

OREGON *Daily* EMERALD

ANNE CRAVEN
Editor

ANNAMAE WINSHIP
Business Manager

ELIZABETH HAUGEN
Managing Editor

PATSY MALONEY
Advertising Manager

MARGUERITE WITTEWITZ
News Editor

LOUISE MONTAG, PEGGY OVERLAND
Associate Editors

Published daily during the college year except Sundays, Mondays, and holidays and final examination periods by the Associated Students, University of Oregon.
Entered as second-class matter at the postoffice, Eugene, Oregon.

Service On Trial . . .

Rarely does any organization have the courage to poll public opinion in an effort to find out its usefulness towards society. Yet that is just what the student religious council is doing.

A list of questions, leading off with "Is there need for group religious activity on the campus in addition to individual religious group programs, i.e., YMCA, Canterbury club, Westminster house, etc.?" have been circulated on the campus. The answers, no doubt, will prove encouraging enough to keep the organization in existence.

The other questions include: "What should be the purpose of a student religious council?" "Are there problems and concerns of individual groups which should be the subject of discussion by a student religious council?" "Are there needs for campus-wide religious projects, i.e., vespers, conference on the meaning of the Christian faith, Easter sunrise service?" and "Would a campus-wide religious council require monthly meetings or could it function through special committees meeting more frequently around special projects?" They should bring useful and worthwhile suggestions for the improvement of the council's already excellent services.

It is a shame more organizations on this campus haven't tried a similar experiment. The conglomeration of honoraries and activity groups with their often interlaced interests and objectives have meant intense complication of the social and intellectual structure of University life. Many honoraries exist and that is about all. Their sole activities consist in initiating new members, electing officers yearly, and supplying another jewel to somebody's list of campus activities.

Believe it or not an Oregon reporter searching for the exact name of one of the honoraries on the campus questioned a member of that group. The person had only a vague idea and couldn't recall the exact name. That isn't a very good recommendation for the honorary.

We are not suggesting the dissolution of all honoraries whose activities are close to nil. Rather we would like to see an awakening of interest, not necessarily a whirlwind of activity, but enough to know that the group is alive and has worthwhile aims in mind.

If an honorary's activities are going to be confined to merely adding another title to the members' string of activities, there is really no sense in having an organization with dues and officers. The same effect can be achieved by simply announcing the list of outstanding persons in the particular field. Think of all the money that could be saved this way.

The student religious council has a good idea, one that might prove highly enlightening if other groups on the campus followed suit.

The Man Behind the Mike . . .

No matter how much publicity is handed out around a campus there is always sure to be some individuals or individual who, through the nature of his work, is overlooked in the general back-patting. Usually they or he is the type of person most to be admired and whose work entails the greater sacrifice. Such is the way of man and nothing can be done about this universal failing except to expend additional effort in tracking down those who offer services without expecting or even desiring the usual fanfare.

Such is the case with the student who makes your and my basketball game a more exciting and rousing affair by keeping us informed as to who is who and why. He is the person who works the P.A. system at McArthur court during the basketball game. His name is Arthur J. Fagin and the only time you will ever find yourself consciously aware of him is the unlikely night that he fails to show up. If that should ever happen you will realize then what an important and vital part he plays in every basketball game and just how colorless the game can be without the traditional undertone of the announcer as a background.

The work of the P.A. announcer is done gratis. Mr. Fagin simply makes a point of appearing conscientiously at every game and doing the job as well as he knows how. You as the student and spectator can testify to just how efficiently that job is performed; and this Saturday when you turn out for the game give an extra cheer for the man behind the mike—Mr. Fagin.

Bill to Draft 4-F's Stirs War-Depleted Colleges

By JOHN J. CRAIG

Many Oregon students who are in the draft classification 4-F have been following congress' legislative gymnastics in their attempt to draft a "total" war labor mobilization bill and wondering about the effect that it may have on the continuation of their education. Although the house of representatives has passed the May-Bailey bill which would have the effect of "total" labor mobilization, the same bill is being slowly broken to pieces in a senate committee.

The result is that a number of people remain in a state of suspension. Such questions as "Should I leave school?" "Will I be drafted into a work camp?" "Where am I doing more service for my country, in a shipyard or a classroom?" have been passing through the minds of many students.

Students are not the only people who are questioning the advisability and the effect of such legislation as the May-Bailey bill. According to a recent survey made by the New York Times, college and university heads throughout the United States discussed the effect such legislation may have on the withdrawal of 4-F students from school. Many eastern colleges report that 4-F's are already leaving college campuses and going into industry as the result of discussion on pending legislation.

4-F Enrollment Differs

A survey among typical institutions conducted by the New York Times indicates that the number of 4-F students in American colleges ranges from 10 to 50 per cent of the total male civilian student body. In many colleges and universities the loss of the 4-F students would virtually cripple an already decimated enrollment.

According to computations from the University of Oregon's registrar's figures 4-F's compose only about 8 per cent of the entire student body and 35 per cent of the male enrollment. It can easily be seen that legislation arising from congressional action would not affect to any great extent Oregon's present enrollment.

Many eastern college heads have almost without exception declared that it would be more profitable from the point of view of the war effort if 4-F students were permitted to continue their education, which, it was universally held, is an essential part of American life, both for the present and the reconstruction era ahead. Any person who so far has escaped draft examining usually has defects which would also disable him from being of little value to industry, it is asserted.

War Comes First

However, the education heads are unanimous in pledging their support to such legislation that is deemed necessary to the successful early completion of the war. Typical of this point of view is Dr. Leonard Carmichael of Tufts university, who declared that the questions raised concerning proposed "work or fight" legislation should be considered not in terms of its effect on the colleges but in regard to the effect on the country.

Mr. Tufts said, "I have every reason to believe that new legislation or directives in regard to service of 4-F's will take into consideration the fact that America has already depleted its reserves of men in training more than probably any other combatant nation. For this reason I am convinced

that the 4-F student should be, and probably will be, allowed to continue his academic training and that such work will be considered as essential work by the war manpower commission."

Holding that nothing should impede national defense at a time of crisis, Oregon University officials generally agree that any draft of 4-F's would not affect college enrollment and that everything that is necessary for successful execution of the war should be done.

Essential Status Hoped For

President Robert I. Gannon of Fordham university declared that: "If competent authority is satisfied that all 4-F's must work or fight, the issue of student registration in colleges should not be considered."

Despite reduced enrollment, financial problems and difficulties that may arise from new legislation, the colleges and universities are convinced that the classroom and campus will continue to operate, even though on a drastically reduced basis. They are hopeful, however, that education will be recognized as "essential" in the over-all war effort.

Letters

To the Editor

February 11, 1945
Germany

Dear Editor:

Twenty-two months have elapsed since I left Oregon. Recently I received a letter from a Susan Campbell girl wishing me a Merry Christmas and telling me of life at Oregon. I lost the letter and I can't recall her name; I appreciated the letter very much and I wish to thank her and Oregon for the consideration. I hope she will write again.

Since leaving Oregon as a member of the ERC I have taken basic infantry training in South Carolina, ASTP in Washington, D.C., advanced infantry training in Texas and am now in combat. Fifty of us (Oregon fellows) took basic training together but the number reduced or we changed stations. Eleven of us came overseas together as members of the same division. Of the 11, five have been wounded, one was killed, and five of us, Merv Hanscum, Lynn Freeman, Eugene Fulop, Loren Hewitt, and myself are still together. We are hoping to finish the war together.

Naturally we shall return to Oregon after the war is won. We have sung "Old Oregon" so many times that now everyone sings with us. Around here we are known as the "Oregon boys."

Yours truly,

JOHN GILBERTSON

First Aid

FOR

Exams

OUTLINE BOOKS
DICTIONARIES
CRAM BOOKS THAT
WILL DO YOU GOOD

SEE OUR WEST WINDOW

University 'CO-OP'

The Gift Shop

963 Willamette

China

Glassware

Figurines

Leather Cigarette Cases

and Compacts

YOU WILL FIND AN IDEAL GIFT
FOR EVERY OCCASION



"The Seventh

Cross"

— and —

"Hoosier Holiday"