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The Big Sleep

Reader Bombarde's letter Wednesday provokes this question, "Just how provincial are we?"

It is possible that he actually hasn't heard "one serious discussion on world affairs or our own domestic scene" since last fall. We hope he was speaking figuratively. There are such discussions, in the One World Club, in the new Political Science discussion group, and numerous informal gatherings about the campus.

One recalls a roommate who, in 1942, was concerned primarily with music that was solid and clothes that were reet. He still finds them interesting but he also enters and even leads more cosmic discussions.

Onetime Emeraldman Richard Neuberger wrote in the current Harpers of his experience at Reed while campaigning for the state senate. There he found the students eager to ask about China, Palestine, and Russia; loathe to consider the inadequacies within the state.

While arguing that many Oregon students may be unaware and provincial, we can point to an equal number who are blissfully indignant about bigotry in Georgia and oppression in Indo China but completely innocent of concern about the state budget, Lane county's slums or Eugene's overcrowded schools.

For those who wish to be completely cosmic and to stimulate discussion we submit a pamphlet received from the American Youth For Democracy group. It's all about things college studens can do: mass demonstrations against Anglo-Saxon domination, campaigns for severance of relations with Spain, support of internationalization of the atom bomb, etc. The AYD program seems to lean far to the left, and yet some of it makes sense.

We quote:

"It's up to the students to lead the parade (of liberal movements). And in order to do that they have to know where they're going. They must see their own crisis (housing problems, subsistence raises, discriminatory practices, etc.) in relation to the broader problems facing our country. That's not hard.

"It's not hard because, after all, what is the most frightening of the problems students face? In a word—insecurity. The old bugaboo of 'Will I get a decent job after graduating?'

"In a depression the answer is no.

"In a world engaged in destructive war the answer is no. "Only a peaceful world, a country full of employment and social progress can provide the student with a creative job utilizing his hard-earned knowledge.

"Understanding this, students will realize that they cannot afford to barricade themselves in college dorm rooms. They must as students also be citizens, and wage with other citizens the fight for peace and security. The crumbling ivory tower must once and for all be demolished."

That sounds very good. But how?

Maybe-maybe it really is better for all of us to learn as much as we can about all these things, to learn to think independently, to recognize propaganda when we see it, to know what we really want-before we act.

We believe that most of us who have been asleep for so long are not yet ready to act, either individually or in groups. First, let us get a true perspective of the problems at hand.

Incidentally, the new coeds on the rally squad are doing well. These excitable youngsters know that it takes more than a little mild handclapping to raise the roof of McArthur court. . . . And they've really been getting a rise from the rooters.

The thing that keeps us apart from others is wanting to be better than they are.—Indiana Student,

Semper Ego Auditor Tantum

Translation of the above title: Must I always be only a listener? And that is the motto of the newly organized graduate students. Final organization of the graduate student body is still in the formative stages, but already the group is being watched with interest by faculty members and those undergraduates whose interest in the Universtiy is centered on the academic side of collegiate life.

Evidently, the graduates have decided they must not always be only listeners and observers; they have decided to act. Several committees have been formed and in the near future the details of this new campus organization will be released.

According to Marcille Harris, chairman of the policy_committee, the aims of the graduate student group are to aid in the formation of a graduate level attitude on the campus, and to provide a medium for graduate students to become acquainted and discuss mutual problems.

A statement from the group explains: "Recognition is taken of the two general classes of undergraduates, those content to get along-the mass of student population, and the more serious individual interested in education. It is hoped that through this graduate organization, the more serious student will be enabled to function as such, rather than as a part of the ordinary undergraduate program."

The Emerald is well aware of the truth of that statement. Probably the majority of University students are more concerned about the outcome of the basketball season and about the selection of the King of Hearts than they are in the GPA system or inter-departmental seminars.

This does not mean we disapprove of the typical undergraduate. He has been conditioned to accept a lighter attitude toward education by tradition and contemporary surroundings. However, we believe that the more scholarly Webfoot should be given an equal place in the sun. We commend the graduates, therefore, for their action and we wish them every success in achieving their aims.

We hope the proposed "Graduate Quarterly" will begin publication soon, and we're confident such a magazine would be well received. We have offered the graduate group a regular column on this page and expect to see the first contribution soon.

And if Bill Webster's letter to the editor, published today, town area. Sigma Chi's "Ears" is any indication of the changes in academic policy the gradu- Burns and the president of the ates intend to promote, we offer our wholehearted support.

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Telling the Editor

ABOUT ACADEMIC POLICY

- I suggest the following changes in academic policy:
- 1. Abolition of pre-requisite requirements in non-technical cours-
- 2. Greatly increasing the number of 500 courses.
- 3. Adoption of interdepartment
- 4. Abolition of the GPA system.
- 5. Provision of greater opportunty for graduate research work instead of stressing classes.
- 6. Greater use of student-adviser consultations.
- 7. Opening at least one study room per building four eve- truth about him. nings a week. (Buildings recommended are Oregon hall, business ad., etc.)
- 8. Checking norary books for two weeks.
- 9. Assign "general" stack permits in addition to regular stack permits. Those general permits to total about fifty and permitting the bearer to utilize vacant stack desks.
- 10. A graduate assembly of two graduate students from each department to discuss graduate prob-

These suggestions are offered in the hope of stimulating greater discussion of academic policy in order that there may be a more general sharing of ideas with a view to a

year of progress at the University William H. Webster.

Editor's note: See editorial this page.

ABOUT CORRECTION

My favorite college newspaper, in a news item telling us of a new novel by Nancy Wilson Ross, identified her as a graduate in business administration. The record indicates that she is a graduate of the school of journalism, and the school always has been very proud of Nancy, who first journalists to be expelled from Germany by Hitler for telling the

George Turnbull.

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Side Patter By BOB WHITELY

After yesterday's Emerald blooped off the press, a great hue and cry went up from "The Old Boy's Club" . . . being incensed over the selection of the finalists for the King of Hearts of the campus. "Who do these young punks think they are" was the ve-"Even hement objection. my gray hair and balding head I could win" one law student confessed. Look at 'em in the Emerald . . . all sitting there grinning like embarrassed apple stealers. We are particularly displeased with the committee for leaving out such admirable contestants as the ATO's Wilbur Craig, who is supported by the long distance telephone operators of Eugene, Marcola and route "F." Jack Donavan is just being supported. The Phegee's ailing "Slick" MacEachron but agile would pool more votes than the whole caboodle. Even a scattered few would go to John Schaefers. The Phi Delts Bob Dudrey and Al Crosby would sweep the down-'midgets club" Joe Bennet are their top candidates. The Delts should run George Kikes and his golf sticks . . . the Theta Chi's Rumdum Watts and Dick Steelhammer. The Betas still have "Dateless" Crish and the school's "Bulb" Bernard and Rex Cutler. Bob Frazier and Herb Penny are broken-hearted that they didn't make the finals. Frazier's last words under ten feet of snow at Hoodoo last Sunday was . . . cracked knee or no . . . I'll still have my hat in the ring" Bill Stratton wanted to resign from the Emerald at being left out . . . he's only 26. Bob Ballard of the SAE's was last seen chewing on last year's ivy at the house pouting because youth triumphed over god-like looks. The only among other things, was one of the ugly guy that's happy is Wallace . . they didn't want him. Well Barrett, Abbey, Burris, Pierson, Pond and MacGregor . . . the "Old Boys Club" just wanted to tell you that they would have given you a race for your money. We want to see you get out and

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Pd. Adv.

fight.

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