

# OREGON DAILY EMERALD

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## Preferential Vote: Preview for Frosh

You remember the days, you seniors, four years ago when you were freshmen. You remember the days when there were men on the campus; men like Johnny Cavanagh, vice-prex of ASUO, Lyle Nelson and Roy Vernstrom on the Emerald; those were the days when freshmen bought class cards for the privilege of suffrage. And the cards were purchased by the houses in lots and used merely as a means for political strength. There was the old bloc voting system and freshmen became the janissaries of some house politician.

Now the dreams preached by far-reaching political idealists are realities: the Class of '47 starts its political career with universal campus suffrage, and preferential voting on the Australian ballot.

For the average freshman the term "preferential voting" has no real meaning whatsoever; its significance and implications are over his head, and he simply is not concerned enough to care. For the benefit, then, of you who are interested in your future on this campus, Section I of Article V of the ASUO Constitution, is quoted:

BY-LAWS OF THE ASUO CONSTITUTION  
Article V  
PREFERENTIAL VOTING

Section I. Elections for the elective officers of this association with the exception of the election for yell king, shall be held in accordance with the preferential system of voting.

Each voter will be given a ballot containing the names of the candidates with a blank square beside each one. In these squares the voter will put numbers indicating the order of his preference for the different candidates, putting down as many as he chooses "in 1-2-3 order" as he wishes.

After the polls have been closed, the tabulators first establish the quota which is the least number of votes through which a candidate can be elected. This is ascertained by dividing the total number of votes cast by a number one greater than the number of offices to be filled and adding one to the resulting quotient. Thus, if there are 1500 votes cast and there are four offices to fill, the quota will be obtained by dividing 1500 by five and adding one, giving 301.

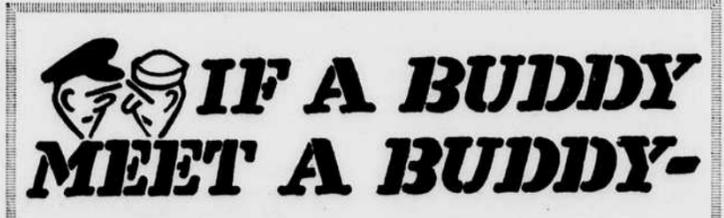
Then the tabulators sort all the ballots in piles according to the first choices indicated. Following this, the ballots will be counted and each candidate will be credited with the number of first choices he has gained. If the number of first choices received by any candidate is equal to or exceeds the quota, which is, let us say, 301, he will at once be declared elected.

Still using the quota of 301 as an example, suppose a candidate receives more than that number. As already stated, he will be considered elected. Then, from such a successful candidate's pile of votes, a number of ballots equivalent to the surplus will be drawn and the second choices indicated on these ballots will be credited to the candidates who are still in the running but not yet elected. If the addition of these second choice ballots to any candidate's pile raises his total to 301 votes, he will be declared elected.

Then after all the first choice ballots have been distributed, the candidate with the least number of votes will be declared defeated; and his ballots will be distributed, each one going to the "continuing candidate" indicated as next choice. A "continuing candidate" is one not yet elected or defeated.

If this transfer of the "defeated candidate's" ballots raises the total of another candidate's votes over the "quota", he will be pronounced elected. After this has been done, if there have not been four candidates elected, again the one with the lowest number of votes will be considered defeated, and his ballots will be transferred to the "continuing candidates." This procedure of defeating the lowest candidate and giving his votes to the others who are still in the running will be continued until the election is ended.

The election will be ended when four candidates have reached the "quota" or when the total number of "continuing candidates" has been reduced by the process of defeating to four, the number of offices to be filled . . . .



By GLORIA MALLOY

We got an awfully good letter the other day from Pvt. Gordon Gullian, '45, "now for '48". He claimed quite a few of the old boys were being neglected and nothing was being said about them. Well, the only way we can find out about them is from youse guys in the service, and youse guys and girls on the campus here. If by mail send it to me in charge of the Emerald, otherwise put it in my box in the Emerald.

Anyway, Gordon is stationed up in "the land of the daytime night",

flash which sometimes characterizes campus popularity. It was quiet and efficient and humble.

Joseph Addison maintained that, "Death only closes a man's reputation, and determines it as good or bad". If he was right, students can examine what Pete Howard did here—they will find that it was very good.

Young, yes. Only nineteen, in fact. But he understood that something was expected of him. He evidently worked on that principle, and succeeded in campus life. He would have succeeded as a "leader among men". Peter Howard is a man for students to remember because he did a good job, and because they want to do a good job.

M. M. G.

## Clips and Comments

By MARGURITE WITTEW

At times this business of clipping becomes rather involved. We quote from the Daily Californian: "We quote from the University of Washington Daily which quotes from the University of Oregon Daily Emerald . . . . Oh well, there's nothing new under the sun anyway; end quote.

Rules for the annual Women's Week at UCLA were that the 2500 males now on the campus were to be ignored by the 3441 women Bruins on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. However, women will invite men (or -V-12's) to the dance Saturday . . . Evidently the ignorance just couldn't be maintained for more than three days.

A new navy blue uniform with bright brass buttons has made its appearance on the Syracuse university campus this semester. Not the navy, but the Syracuse municipal police, on the basis of an IQ test given to the whole force, is taking a course in efficient police organization and operation . . . It must be quite a sight: a bunch of "flatfoot" pounding the beat around the campus with their homework handcuffed beside them.

He:  
She:  
He: Oh, well.

The army paper at Fort Bragg carried an advertisement which presents, at least, a different aspect of military life, "Boys: 18 to 38. Large campus with ample equipment. Attractive lodges, each with friendly counselor. (Like Captain Petersen). Outdoor sleeping facilities available. Experienced staff. We offer hiking, calisthenics (with Honest John), formations (with Corporal Dale) and many other healthful outdoor sports." . . . No comment necessary.

"Silverware, goblets, teapots, and two overcoats were removed from the home of the president of the University of Southern California one night last week" . . . An irate faculty member, no doubt.

Commenting on the sale of caffeine citrate stimulants, used by students as a stay-awake aid, this item was clipped from Berkeley, "Druggists near the campus said that sales zoomed to all-time highs among college men and women during the period of examinations, particularly finals. That Californians buy more than most students was the belief of one druggist." . . . And with midterms just around the corner too. Quick, Watson,—the needle!

Geometry lesson for today, Professor Price: A good line is the shortest distance between two dates.

At the University of Idaho the GI students are getting out their own ASTU Yearbook; art work, writing, even a photograph contest among the soldiers for pictures for the book, everything is done by the men themselves . . . And you already know what the Michigan AST's are doing, don't you?

The first non-civilian president of the Indiana student union in 25 years is the ASTP trainee recently elected at that university.

Other doings of the GI's: Foreign Area and Language sections at Ohio university are participating in a weekly half-hour program over the university radio station. At Indiana university AST's presented a complete play in Turkish . . . Shades of Scheherazade!

And at Cornell a bi-monthly newspaper published by and for the students of German has appeared, all the text being in that language.

## Is It Essential? . . .

Last week the President startled the nation by proposing that congress pass a law enabling the proper officials to conscript all able-bodied men and women for war work.

If passed, how will this plan affect college students? First indications are that it will not disturb them at all in the immediate future. Assurance has been given that university students will be among the last to be affected by such a proposition, although they would be required to register, along with every-one else.

But this is a long war. It is not likely to be over for a period that will be measured in years, not in months. How do we know that the services of many of us may not be called for during that time?

\* \* \* \*

The answer is, we do not know. But should the manpower shortage reach such a low ebb that it would be necessary to take students from college and put them on the farms, in the shipyards, or in the factories, it is more than likely that we would be only too glad to help out our country, driven to such desperate straits as she would have to be.

Moreover, should such a state of affairs actually come to pass, wouldn't one find the students helping out anyway, conscription or no conscription? About the only difference in the likelihood of American youth being forced to forego its education were the bill passed is that with conscription it would be official; without it, unofficial.

\* \* \* \*

But what assurance have we that the pressure of the army and the over-zealousness of the war power commission may not force college students out of their institutions needlessly?

In the first place, the men at Washington who enforce the laws know as well as do any other thinking persons that by depriving American youth of higher education they would be laying the most dangerous possible obstacle in the path of postwar America. Time and again concerted cries from educators, technical men, yes and even politicians, have proclaimed the crying need for college-trained men and women now and after the war. It is presumed that most of the men who run their country love it. Would they deliberately wreck it?

\* \* \* \*

In the second place, the pressure of public opinion is more than likely to prove a more potent argument than a thousand declarations in keeping the college students in college until absolutely necessary. And public opinion even among the unlettered classes, is almost certain to be against their labor conscription.

\* \* \* \*

All the foregoing does not mean that we are not perfectly willing to sacrifice our education temporarily for our country. There would be compensation. For instance, the pay would, in almost all cases, be quite high. It simply means that we do not wish to be pulled out unless it really is essential that we be put to work in order to win the war.

## Peter Howard . . .

Peter Howard, class of '44, gave promise of "Being a leader among men". That is a great tribute to pay any student, when that promise is terminated in death. No one can prove that he might have become a leader among men—but as we think over "Pete's" record, we believe he would have been one because he was a leader here.

Last year he headed the YMCA, his record in ROTC was exceedingly fine, culminating in his election to Scabbard and Blade. He was considered responsible and fair—and was chosen to serve on the student disciplinary committee this year.

Although he was not able to attend his initiation, his name was entered into the roll of Senior Six, conclusive proof of his active pursuit of learning.

\* \* \* \*

Peter Howard, campus leader, was well-known, and well-respected. His University career was not full of the hurry and