la Pee Wee Russell); piano, Mrs. Holman (who could probably out-jam any of them); alto saxophone, unknown (but if he can play like he did at the S.E., he is all right).

So there is the bunch we would really like to hear. And who knows; we have a suspicion we will, and soon.

Through no fault of their own, many men have been rejected from army and naval services because of physical disabilities and the like. The Iowa service director believes that these men should be given "honorable rejection" buttons.

A majority of people sided with him when he said that they are just as patriotic as men who have been accepted for service, and that they should have some recognition as such.—Stephens Life.

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An Untimely Move . . .

THE Emerald opposes a fall term ban on all freshman activities at the present time.

Possibility that such a restriction might be placed on first year students was raised last week when the ASUO executive committee considered a suggestion that, as a part of its recently-enacted two-point cumulative GPA requirement for activity participation, a special stipulation be added to the effect that all freshmen be banned from activities until winter term.

The suggestion has some excellent points in its favor. It would move organization of the frosh class and class elections to winter term, when it is to be expected that members would have matured sufficiently and developed minds of their own to the extent that the whole campus wouldn't have to declare a two weeks' respite to get their political troubles ironed out.

TOO, there is such a hodge-podge of small activities that many honors-minded houses require their pledges to "give their all" to the extent that many freshman students adopt schedules entirely too heavy, and often slight the academic life for activities. It certainly would be an advantage if some of the "broom pushing" jobs always delegated to frosh could be done by the honoraries sponsoring the activity.

However, the University is going to have some pretty hard sledding in the next two years or so. There will be a much lower percentage of upperclassmen to carry the "extracurricular" loads of student government, student publications, and student morale-building. Freshmen and sophomores will figure more highly than ever before in actual activity participation . . . and their roles will be significant ones.

IT seems illogical, then, that just when freshmen are becoming key persons in the whole University setup and really valuable University citizens, that they should be relegated to a position of uselessness for one full term. Of all times, when this country's college population is being constantly withdrawn from school for national defense efforts, new students should be assimilated with all the speed possible. There is even some talk in conference athletics as to the possibility of putting freshmen in varsity sports. The trend is definitely toward greater participation, rather than less.

The most valuable students, the most ambitious ones, will find new fields of interest if activities are closed to them during fall term. By winter term, they will have either found a new outlet (perhaps off the campus) for their talents, or will have adopted as "I-don't-care" College Side attitude to the extent that no real interest in student affairs can be developed. Students will find their interest waning as the period of postponement of participation increases.

SOME activities, particularly the Emerald and Oregana, are largely built around freshman participation. The loss of fall term freshmen would make their beginning a slow, half-hearted one, and both publications would be handicapped by staff shortages in the most important term of the year. Other activities would be similarly hit.

The most significant strong point of the proposal, so far undecided, is the suggestion that freshman class organization and elections be moved to winter term. This has everything in its favor, and there would be a great many less headaches for all concerned if such action were taken. But this could be done without crippling all other student activities as well. The executive committee would be doing real service to the University if it is decreed this year that henceforth the freshman class should not organize until winter term. But to do this does not necessarily entail the whole sweeping action; a complete ban is out of the question in these times.

Seems rather ironical, doesn't it, in the light of President Roosevelt's words of cheer and confidence last evening, and after having sat through two and one-half hours of classical music, to walk out into the night air and find out that someone is shooting holes in your front doorstep? But then, that's war.

Things look dark but . . .

Pessimism Must be Downed

(Editor's Note: This guest column was written by Tom Pickett, sophomore in journalism, who is taking the place today of Don Treadgold, regular columnist.)

By TOM PICKETT

Last week was one of the blackest in American history. The shocking and humiliating defeats suffered by the United Nations in the past few days are of ominous and incalculable portent, not only because of the terrible military and economic reverses involved, but more importantly, for the critical problems which must now confront the United States. We must realize that the United States has accepted the major responsibility in the Pacific area; at least it is clearly understood in England. It is for this reason that the disasters of the Far East are of primary concern to us.

These alarming and heart-sinking events in the last week have spread trepidation and alarm throughout the free world:

1. The surrender of Singapore, the "impregnable" British bastion, ranks with the fall of France as a major defeat in this war. The strident Japs are now in position to sweep through the Dutch East Indies, cut the Burma road, and threaten Australia and India. The shipping problem of the U.S. is greatly increased, and will continue to become more acute.

2. The audacious running of the gauntlet by the German battleships Scharnhorst, Gneisenau, and Prinz Eugen brought on a storm of criticism of the Churchill government. This naval success gives the Nazis an Atlantic fleet of three battleships, two pocket battleships, six or seven cruisers, and one or two aircraft carriers—plus their "packs of submarines, and their destroyers.

In order to meet this threat in the Atlantic, the British must withdraw badly needed ships from the Mediterranean, or the U. S. from the Pacific area.

U. S. Humiliated

3. The sinking of the Normandy brought due share of humiliation to the U.S. This ship was to take men and supplies to the battlefronts. Its sinking is a scandal of negligence and inefficiency.

4. Unpublicized but very important was the failure of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek to break the ancient deadlock between Britain and India which has strangled India's war effort. Undoubtedly Churchill will find it expedient to make more concessions to India in the very near future. He must do something more effective than changing a few cabinet posts, however, and quickly.

On the credit side of the ledger of war, the U.S. had one success to place—the raid on the Marshall and Gilbert islands. While comparatively unimportant, it was a first-rate naval operation, combining sea and air-power to maximum effect. This shows that our navy has admirals who know how to use airplanes with punishing effect.

More important, a tough Chinese army arrived in Burma after a 1,000 mile march through the mountains; the Chinese have had enough "background" experience now to be able to fight the Japs skillfully.

It's Russia's Turn

The real sustaining factor in the war arena last week was the ponderous advance of the Russian bear against the snow-bound Nazi wolves. Stalin is calling the turns now and Hitler will have to dream up something really good to take back all he will have lost by April. However, if the British cannot hold on to Gibraltar and the Suez canal when the Nazi drive inevitably comes, the position of the United Nations will be so terribly weakened as to cause concern in our own college side.

Donald Nelson, WPB chief, said last week, "This year—1942—is the critical year in the existence of the United States." All the related factors that have been

briefly presented here add up to one thing: The time is past for pessimism—it is now a case of desperate hurry, desperate production, and desperate action by the United States, before the relentless "wave of the future" breaks all the tenuous dikes of the remaining free countries. Here alone is there power of such magnitude to smash the mechanized brutality that malevolently threatens civilization.

Awful Truths

News of Beta pin-plantings—Bill Regner gets his pin back from newly-initiated fraternity brother Bob Koch just so he can give it to Alpha Phi Lorraine Sampson to cinch things, all this happened Saturday eve—then along came Sunday and poor Koch without a pin so he in turn borrows one from Jim Newquist and gives it to Betty Kincaid, Gamma Phi, which ends that sweet li'l triangle we bored you with for so long.

On the ATO front: Bill O'Malley plants his pin on Bette Issack the night of the Pi Phi "School Days" radio dance.

And here's planting that was never mentioned and it all happened way back last March—it should have some recognition because it's still on the same girl (the pin we mean)—something new and different for this campus—congratulations to Loren McKinley and Eileen Sessions.

This happened at the DU house dance: Gloria Prouty, Kappa, took Ron Dilling's pin—

Sigma Chi Walt Brown is in town for a look-see before en-training in the army—just a last minute fling.

Pat Sutton, Gamma Phi, also in town to look over the situation.

We almost forgot about this one—Chet Sargeant, Pi Kap, planted his you know what on Jeane Carlson.

And pardon us while we take a deep breath—perhaps you should, too—the news of all these—is just too much.

Rumors have it that Phi Delta Hal Morgan is steadying it with Alpha Phi pledge Barbara Morrison.

Sorry to hear that Bob McKinney, Beta, is doing time in the infirmary.

Glad to see Mary Ellen Mills in town—she dropped down from Salem for a two-day visit at the Pi Phi house.

Included in the courses the physical education department of Michigan State college is planning to offer in compulsory physical education for men, starting next term, is one labeled "safety skills." "The course will consist of fundamental combat activities which the original cave man used, and on which the survival of man has always depended," said the athletic director.

"These activities include carrying, climbing, crawling, dragging, jumping, and vaulting techniques," he explained.