

OREGON EMERALD

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Entered as second class matter at the postoffice, Eugene, Oregon.

Guest Editorial Eight, Five and Even

Football coaches, like coaches of any athletic teams of major proportions engaged in intercollegiate competition, apparently are a race of men possessing an enviable degree of courage. Their efforts, perhaps more so than those of other members of a U. S. college faculty, can be reduced to the painful inadequacy of statistics—Won, Lost, Tied, Per Cent. "Judgment" of them, therefore, is relatively more simple. And spitballs are more readily forthcoming.

In the main their security rests with the proportion of wins to losses. If the losses out-bulge the wins, heaven help them. In passing it could be mentioned that we would hesitate to speculate on the number of professors in other departments of U. S. colleges, that would be retained if the achievements of their proteges were to be measured intercollegiately, were to be similarly reduced (statistically, that is) and if said profs were to be judged accordingly. This, of course, is fantastic, but imagine, if you will, a headline reading:

"Oregon Knitters Drop Stitch,
Lose to Washington Weavers."

Too many of these in succession, and the Emerald one day would break out with something like

"University Weaving Prof
Quits Post in Huff

Mr. Etaoin Shrdlu Leaves;
'No Plans for Future,' he Says."

Football coaches, in addition, are forced to countenance two terribly real though rather incongruous entities concerning current intercollegiate athletic competition. On the one hand are the legions of "school supporters" whose appetites for a "winner" seem, by tradition, to be insatiable. On the other hand are the legions of moralists who, as Rev. John J. Cavanaugh of Notre Dame aptly pointed out, scream that "an indefinable something has to be done in athletics, in a way nobody knows how, at a time nobody knows when, in places nobody knows where, to accomplish nobody knows what."

Last fall Gerald A. "Tex" Oliver resigned as head football coach at the University of Oregon. There is hardly room for doubt that Mr. Oliver resigned under pressure. His record was unimposing—23 wins, 28 losses, and 3 ties. Yesterday James W. Aiken, coach and athletic director at the University of Nevada since 1939, was named to succeed Mr. Oliver. Mr. Aiken comes here well recommended. We believe sincerely that he is an excellent choice. We think concurrence in this belief will be overwhelming.

We suspect, however, that Mr. Aiken, good as he is, will not be able to produce a "winner" out of thin air. The positively horrible and unutterably nasty fact remains that he will need material. And the righteous screams and indignant recoilings of the moralists notwithstanding, material gravitates to those who bid highest, either financially or by offering unusually attractive curricula.

In the past the security of the position of head football coach at the University of Oregon has been of a dubious nature. Mr. Aiken, in fact, is the 21st Oregon coach in 51 seasons. We earnestly hope Mr. Aiken will be able to erase a measure of this dubiety. We congratulate him on having been selected. We wish him well.

—By JOHNNY KAHANANUI
Former Emerald Sports Editor.

For all right judgment of any man or thing, it is essential to see his good qualities before pronouncing on his bad.—Thomas Carlyle.

Dime Marches On

As a monument to a great man, the march of dimes is far more real than a statue in the village square or a holiday from school. Franklin Roosevelt, the man, is gone, but kids in wheel chairs and braces will remember the president who couldn't walk without a strong man on either arm.

As acrippler, polio is probably the most spectacular and the most well known. Great progress has been made in research and treatment, much more needs to be done. Rheumatic fever, tuberculosis, and other killers still take a greater toll than polio. A start has been made against all three but while people still die for lack of medical care, it is just a start.

The funds collected on the campus this month may seem pitifully small in comparison with the cost of keeping a patient in an iron lung for a week, but it all helps.

More important is knowing that we can help, along with millions of other healthy people who gave up a coke date or a between-meals candy bar to put the dimes in the jar. It doesn't cost much to get up in time to eat breakfast in the house, you pay for it anyway. Take the 30 or 40 cents you were going to spend for eggs and toast after your nine o'clock and drop it in the jar.

It Works!

The manner in which Bob Wallace, good looking, good natured SAE, was named chairman of Dads' Day by the ASUO executive council should satisfy the most pernicious critics of our student government.

Petitions of the 30 odd applicants were given to the council members to read. President Tom Kay recommended two women and four men for special consideration due to their outstanding petitions or qualifications. These six were discussed freely by the council with Kay acting as moderator.

Three names were eliminated and a vote was finally taken on Howard Lemons, Bob Matteson, and Bob Wallace. Wallace was awarded the petition by a margin of four votes.

Admittedly, the selection of a Dads' Day chairman sounds like a simple operation. It is especially simple when it is handled like the selection of Marty Pond was. Allowing the council to make the decisions is certainly more cumbersome, but it is also more democratic. We congratulate Tom Kay for this latest evidence that he can play fair, as well as efficiently.

And we are pleased to note that the council actually can act in its official capacity when given the chance to do so.

Careening down the icy streets on our way to the campus Tuesday morning we witnessed one of life's little tragedies. We saw a lad about 10 years old pushing his way along on a bright red sled—doubtless a Christmas present from a well-meaning parent.

The little boy looked happy—as he should be, because there was snow enough to make the red sled a practical way of getting to school.

Tuesday afternoon the streets were clean of snow and ice. What we'd like to know is:

How did the little boy and his sled get home that night?

Prejudice is a great time-saver—it enables one to form opinions without bothering to get the facts.

Nothing so good as a university education, nor worse than a university without its education.—Bulwer-Lytton.

OF ALL THINGS!

By LeJEUNE W. GRIFFITH
Grog—The origin of the word "grog" has an interesting history as related in **Phrase Origins**. Admiral Edward Vernon wore a cloak which was made of grogram (French gros-grain, a coarse grain taffeta) and as a result was called "Old Grog." In 1740 he issued an order which required that British sea-dogs' drinking water be adulterated with rum (or was it the other way around?). As a consequence the mixture was dubbed grog, according to well authenticated stories. The Oxford English dictionary, on the subject of grog, quoted a jingle which seems to confirm the origin: "The sacred robe which Vernon wore
Was drenched within the same."

Pat Novak and the simile — A Sunday evening with radio's "Pat Novak for Hire" is an evening full of simile as practiced by Dick Powell in last season's "Rogue's Gallery." The hard-boiled, fast-talking,

one step in front of the law private detective seems to be gaining fans, if imitation is an evidence of popularity. Of the 15 to 20 examples of the simile per half hour, here are several, a la Novak: "She moved easy like a seagull on warm wind." "Her legs were like warm honey pouring out of a jar." "He was as welcome as a box of candy in a diabetic ward." "He was as happy as a mortician during an epidemic." "It was like trying to give a wild boar an alcohol rub." "His stomach hung over his belt like a grey cloud."

"Where do we go from here?"—The Sunday Oregonian announced "sweeping changes affecting the dairying of Marion county," and offered interesting evidences of the change which leave us breathless with anticipation. One of these changes is the erection of a 40x80-foot Quonset hut to be used as an ultra-modern milking parlor and cow lounge. We did not realize when we saw Danny Kaye's "Kid from Brooklyn" that the beautifully appointed dairy, complete with radios, flower-decked stalls, and Goldwyn girl milkmaids, was just around the corner. This convinced us that no one, not even gentle bossy, can long escape the Hollywood influence.

AS WE SEE IT

By DALE HARLAN
"Portal-to-Portal Pay"

The planning behind the CIO's current wave of lawsuits for travel-time or "gate-to-gate" pay is beginning to unfold. CIO leaders apparently hope to use these suits as a new bargaining weapon in the current bickerings for pay increases.

Workers spent a certain amount of time each day on what is termed "non-productive" work. Included in this so-called non-productive work are such tasks as walking from the plant gates to the shops, changing clothes, and preparing for and cleaning up after work. The union demands are focused on compensation for such activities.

In the last fortnight the "portal-to-portal" issue has almost overshadowed the more important question of new wage demands, that was stirred up by economist Robert Nathan's report which stated that industry as a whole could stand a 25 per cent wage increase without raising prices.

Damages sought in these lawsuits now total over \$3,000,000,000. The CIO unions have wisely attempted to get these suits into court before our lethargic anti-labor congress can act.

Pottery Workers

The roots of the issue are to be found in a law suit instituted by the United Pottery Workers (CIO) against the Mt. Clemens (Mich.) Pottery company for back pay for some 1,400 workers. The action, which the union said was for overtime required but not paid for, was based on an ambiguous clause of the Fair Labor Standards (Wage and Hour) Act of 1938. The suit alleged that the workers were required to be on the job, to prepare for work, fourteen minutes before the time for which they were paid.

In 1942, Federal Judge Frank Picard found in favor of the union. The Circuit Court of Appeals reversed Judge Picard's decision and it went on to the Supreme Court of the U. S. which upheld him. The majority decision said: "Since the statutory work-week includes all the time during which an employe is necessarily required to be on the employer's premises, on duty, or at a prescribed work place, the time spent in these activities (walking from the gate to the shop, changing clothes, punching the time clock, and etc.) must be accorded appropriate compensation." The real ambiguity of the verdict is to be found in a further statement that "unsubstantial and insignificant periods of time spent in preliminary activities need not be included in the statutory work-week." It left up to Judge Picard the amount of back pay to be awarded the pottery workers.

U. S. Steel

The issue was dormant for some four years. Then, three weeks ago, on the basis of the Supreme Court finding, the United Steel workers filed claims against two subsidiary companies of the United States Steel corporation for \$120,000,000 in back "portal-to-portal" pay.

The justice department has asked the supreme court for a clarification of its original decision in the Mt. Clemens case. The department has indicated it fears that the government may be forced to pay a large part of the damages in cases where war contractors are involved.

Meanwhile, two bills have been introduced into the 80th Congress which would limit the retroactivity of the claims, most of which go back to 1938, and redefine the work-week. The Wage and Hour Act has no statute of limitations and the suits must be governed by the statutes of the individual states.