

Graveyard Not Ghoulish; Some Epitaphs Foolish

By E. Z. SMITH

Digging up a story on the University's backyard cemetery promised to be a grave undertaking, but it wasn't entirely a deadbeat.

I learned, for instance, that the oldest grave is that of William Augustus Bushnell, who died 85 years ago, on Jan. 23, 1861. Into those 85 years has been crowded the entire history of the University of Oregon, and to a large extent, the history of Eugene. Oregon had been admitted to the Union only two years before the late Mr. Bushnell was interred, and it wasn't until 18 years later, in 1879, that Deady Hall, the first University building, was erected.

Pioneers Concerned

There are records of amusing epitaphs on the more ancient graves in the eastern U. S.—graves dated in the 1700's, but apparently the pioneer who settled in Eugene in the middle 1800's was more concerned with getting through the Golden Gates than with thumbing his nose at posterity.

The older epitaphs usually include quotations from the Bible, or an etching of half-open gates. In the case of the deceased pioneer, it is quite clear where he went. On his headstone is engraved, "Gone Home," and there's a hand with the index finger pointing upward.

Claims Reservation

Another, sure of his own reservation, wrote a preemptory "Meet Me Above."

They weren't all sure. One says, perhaps in sad contemplation of some scarlet deed, "I have turned everything over to the Lord. What more can I do?"

One lugubrious aunty didn't reveal where she was going, but found cold comfort in the fact that she'd have lots of company:

"Remember, friend, as you pass by. As you are now, so once was I. As I am now, you soon shall be. Prepare for death and follow me."

Went Cheerfully

After that disquieting encounter,

I was pleased to run across a grave marked simply and cheerfully, "Tootsie, July 15, 1918."

Many of the early settlers were never quite weaned away from their midwest and eastern homes. A number of tombstones note something like this, "Born in Callaway Co., Mo., died in Lane Co., Sept. 9, 1881."

Many were proud of their cross-country expeditions, "Crossed plains in 1849. Came to Eugene, 1858." Some weren't happy here and wanted to be spirited back home, "From West to the East, if the Lord so deems it."

Tragedies Recorded

Some found Eugene an exciting place in which to live, and die, "A. M. Z., Murdered by J. E. M., Apr. 27, 1876." Tragic death came in another form and was noted on the gravestone, "Benjamin and Joseph Theimer. Drowned, Aug. 5, 1888."

Hundreds of students pass through the cemetery every day, taking the short cut to John Straub for meals, but so far their immoderate conversation and disregard for propriety has not given rise to any complaints.

UO Phi Beta Kappa

(Continued from page one)

Other executive positions will be filled by C. J. Sullivan, assistant professor of philosophy, Dr. Phillip Souers, English department head, and A. H. Gropp, research assistant chemist.

Students elected to Phi Beta Kappa have been selected on the basis of outstanding achievement in the pursuit of integrity and idealism of scholastic endeavor. Qualifications were not determined on grade point averages alone but on general course distribution throughout the University in accordance with the high ideal of Phi Beta Kappa, a liberal education.

The spring elections will be held in the latter part of April or during the first of May, Mrs. Helen Soehren, secretary-treasurer, said. At that time honor averages for seniors will be considered and those with the highest achievements intellectually will be selected for Phi Beta Kappa.

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Chemists Will Inspect Government Test Plant

Graduates and faculty members of the University school of chemistry will take part in the tour of the government aluminum test plant near Salem next Saturday. This tour of inspection is a feature of the November meeting of the American Chemical society, which is held at the state capital.

Those attending from Oregon's department of chemistry are: Dr. Pierre Van Rysselberghe, professor of chemistry; Dr. John McGee, research associate in chemistry; Dr. Donald F. Swinehart and Dr. Hans Heymann, both assistant professors of chemistry; Paul Delahay, visiting research associate; Roy Andrews, instructor; Robert D. Williams and Gilbert J. Hunt, graduate students in the department.

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Government Offers Professional Jobs

The United States civil service commission announced November 12, that they are again offering positions to college trained persons to compete for appointment to professional positions in the Federal service.

The fields of choice include: archives, chemistry, economics, geography, mathematics, metallurgy, physics, and textile technology.

Applicants must take a written general test, and must have had four year college course, with major studies in the particular fields they apply for. If experience or other school amounting to four years college credits is possessed by any applicant, passing the test will be sufficient.

Applications for this examina-

tion will be accepted from college students who expect to complete their studies by June 30, 1947. Persons interested may obtain additional information from any first or second class post office or by writing the U. S. Civil Service Commission, Washington 25, D. C. Applications must be received at the Commission's Washington address not later than December 3, 1946.

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