

OREGON Daily EMERALD

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Are Veterans Playing Fair?

How many veterans in this University and others are groping through their respective programs with no definite objectives in view? How many feel certain they are pursuing courses that will actually equip them for useful and gainful occupations in the future?

The Veterans Administration is urging those who feel doubtful about any phase of their educational training to apply for counseling at their nearest Veterans Administration Guidance Center. Although these centers were established primarily for disabled veterans seeking educational or vocational training, their facilities are available to all veterans with occupational adjustment problems.

This University's center has processed more than 1800 veterans since it was opened two years ago. These men have received practical vocational guidance after careful preliminary interviewing and testing. Most of them feel more secure in the knowledge that their individual programs are based on a scientific estimate of their interests and capabilities. And the Veterans Administration feels that the money allotted for the education and training of these men will be wisely spent.

Most veterans now attending college are seriously intent upon completing their studies in the shortest possible time. Their grades have consistently been above average, and their adjustment to academic routine rapid. To date, there seems to be little evidence to bear out the prediction of the University of Chicago's Robert M. Hutchins that the G. I. Bill would make "educational hobo jungles" out of American colleges and universities.

But at the same time, the veteran owes it to himself and to his country to make certain he is spending his own time and the government's money to advantage. This can be accomplished by the careful screening of all veterans who apply for educational benefits under the G. I. Bill. This plan must not be undertaken with the idea of eliminating men who are qualified for and entitled to these benefits. Rather, it must be considered a personal service to the veteran in furnishing him with invaluable information regarding his own potentialities and with practical advice on achieving his personal objectives. Of course, the final decision will be made by the individual, as it is now. Few veterans will reject recommendations of these centers, especially when they are shown convincing facts and figures.

From a strictly financial standpoint, the government is entitled to some insurance against the reckless squandering of the billions allotted under the G. I. Bill. In a program of such tremendous scope, a certain amount of waste is inevitable. No one agency can make the system perfect. However, the utilization of guidance center facilities by all veterans concerned should be a step in the right direction.

CHARLES GLEASON.

But love can hope where reason would despair.—Lord Lytton.

The empty vessel makes the greatest sound.

Correction does much, but encouragement does more.—Goethe.

Books, like friends, should be few and well chosen.—Samuel Patterson.

Unwilling Bookworms

Since fall term a year ago the University population has exactly doubled, according to figures recently released by the registrar's office. With this influx quite naturally has come an accommodating building program and an increase in classroom facilities. The school has done all it can to take care of this swelling, but the houses on the campus have not been so cooperative.

For a long time at the University it has been customary for sororities to require their new stock to spend all non-classroom time in the library, starting at 8 in the morning and continuing until 4 in the afternoon, regardless of whether there was any academic need or not. Originally this regulation was designed to assure each pledge of making her grades so she could go on the active list the following term. It was reasoned that if the person had to be in the library she would be forced, through complete boredom, to resort to passing the time reading books, and probably this was a good idea, but with these new changes in the University there has developed what sociologists would term a cultural lag.

Oregon's library just isn't big enough to accommodate all the students who want to study plus all the coeds who are forced to make it their headquarters for the day. Most of the men and women, and a lot of them are veterans who really want to get the most out of the GI bill, find to their dismay when they drop into the lib that every available spot is taken by a letter-writing coed, or maybe just by her coat thrown over the back of the chair. She is probably out in the hall making social arrangements which could more adequately be made at the Side.

Without disturbing the whole sorority system it would seem that some sort of agreement could be worked out whereby the pledge could be encouraged to make her grades and yet not inconvenience many who also want to learn something voluntarily. Perhaps the new girls could spend that free time at study tables at the individual houses. Or maybe the sororities could relax the rule altogether. Something should be done. There are too many people at the University for the regulation to stand as it is.

ROY PAUL NELSON.

LEFT of center By G. Holcomb

The "Case of the TNE" only brings to focal point of attention the reasons behind the existence of such.

It's really all your fault. The individual members of this university group, students and faculty, are only typically apathetic, APATHETIC parts of a community. Quite likely, the apathy will continue beyond the environs of U. of O., in two similar ways—

either the individual—you—will go beyond this particular area and continue being led by the nose along one tangent or another by such persons as would be qualified for Theta Nu Epsilon,

or you will go on leading your complacent, uninterested (except in trivia) life, refusing to be led, pulling in your own individual direction,

and in either event you will end up like so many sheep in the various slaughter houses, where you will be bought and sold at the price of another WAR,

in the occasion of which you will only be proving that such men as are active in "groups like TNE are CORRECT in their attitude that you have no more initiative than to let them be Judas-goats for you.

Democracy cannot be rationalized into existence; like a tentative hypothesis, it depends upon "inductive" action whether it survives or becomes decadent. And the tragic aspect of today's world is that the TRADITIONAL view that a democratic people will come through in time of crises BECAME OUTDATED AS OF August 15, 1945, the day Hiroshima ceased to live.

Ah, yes, the "people" have always come through with flying colors, BUT over a period of months, even years. The next crisis may endure only a few days.

You, we, the people of a community or nation can nurture ac-

tive leaders, adequate representatives; OR, by lackadaisically voting our "complaints," can instead tread the Machiavellian path to the rule of the despots, or the atomic road to destruction.

The alternative to destruction or oppression through apathy is acceptance of responsibility and then action. Individual action, this;

INFORM YOURSELF — VARIETY is the enemy of bias, both opinion and fact.

THING FOR YOURSELF — EVALUATE according to history, not tradition or prejudice. Every thought you have should be a tentative hypothesis, held to act on while collecting evidence of its worth, TO BE DISCARDED if inductively disproven, NOT to be rationally stubbornly.

ACTIVATE YOURSELF — If you don't like the Emerald and haven't time to work on it, offer constructive suggestions; if you don't like a union leader, work on the members of the union, not the leader; and if you want a voice in the world join a group and make it tick unless you have individual, worthwhile contributions which can be voiced outside of a group.

REMEMBER, there may not be an ultimatum—just a bomb; we are not an isolated part of the world—and all parts have meritorious ideas. Traditions, even ideals or principles, are only to be used as MEANS toward evaluation, NOT AS ENDS in themselves. Don't worry about appeasing the rest of the world; living democracy does not appease—but it does COMPROMISE. The individual has had his day in this world; it's about time the world gets it chance. THETA NU EPSILON and its ilk stands or falls in direct proportion to your ACTIVITY; NOT A PATHY, RESPONSIBILITY, NOT EGOTISTIC RIGHTEOUSNESS.

Banter

By LeJEUNE GRIFFITH

Favoite "slip that passed in the type"—An Eastern paper in referring to a venerable war veteran of the glorious past, made the embarrassing error of calling him a battle-scarred veteran. With the indignant remarks of the old soldier's family ringing in his ears, the editor quickly ordered that a correction be made. This was done, and the item apologized for the error—stating that they really meant to call the man a "bottle-scarred veteran."

English as she is Japped—Japanese advertisement for a coffee substitute as reported in *Things Japanese* (1891) by Basil Hall Chamberlain:

Japan Insted of Coffee

More men is not got dropsy of the legs who us this coffee, which is contain nourish.

H. L. Mencken said it: An Idealist is one who, on noticing that a rose smells better than a cabbage, concludes that it is also more nourishing.

"Quick, Henry the snowplough!" —From the June Photoplay: "There's something about Paul Henreid that does the same thing for the average woman as a dab of one of those daintily named perfumes behind her ears—elevates her ego and fills her with a delightful portentousness of things romantic about to happen..."

Smoke: Then there was the Chicagoan who thought the police were being quite ridiculous when they accused him of setting a church afire since he had made his living for nearly half a century robbing poor boxes.

Dr. Johnson and the word: From Samuel Johnson's *Dictionary of the English Language*, (1775): "R is called the canine letter, because it is uttered with some resemblance to the growl or snarl of a cur."

Atlantic City Memory: City of old people during winter... city of unlimited summer crowds which sleep under the stars rather than pay the exorbitant rents... Absecon island city... boardwalk town, where one-legged veterans from England general hospital sit on the walk railing and whistle thinly, self-consciously, at passing girls... city of sharp winter winds and summer breezes full of carnival... Irish and Jewish merchants competing for trade... jitney passengers who risk missing their "Iowa avenue" stop unless they pronounce "Iowa" with an accent on the "o"... miniature bombardments on the boardwalk when seagulls drop clams to open them... gossiping women being pushed along in roller chairs by bent old men... limless soldiers being pushed in wheel chairs by young wives... Steel Pier jutting like a silver finger into the black of the Atlantic night... white-capped waters washing over a humanity-infested beach, mixing ocean debris with holiday refuge... fortune tellers... salt water taffy... auctions of art objects... old-time movies... beauty pageants... narrow streets... Convention hall... city to forget because of its dirt and smells... city to remember because of its sharp sea breeze and reckless freedom.

Picture Deadline Set

The deadline for make-up of individual pictures at Kennell-Ellis studio for the 1947 Oregon has been extended to Friday, Warren Miller, associate editor, announced Tuesday.

"Pigging" is regarded as an original Oregon expression.