

## In Home Stretch

Though the future of the mill race may look promising, let's hold back those cheers a moment and take a good look at the situation.

The Monday evening city council did not assure the restoration of the millrace; it was merely another indication that the council is interested in seeing it done.

In the past there has been a feeling on the part of some people in the city that to spend so much money on a project with no practical use would be sheer folly. The report of the Millrace Park association was a means of proving to them that the restored mill race would be both beautiful and useful. Thus one of the main objections was removed.

However, other obstacles are in the way. First, the other easements for mill race land must be obtained. There is still no mention of condemning the land by the city, and until all property-owners agree, nothing definite can be undertaken. Even though 80 per cent have agreed to allow the race to run once more through their land, all must wait for the consent of those few others.

The money problem will doubtless appear, too. The council has promised to match any amount up to \$20,000 raised to finance the restoration. Even last year the Millrace Park association had pledges of \$12,500, and now the council wants them to start collecting.

Fraternity and sorority houses along the race have indicated their willingness to convert the gully in their back yards into the stream of old. Theirs is not moral support alone, for each one has pledged a substantial contribution.

Before the waters flow once more, University students and alumni will doubtless be called upon for their contributions, since the University people are more eager than any other group to see the mill race restored. J.G.

## With the Legislators

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Salem

The Oregon senate passed 19 to 10 yesterday and sent to the governor the old age pension bill.

It gives the state a prior claim on estates of deceased pensioners, and provides \$50 pensions if enough money is on hand to pay them.

Democrats lost 20 to 9 an effort to substitute a bill which called for \$50 minimum pensions, and did not contain the prior claim clause. The vote on the motion was strictly on party lines.

Old age pension leaders have threatened to refer the bill to the people in an effort to kill it.

The legislature moved along rapidly toward final adjournment. The house voted today to end the long session at 6 p.m. Thursday, but senate leaders predicted they would finish Friday or Saturday.

The session already is 93 days old, compared with the record 84-day session of 1947.

Governor Douglas McKay signed the bill to prevent any community from adopting daylight saving time, unless the governor proclaims it for the whole state. The governor is given authority to proclaim it only to conform with Washington and California.

The senate, doing what the house already had done, voted against a measure to block construction of the \$12,000,000 Deschutes river power dam. The vote was 16 to 13.

The joint ways and means committee prepared its 12-year \$42,000,000 program for new buildings for higher education and state institutions. It would be financed by an \$8,000,000 appropriation, plus a cigarette tax of two cents a package. The cigarette tax would be referred to the people.

House members had a lot of sick grandmothers today at Portland's Vaughn street baseball park. The house finished its day's work at 1:15 p.m. and took off for the opening of Portland's coast league baseball season.

The senate planned to go, too, but it got tied up for 1½ hours on the pension bill. By the time the senate adjourned, the game was five minutes old and 50 miles away.

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## That Rare Spark

# What Makes a Professor Popular? Columnist Thinks He Has Answer

By Mike Callahan

This year may go down in history as the time of the Big Talent Hunt. On campuses from Oregon to Michigan, once-meek students are eyeing their professors coldly, rating their IT-appeal.



IT is that rare spark that separates the teacher from the bookworm scholar. The big question facing the student raters is just what habits or methods insure some professors of crowded, intent classes, while others drone year after year at empty chairs.

BEFORE STUDENT pollsters begin to take stock of Oregon's faculty, this might be the time to pass along a few of our own opinions on what makes for an interesting and popular professor.

Outsiders at Oregon and Michigan snort at the mention of rating polls, and speak knowingly of blackmailing grades at the price of a good report. Yet one of the outstanding scholar-lecturers on this campus, one whose classes are always packed, might easily be known as "Old 2-point." It has been said that getting a B out of him ranks just below winning the Congressional Medal.

As a matter of fact, though, a

raw deal on grading methods more than on individual grades, deserves mention in the ratings. A current story tells of an economics professor whose grade curve is so low that the registrar's department has a special clerk to handle complaints from the students he flunks. The folly of using upper-division teaching and grading methods on beginning students no doubt will be demonstrated in his reports.

\* \* \*

TWO LECTURE methods currently in use on this campus, and student raters, will finally have the chance to compare them. The popular history professor and one of his colleagues realized long ago that students in large classes will not bother to read assigned text chapters. Therefore, so as not to waste class time, the lectures in their classes cover the important points in the course, presented in clear, note-easy outlines.

Thus, in their lecture hours, the students quickly and painlessly learn the necessary facts, plus any other choice bits of humor or illustration the professors have gleaned in their private research.

The second method, also widely used, calls for class discussion of reading assignments. In a small class, with an alert and witty professor, this has its points.

\* \* \*

NOTABLE AMONG its fail-

ures though, is a certain political science instructor whose lectures creep along at a snail's pace, confused by pointless arguments, and the psychology professor who managed to cover a one-hour lecture in three weeks. Reading and students suffer alike in such cases.

And then there is the matter of those professors, few and far apart at Oregon who are human enough to cut loose with an occasional "damn" in class . . . or who, like another economics instructor, can mention and laugh about their own experiences with such varied matters as labor strikes or French morals. . . .

\* \* \*

THE DAY of the "tin god" professor is over, and student rating results will praise those few who are wise enough to know that.

Finally, if the faculty rating is a success, some thought might be given to overhauling some of the courses offered here and elsewhere. There is, for example, the geography class that pays close and loving attention to obscure buttes in the Cascade foothills . . . or the psych class which tries to stretch two weeks' work over twelve weeks of study, wasting time and tempers.

For the first time in academic history, students will have a voice in their own educations. On a college level, we think that voice should be given the strength of law.

## Book Review:

# Huxley Writes of Life in 2200 A.D.

Ape and Essence by Aldous Huxley. Harper and Brothers (\$2.50).

By Jo Gilbert

HUXLEY'S DONE it again with Ape and Essence. This, like Brave New World, is set in the far future, the twenty-second century to be exact. Fantastic, insane is this glimpse into the world that might easily be.

The story, written in the form of a movie script, opens with the death battle of a group of baboons, each with an Albert Einstein on the leash. It then switches to a group of New Zealand scientists who are exploring the supposedly desolate continent of North America, namely Southern California. New Zealand is the only country not destroyed by the

disastrous World War III.

BUT THERE are inhabitants on this continent . . . a post-atomic society, degenerate and depraved, the lowest form of humanity—their God, Belial. Into this falls one Dr. Poole, the total result of a domineering mother. The influence of this society upon the good doctor, and the influence of the good doctor upon one member (female) of the society comprises the remainder of the plot.

But it is the reasoning of the Arch-Vicar that makes the book more than imaginative dreaming . . . nightmarish though it may be. His description of the battle between good and evil, his reasoning of Belial's rise to power . . . it terrifies you!!

HUXLEY'S WIT is again directed against smug, complacent man who can't find the way out from the web of his own weaving. But in this, as in Brave New World, there is a way out. In the earlier book, it was an island. Here, it is a colony at Bakersfield.

There is really not much I can tell about the book. You have to read it yourself to appreciate the writing, the wit, and the reasoning. I can't condense it, and the plot isn't the book . . . it is only the basis for the book.

Dr. Dull, in recommending Ape and Essence to a group of students, told them that it scared the "Belial" out of him. Move over, Dr. Dull. I'm scared, too.

# Has U.S. Made UN Weak?

MOSCOW, Idaho —(AP)—A Borah peace conference speaker declared yesterday that "the United Nations is weak because the United States made it so."

Dr. Clyde Eagleton, New York university professor and former state department official, was principal speaker at the opening session of the three-day conference. Eighty-two professors and students will take part in the meeting at the University of Idaho.

"I say flatly that we have not contributed what we should have to make the United Nations what we want it to be," Eagleton said. "Our failure is the chief barrier to peace today."

"Our influence at Dumbarton Oaks and San Francisco was so great that we could have had any sort of united nations that we wanted, and we deliberately made it as weak as it could be

made.

He said he had "not a word of defense of Russia. I think that she is also a barrier to peace, and doubtless a far worse one than we are."

"But the point is that the American people constitute the first hurdle to be jumped. The United States is the only country which could make the United Nations stronger. Russia could not do it if she wanted to; she does not have the moral leadership, nor the financial and productive strength which commands respect."

"It is of great concern to us that the Soviet Union be given every opportunity to be a good citizen in the community of nations and of greater concern that decisions concerning Russia and action, especially military action, should be taken by the community of nations rather than by the

United States alone."

Eagleton criticized the "side-stepping" of the UN in the Truman doctrine of aid to Turkey and Greece.

He said the North Atlantic treaty was a "necessary step." The pact should be even stronger, he said.

"It is a shocking retrogression on our part to say that it is constitutionally impossible for us to pledge in advance any use of our armed forces. No system of collective security can operate efficiently unless it is known that armed forces will be made available when needed. That only congress can declare war does not mean that the armed forces of the United States cannot be used in any other contingency. No one has brought to trial those who defended the nation at Pearl Harbor before a declaration was made."