

We Like the Idea!

A letter to the editor printed on this page today contains an interesting idea on the possible improvement in student-faculty relations after the Student Union is completed.

Dick Williams, union director, has often remarked that the new student center will bring about many profound changes on the campus. And no change could benefit the campus more than that the students achieve rapport with the faculty and vice versa.

Students rarely have the opportunity to exchange ideas with a professor over a cup of coffee. The occasional professor who wanders into the Side looks like a lost soul and there are many professors who have never crossed the threshold, evidently figuring that the Side and kindred bistros are sacred student property. They prefer to repair to the faculty club.

When the Union is completed there will have to be an educational campaign on the use of the building. Along with this, the idea should be put over that the faculty is welcome, too.

We agree with the writers of the letter that the informal give and take between students and faculty in the Union would be of benefit to both groups and would put an end to the present unofficial segregation and the misunderstandings which have sometimes resulted. B. B.

At Eastertide--

Peace Is the Prayer Of Every Soldier

By Hal Boyle

NEW YORK—(AP)—This is a nice Eastertide, because men don't have to talk to God alone in a foxhole.

This hasn't been necessary for some years. In crowded small church or tall cathedral of Christian lands can worship Jesus in peace.

But many an ex-soldier looking at the young son kneeling beside him, will wonder:

"Will my boy some day have to—as I did—pray alone at this time in some place of war?"

And he will offer up a small silent prayer of his own that this won't happen. And the prayers will be said in many languages—English, French, Dutch, Russian, German, Italian.

Easter has a peculiar niche in the heart of men in combat. At Christmas thoughts of religion aren't in their minds so much as the memories of their families. The broken packages full of small gifts come, and they are homesick to the bone.

But at Easter the story of Christ, his death and rebirth, stirred the doughboy of the second world war deeply. Part of it, perhaps, was tied up also with the rebirth of the particular land he was fighting across. He could lie in his muddy foxhole and see the green spears of grass springing from the winter-locked earth.

I don't know how the fighter pilot felt at Easter, climbing a tranquil sky. Probably he felt like the poet-airman who wrote he had the sensation of being almost able to reach out and touch the hand of God.

But I do know how many of the walking soldiers felt. Some came to believe that they understood the Galilean carpenter better than anybody. For the infantryman suffers most in war, and lives on faith. They came closer to Him through the kinship of agony.

It isn't true, of course, that there were no atheists in foxholes. But the atheist was a particularly lonely man at Easter. His foxhole held only a man with an animal desire to keep on living. But the foxhole next to him held that and something more—a man with faith that if he were killed there was a spiritual life beyond.

I don't know that this made any difference to a German artillery shell. But it made a difference to the two men.

Wherever possible, the front line soldiers were brought back a few thousand yards at Easter, a group at a time, to attend brief religious services. This gave them a respite from rifle and mortar fire. But they were still within enemy bombardment range.

Once I attended one of these services in a clearing in a cork forest in northern Tunisia. After it was over a grimy infantryman said to me thoughtfully:

"You know this must puzzle God. We come out of the lines to pray to Him. On the other side the Germans must be doing the same thing. Everybody praying for peace.

"But when we're through we go right back into the lines and start trying to kill each other again. Does that make sense to God? It doesn't to me."

Well, this year the problem doesn't exist. And that is the blessing of Easter—1949.

A Letter--

Let's Bring Our Students, Faculty Closer Together

To the Editor:

The construction of the Student Union building on this campus shall provide an excellent opportunity for a far greater amount of informal contact between students and faculty than has been heretofore possible.

Construction plans include provisions for a coffee-room seating 350. There is little doubt that the students will be quickly attracted by the convenience of this meeting-place.

But why not bring the faculty there, too? What I am suggesting is that some effort be made by the students to encourage faculty members to use the facilities of the Union, though on a purely informal basis, of course.

Students and faculty alike would benefit by experiencing a bit more social contact with one another than is afforded by lecture halls and laboratories.

It must be emphasized that the entire process must be informal and unplanned. The recreational functions of the Union should in no way be reduced or altered. But students and faculty should cultivate the habit of sharing its facilities. If this is done, the resulting interchange of ideas, opinions, and 'small talk' will be stimulating to both groups, and a better mutual understanding shall develop spontaneously between them.

Furthermore, the students will be afforded a valuable and much-needed supplement to the more formal contacts they now experience with faculty members in the sanctity of lecture halls and private offices.

It is to be hoped that the students and faculty of this University will avail themselves of this opportunity to further their mutual educational development.

Sincerely,

Denis F. Johnston
Claire Cardier

Same Old Stand

By Tom Marquis

AN ADVERTISEMENT by the Eugene Typographical union in Monday's Register - Guard caught my eye and started me to thinking about some of the claims made in the ad.

In bold face type the question "Who really wants the vicious Taft-Hartley slave labor law?" was asked. The last half of the sentence was underlined and the entire ad was set up in a manner calculated to gain the greatest possible notice.

For the most part the ad was pure propaganda and like most propaganda made a lot of claims that seem to break down on close observation.

* * *

THE UNION wants to do away with this law that "makes criminals of union members and their employers who wish to make a friendly agreement to carry on in a manner that was considered honorable, workable, and legal for a century prior to enactment of the T.-H. law."

This friendly little agreement they speak of is the closed shop which does not appear too friendly to workers who are not union members.

The ad says further that the closed shop is a form of operation preferred by many employers and their workers. But is it preferred by the majority? How many capable men have been unable to get work because of such friendly little agreements many times forced upon an unwilling employer?

THE T.-H. law "takes away the right of a voluntary association to choose its own members on the basis of good character, craft competency and lack of hostility to the organization and its principles. This comes right under the part about the closed shop that

the union wants reinstated. Closed shops are not always composed of men who are "voluntary members" of the union. If you want a job it's either join the union (providing they'll have you) or look somewhere else for a job.

The union is arguing against the union shop which makes it necessary for the union to give membership to anyone hired by the employer instead of the employee having to be a union man before he is hired, as is the case with the closed shop.

This they say takes away their right to pick men for a job who are of undesirable character or not able to hold down the job satisfactorily? That hardly seems likely.

* * *

THEY ALSO say that the independent worker "if he really exists is a stooge of the employer." I know several independent workers who will feel downright unhappy at being called stooges because they do not choose to belong to a union. There are some men who still like to exercise their right of independence when seeking employment.

The ad goes on with other things of a similar nature, but by now you should see that not all of the claims they make are unbiased.

The Taft-Hartley bill is not perfect. In their effort to place some responsibility for their actions on the unions Congress may have tended to go too far in the other direction.

But the unions are not entirely irresponsible for this either for it was their high-handed tactics that led a tiring congress to the decision that something must be done to curb runaway union activities.

LABOR HAS come of age now, but many times it still acts in a childish manner. It is still conscious of a new found sense of power and seems to be unable to restrain itself at times.

Unions have done an immense (Please turn to page eight)



Something New

Student Concert Planned

By Fred Young

BARTOK TO Bebop highlights the just announced Contemporary Chamber Music and Jazz concert to be held in the Guild theater Sunday, April 24 at 2:30.

The program is being presented by the best qualified campus musicians under the sponsorship of the University Educational Activities office.

The tentative program will consist of three divisions: contemporary chamber music, ensemble jazz, and solo jazz. It will offer the serious works of today's best known composers, besides the serious and jazz offerings of some of the best musicians that have been on the University campus.

We would suggest that those interested make a sincere effort to attend this truly remarkable concert. The first of its kind ever to be presented on our campus. The attendance at this program will determine if it will be con-

tinued in the Student Union building when same is completed.

Everyone connected with this concert, including the Educational Activities office, hopes that the attendance will be sufficient to allow further scheduling of jazz and chamber music concerts.

* * *

COUNT BASIE "the Jump King" is bringing his full band to the armory Friday night, April 22. Because of the Laine loss the prices are being reduced to one buck per couple with coupon.

Woodry Herman releases a new 2-sides with "That's Right" and "I Got It Bad." "Right" is, and "Bad" isn't so. The old Herd lovers will appreciate "Right" about the most of all the recent Herman releases.

A Woodchopper introduction sets the racehorse pace with Terry Gibbs exhibiting vibraphone skill that he never seemed to have two years ago with Buddy Rich. An interesting bit of bopping (naturally) to listen to, Sims, Chaloff, Swope all perform with their usual ease. Lou Levy's piano will recall shades of Dodo's playing with Boyd Raeburn. And the terrific rdie-out will be remi-

niscent of more old Herd.

Mary Ann McCall, who is no longer with Herman, does an excellent job of explaining what ain't good as Herman plays a soulful alto bridge and the band executes Ralph Burns' excellent arrangement with good taste. A very great record buy featuring the swift and the slow.

* * *

MORE ITEMS of Capitol's 16 sides of bop released last week. The strings behind Bill Harris' trombone add pleasure for some and pity from others. Showcasing the very great Harris horn, the two moons (How High and How Low) are very good modern jazz classics found back-to-back on the Harris record.

The Miles Davis orchestra plays more bop, and should be noted primarily for its instrumentation. Besides the usual trumpet, trombone, and saxes there is a French horn and tuba which give a strange low tone to the ensemble part of the record. Davis and his highly rated trumpet revolve around "Godchild" "Jeru." One of the best of this particular Capitol shipment.

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