

# Shackrats Beloved Desk Harbors 23-Year History

By Janet Beigal

Behind the now beaten and well-worn Emerald copy desk there lies an interesting story. The copy desk, unnamed because the students who christened it could not think of an appropriate name, will be 23 years old next March 23. It was presented to the school of journalism by the Oregon State Editorial association, now the Oregon Newspaper Publishers association since 1936.

The highlight of the conference was the dedication of the new \$40,000 journalism building. During the dedication of the new building, the copy desk was presented to the school by Claude E. Ingalls of the Corvallis Gazette-Times, to Kenneth Youel, editor of the Emerald, who accepted it on behalf of the journalism students.

### Plaque on Desk

The plaque placed on the front of the desk says it was given "in appreciation of the cooperation and assistance rendered the newspapers of the State of Oregon." Also listed on the plaque are the committees from the Oregon State Editorial association, the University of Oregon school of journalism, and the 59 newspapers and individuals who donated the desk. It was built by the late Robert C. Myers of Oregon City, who was the brother-in-law of Hal E. Hoess, secretary of the conference, and later secretary of state in Oregon, who died in 1932. The desk is valued at between \$300 and \$400.

The March 23, 1923 Emerald described the desk as "the only one of its kind west of the Mississippi." The following day's Emerald condensed Ingalls' dedication speech to "tales of days when schools of journalism were 'fads' and editors boasted of their education in the school of experience."

### Held Celebration

To celebrate the historic occasion, Theta Sigma Phi and Sigma Delta Chi, professional journalism societies, held a christening party on the desk that evening after its dedication.

After the party the staff went to work and put out the first Emerald in the new building, and on the new copy desk. Curiously enough, the first issue produced on the desk was a Sunday edition. During 1923 the Emerald regularly put out a Sunday edition.

Phil Brogan, managing editor, claimed the distinction of being the first person to handle a story over the copy desk. The March 25 Emerald stated, "He read copy on it and wrote the head himself." Brogan is now city editor of the Bend Bulletin.

### Struggle Over Appropriations

Before the journalism school moved into its new building, journalism classes were held in a real

wooden "shack," ironically nicknamed "Parkinson hall" because of a current struggle over appropriations for a new building.

In the old "shack" journalism students put out the paper over a plain semi-circular flat copy desk. The old copy desk was evidently thought to be a great innovation when it was acquired 'way back in 1916, because on the day of its arrival the Emerald stated an "ideal desk for copy men was installed in the journalism department."

That "ideal" desk its still being used in one of the news editing rooms of the journalism school. When the new desk was installed the old one was to be used by the advertising department. However, it eventually ended up in the basement of Villard, only to be resurrected for use in the journalism school when it became evident that the Emerald and journalism classes could not both use the same desk.

## Taylor's Open Sunday; Old Owner Returns

Taylor's, campus restaurant and fountain, reopened Sunday after having been closed for several weeks, pending the arrival of critical equipment. Because of the shortage of help, Taylor's will be open from 3 until 10:30 p.m. only, Hersh Taylor, manager, announced.

Taylor regained the establishment Nov. 24 from Vinc Gassman, to whom it had been leased for the last four years.

## Telling the Editor

(Continued from page two)

How has registration been this fall—is there still a scarcity of manpower, or do I have to subscribe to the Emerald to get the answer to that one?

I am enclosing a 10 yen Japanese note—worth 66 2-3 cents in good American cash. Notice the "distinctive odor". All of Japan smells about like that. If it doesn't appeal to you, I apologize.

I would appreciate any news.

Sincerely yours,

Daniel O. Potter, ensign

Class of '45 Pi Kappa Alpha

## This Collegiate World

(Continued from page two)

student, "I thought some professor had gone mad."

When asked what's in the bubbles, chemists reply, "Air, mostly. They aren't perfect, they burst too!"

## ISA Amendment Balloting Today

Voting on the amendment to the ISA constitution will be held today in the Co-op from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The amendment if passed, will provide for a man and a woman representative from each class to serve on the ISA executive council. At the present, only one student, who can be either a man or a woman, serves in this capacity.

A ballot with two stubs—one to be torn off when the ballot is handed out, the other to be taken when the vote is placed in the ballot box, will provide a check against lost ballots or misunderstanding.

This vote will not only decide an important change in the constitution, but will acquaint students with a new and fairer method of casting ballots.

Unaffiliated students, whether living in independent organizations or off the campus, are eligible to vote.

### STAFF

#### Night Staff

Ann Brady  
Jordis Berke  
Marilyn Sage

#### Advertising

Doris Spearow, day manager  
Nancy Asselstine  
Beverlie J. Crake

## Feminine Slant Surveyed by 'Y'

A survey to ascertain the marital status of women students, their educational plans and what they consider their personal problems, was taken Monday evening by the YWCA. Information was compiled from the Dean of Women's office. Ann Scripter and Marge Skordahl are in charge of this national questionnaire for women students sponsored by the National Student Council of YWCA to which the results of the tabulation will be sent.

This questionnaire will be used in a selected group of colleges over the country of which the University of Oregon is the only major school in the Pacific Northwest.

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