

# OREGON DAILY EMERALD

ALL-AMERICAN 1946-47

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## Behind the Figures

Publication of departmental grades in Friday's Emerald has aroused a lot of campus comment. Associate Registrar C. C. Constance warned that these departmental grades must not be taken at face value, that they must be considered in light of a number of other factors that make them what they are.

Music school grades averaged 3.16 last year. The grades in the law school averaged 2.13. Does that make music students smart and law students stupid? That's the sort of faulty reasoning Mr. Constance had in mind when he commented on the report.

Grades passed out by the education school illustrate one important point. The future teachers averaged 2.95. But the majority of education courses are upper division, and the student who reaches the junior year is supposed to be of a little higher calibre than the run-of-the-mill lower-division student. The same point is illustrated by the college of liberal arts, which offers most of the lower division work on the campus. Grades in the college averaged only 2.42.

Another consideration is brought to mind by the phenomenal 3.34 average in the department of classics. We may assume that the student in Latin and Greek is a little more the scholarly type than the run-of-the-mill student. He could probably do better work in the other departments, too. The classics department, moreover, does not attract a host of students who have little or no interest in the field. At the other end of the picture is the department of English, where the grades averaged only 2.37. English composition is required of all freshmen, and English literature is required of most of them. There are also a number of students who sign up for English courses just for the heck of it, or because they want to pick up a little "culture." It is understandable that the grades are lower in a field of this wide-open type.

The study also leads to the conclusion that the legendary curve is, indeed, legendary. How about that 49 percent A grades in classics? That's no curve, and rightly not. It would be unreasonable to penalize a good student because he happened to be in a class of better students.

Then there are some factors that cannot be pinned down. How about these big classes where attendance is the principal requirement? It is possible to get good grades in some classes if you just go and sit there for 50 minutes the required number of times a week.

Also not to be overlooked is the tendency of some professors to be tough, and the tendency of others to be soft. One or two of these in a small department can make a lot of difference in the departments grades.

But the study certainly made good reading.

## Thanks, but No Thanks

The mails this week brought a letter from the board of directors of "Comment," a journal of opinion published from time to time in Columbia, Mo., where the University of Missouri's "Missourian" is also published.

"Comment," the letter assures us, "is no way connected with the University of Missouri." Nonetheless the new paper published because of "domination of student publications by the University administration and restrictions as to the nature of published material."

The board of directors offers us advice, should we need it, on starting a paper of this type here at Eugene.

We shall write to "Comment," and say thanks, but no thanks. We shall also offer a carefully-chosen word of sympathy.

Experience in publishing a daily newspaper at Oregon has thus far been very encouraging as far as the University administration has been concerned. There has been no time this year

## Writer Says Japs Behave Because We Force Them To

By HENRY KAMIN

Despite the impression that may have been gained by reading Thursday's Emerald article on how the Japanese have reformed and no longer hate us, all is not sweetness and light in Japan.

We in the U.S. do not receive entirely impartial reports on Japan because unfavorable news is discouraged by General MacArthur's headquarters and the degree of Japanese cooperation with the Americans is exaggerated to create a favorable impression in the United States and to encourage the Japanese to even further cooperation.

The situation is not helped by the reports given by prominent persons who spend a week in Japan, interview Japanese leaders who tell them what they want to hear, and the occupation authorities relate the wonderful job they are doing. Is it any wonder that almost to a man they return with glowing and optimistic pictures that would be modified by more careful study?

### Are We Hated?

Thursday's Emerald article states that the Japanese "don't hate you any longer." This is quite condescending and gracious on their part if true.

It may be true that the average Japanese no longer hates us, but in the spring of 1946 I was assigned by the Pacific Stars and Stripes to cover the trial and subsequent conviction of Japanese ringleaders responsible for the mobbing and attempted murder of three American soldiers near Tokyo. That was but one incident, and similar incidents had been increasing when I left Japan this summer.

Does anyone believe that the militarists, the reactionary politicians, the bureaucrats, and the industrialists we have ordered retired from public office love us. I doubt it. They are out of power at present, but they and their supporters are, and have been, sabotaging our reforms to the extent that we have permitted them to do so.

### We Are Lulled

There has been case after case of flagrant violation of the spirit and letter of our directives, some detected by the occupation authorities and others not. On these occasions, when the Japanese have put something over on an American or made him look foolish, they laugh behind his back because of his childish trust. We can trust the Japanese not to rise up against us in revolution, but we are letting ourselves be lulled into the belief that, because everything is serene on the surface, the Japanese are abjectly acquiescent in letting us run their country.

What about the father who lost his son on Okinawa, and his wife, home and business in the air raids? He is resigned and partly inured to suffering and grief by inbred tradition, but this does not stop him from hating us inwardly. But

that we have been enjoined from printing anything we felt should go in. Several times the administration has disagreed with us, and have even become a little angry at the Emerald for "sounding off." But there has been no attempt at pre-publication censorship.

Lest others on this campus feel the need of writing to the editors of Comment, the Emerald has tried, and will continue to try, to publish letters and articles that do not necessarily agree with the opinions, expressed or unexpressed, of the editor or staff of the Emerald. We are also willing to eat crow, if the facts warrant.

Already this year we have refused to publish a number of letters to the editor. This has made us no friends, but the Emerald does not feel it is obligated to print everything that comes into the office. Letters that are carping, unconstructive, abusive, or violent will usually be filed. The citizens who write the letters in this file are invited to come pick them up.

he is all smiles and hospitality in front of an American.

The examples given of assimilation of foreign ideas by the Japanese in Thursday's article are of the adoption of the Chinese system of government in the 12th century and the 19th century adoption of the Prussian military system. It was not pointed out that one major reason for the adoption of these foreign systems was that they were in accord with Japanese political and military tradition and practice. In the case of the adopted Prussian military system, the Japanese rulers chose it because they considered it the best means of perpetuating and expanding the autocratic and feudal Japanese social order. Only the outward form was added to the already present spirit.

Whether the alien democratic reforms being forced upon the Japanese by General MacArthur will be discarded or permanently adopted after our withdrawal is a question that only history can answer. Present informed opinion is that it won't be permanent until the post-war generation being reared under occupation tutelage has assumed control of Japan 20 or more years from now.

### Scrap of Paper

Thus it is safe to leave open to question the extent that a "complete revolution in Japanese political institutions" has taken place. True, Japan has a newly ratified constitution whose "Bill of Rights, the number one provision, is more precise and extensive than our own." But as Soviet Russia's similar free constitution illustrates, it is merely a scrap of paper unless enforced.

The Japanese know that their new constitution was written General MacArthur's headquarters. Indeed, the indiscreet secretary who revealed this fact was discharged and sent home last year. Japanese point out that the constitution's phraseology is foreign, the majority of principles have little or no native roots, and paraphrase the American constitution by parroting, "we the mimics of the American people..." Will this alien constitution remain in force after our withdrawal?

### Doug Likes 'Em

The same principle applies to the present government coalition composed of two of the three major Japanese political parties, the Social Democrats and the Democrats. They are socialist and middle of the road parties respectively. This government came into power and has remained in office, much to the surprise of American and Japanese alike, not because it is stronger than the entrenched and feudalistic interests that oppose it, but because General MacArthur has given it his continued public support.

We have performed what amounts to a miracle in our occupation of Japan, but there is as yet no certainty that our reforms will be permanent once the Japanese are in control of their own country again.

## Letters

To the Editor:

Most people who heard Adamic's speech would agree with all of your editorial, "Money Well Spent," in Thursday's Emerald. However, you must have worked hard to misconstrue the meaning of his speech. The second paragraph of your editorial read: "That set-up was living refutation of some of the allegations the speaker made about American democracy, about how far we have to go ere we equal the democracy now being practiced in eastern Europe."

Adamic did say that in some respects we do not practice racial equality to the extent it is practiced in parts of Europe. The fact that some members of minority groups are attracted to Communism would tend to verify that statement. However, at no time did he say that our democracy as a whole is inferior to Communism.

He only asked that we remember that it is too much to ask of peoples with such heritages of autocratic government and bitter, disruptive conflicts to acquire so soon the luxurious trappings or Anglo-Saxon democracy. He asked that we realize that their system is seemingly working for them and that we have the alternatives of getting along with it (he did not advocate that we adopt it) or of going to war with it.

He pleaded that we find a middle ground—the audience seemingly didn't care to look for one—and avoid war. He also stated that with the passage of time, each system might absorb the better features of the other.

Richard Smurthwaite

## 10 Years Ago

From Emerald Files

Capitalizing on two quick thrusts into Cougar territory and playing a dogged defense game the rest of the day, Oregon's Ducks won their second conference game of the season, upsetting Babe Hollingbery's Cougars 10 to 6.

Crumbling the EON ranks beneath the weight of their mighty forward wall, the Ducklings strode to a 19 to 6 rout over Eastern Oregon Normal.

Victor P. Morris, dean of the school of business administration will speak to women debaters on the "Economic Aspects of War."

Trial of a proposed control tie-up with KOAC on a one-month experimental basis is now assured. In the past it has been necessary for the University students to travel to Corvallis to use the broadcasting facilities there any time they needed them.

For the first time in nearly a decade University of Oregon students will enjoy a full four-day vacation during Thanksgiving.

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A meter which measures the adhesion of liquids to solids has been invented by a University of Idaho physicist.