

A Short Short Editorial--

Those Caricatures . . .

. . . were in extremely bad taste—and not very funny.

Better Advising Needed

Disclosure on this page yesterday of the case of a University freshman forced to leave school this week because of improper advising points up a serious problem facing this school which needs attention.

It's true that the case cited was an extreme. Becoming enrolled in "wrong" courses seldom leads to withdrawal.

However, we suspect that there are few students on this campus who have not at one time or another fallen victim to inept, or just plain sloppy, advising.

The consequences of not giving students proper guidance in the selection of courses is obvious. With society increasing its demands on education, a student simply hasn't time to waste on improper studies. In the span of four short years he must crowd into his schedule only those courses which will benefit him, directly or indirectly, upon leaving school.

There is no time for "duds."

The problem is not one which can be solved easily. The blame for the University's inefficient advising system cannot be laid to any single cause. Many advisors for instance, have too many advisees. In some cases a conflict exists concerning the "role" expected from an advisor, some placing more responsibility on the student than others.

We suggest, also, that the influx of veterans following the war upset a system which had, up until then, functioned tolerably well. It seems quite possible that the present confusion was inevitable. We suppose other schools are similarly plagued.

The Emerald does not pretend to have the answers. Nevertheless, we believe the problem is extremely serious and should receive immediate and positive attention by the administration.

ARE Grades Indicative?

Donald M. DuShane, director of student affairs, made a statement to the Emerald earlier this week which, if he had thought it over, he probably would have revised. The statement—"Certainly nothing is more indicative of the University's educational success than a rising grade point average."

A letter to the editor today takes issue with this statement by pointing out that a GPA may be indicative of scholastic success but not of educational success.

That a student is able to give back the professor's lectures or remember enough of a book to write something on it in an exam does not mean that the student is getting an education. He may have passed the requirements of the course with flying colors, but how much of the subject matter will he retain and has it become an integral part of his knowledge?

It's unfortunate but true—education, the type that enriches the personality and life of an individual, cannot be computed on an IBM machine. B.B.

Why No Big-Name Bands?

Williams Explains Situation

Editor's Note: There's been a lot of discussion this year regarding dance bands. Students have questioned whether the best bands available have been obtained. So, we sent one of our ace reporters to the man who should know—Dick Williams, educational activities manager. Here's a report of the interview:

By Larry Meiser
AFTER ALL THIS DICKERING SORRY TO ADVISE VENTURA MANAGER REFUSES DATE BECAUSE OF RISK IN FLYING AND MISSING OTHER ENGAGEMENT. HAVE CHECKED ALL OFFICES, CANNOT FIND OTHER ATTRACTIONS. CAN ONLY OFFER MILLION APOLOGIES. SORRY AGAIN, REGARDS.

MILTON DEUTSCH
ASSOCIATED BOOKING CORP.

That telegram gives the reason why Charlie Ventura was not engaged for the junior prom even though the dance committee agreed to meet his demands for flying expenses from Vallejo to Eugene to Oakland plus \$770. The juniors, in an effort to obtain a good band for the prom, were willing to pay the \$1400 total and take a chance on losing money. No cooperation!

And Ventura's band was the only band of any caliber available in the Northwest for the date beside Jimmy Zito's.

A lot of questions fly across the campus concerning the booking of band. Everyone seems perturbed. All kinds of charges have been made. Here are the questions I asked Dick, and his answers:

Could Count Basie have been signed for Junior Weekend?

The junior prom date was not changed to coincide with his ar-

rival in Eugene because it is traditionally around Mothers' day. Also the earlier date would not allow sufficient time for preparation. Basie is on his way back East and would not return for the University engagement at a later date even if it were possible.

A charge has been made that the University places a time limit on contracting bands. Is this true?

No such ruling exists on this campus.

Why then doesn't the University go after bands earlier?

No band tour for the Northwest jells much before 10 weeks of its fulfillment. College dates are incidental to the long engagements and are usually available only after places like Jantzen Beach take their choice. Incidentally, we have kept the prom date in mind all year when contacting booking agents.

Why has Oregon State been able to obtain big name bands?

I would assume that their scheduled dance date coincided with an available band.

Wouldn't big name bands attract large enough crowds to make a dance pay?

Dick Jurgens was the last big name band on the campus. He was here for last year's senior ball. The main reason we engaged him at \$2000 was that the senior class was "well healed" and could afford a certain loss if things didn't pan out. Tickets were \$3 a couple, the highest price ever charged for any University dance. The big name band was there but still the dance lost \$300. Few campus organizations can afford to lose that much money.

What are the chances of a Northwest college circuit for bands?

I can't begin to describe the impossibility of such an arrangement. First the colleges would all have to arrange their schedules together. Saturday night dates would be the most desirable but some of the colleges would have to take Friday night dates. And mid-week bread and butter dates would have to be arranged to make the tour pay.

What booking agencies are contacted for bands?

Throughout the year Oregon has worked with the seven agencies on the west coast trying to obtain big name bands. Included are the Federal Artists corporation, Associated Booking corporation, General Artists corporation, Reg De Marshall, William Norris Agency, Frank Foster, and the biggest national agent, the Music Corporation of America. We even ran down several bands directly when we didn't know their agents. Freddie Martin was one of these but he had a tour scheduled in the East. We completely exhausted the agencies.

Williams elaborated further: "A few other points should be brought out about this band situation.

"Ted Weems was the only band offered for the senior ball and he wanted \$1500. No one seemed to think that the contract would pay. We got Wally Heider for \$875 and still lost money.

"On February 14 we received word that Tommy Dorsey might be in the Northwest. I contacted him but the tour has not, as yet, jelled. Benny Goodman was to be in the NW and Oregon State indicated a desire to have him but the Goodman tour didn't materialize.

"Band's this year have not been available for the University."

From Our Mailbag

Letters to the Editor

OH, COME NOW!

To the Editor:

I have a comment on a comment; but first, repeating the Emerald's quote from Donald M. DuShane: "Isn't it wonderful. Certainly nothing is more indicative of the University's educational success than a rising point average." Come now, Mr. DuShane!

As long as students are being graded mostly on a cure basis, a rising grade point average doesn't necessarily mean anything other than that some of the departments have skewed their

curves up to the right. Although I do believe that our professors have finally realized that students are working harder and getting more from their courses than ever before, and have therefore shifted the entire curve upward where it belongs, yet I would take exception to the notion that grades are a measure of educational success.

Perhaps they are a measure of scholastic achievement, but certainly not of educational success.

Sincerely,
(Name withheld)

To Michael Callahan,

Considering your obvious ancestry, Michael, I'm surprised at the stand you take concerning the recent alleged attack upon the British navy by Chinese Communists. Be that as it may, however, Michael (leave us be not so belligerent. On second thought, Michael, leave us be!

Ten years in the Philippines, Michael, has taught you that the White man is entitled to Prestige and Respect. Having just finished four years of the type of thing you advocate for gaining these much abused words, I'm inclined to disagree with you. I'll grant you that the White man feels the need for Prestige and Respect, but so do the Yellow men, and the Black men.

Your footnote, Michael, pointed out that history repeats itself and quoted the source as a "wise man." Whoever that man was, I'm sure he would not acknowledge your misuse of his words. Many wise men have been nurturing faith that this world of colored men and Purple cows could eventually know peace. You say that this hope is in vain since history keeps on regenerating itself. So I would assume, anyway, from your solution to the problem.

Don't mix the conflict between Democracy and Communism with a dose of color, Michael.

Robert C. Green

Something Very Fine Happened Monday Night

By Bud Hurst

Once upon a time, in a land we all know very well, there were two professors. They were honest men and studious men; thoughtful and earnest in their thought. They were also very wise.

One day, while walking from class to the faculty club, they started talking of what the goals of education should be. They each had their own opinions on the subject but were eager to hear the other's argument. They had not talked long when they realized what they had stumbled onto.

"Why not," said one of them, "get together some night with

some other folks and talk about the goals and purposes of education?"

"That's a good idea," echoed the other, "and it might be a good idea to include some students. In fact, it is essential that we do so."

They were very wise men.

Last Monday night six members of the faculty and ten students sat down in the Faculty club on the University of Oregon campus and started to talk. Their conversation was most enlightening. This is what they said:

It is agreed that the success of any progressive system of education is dependent upon a mutual

understanding, in every respect, among all the parties concerned.

It is agreed, in the strictest sense and from a practical standpoint, that this same mutual understanding will be hard to achieve. The nature of man will make it so—but it can be done, by an honest effort on the part of all concerned to put forth every effort to that end.

It is agreed that the personal element in student-faculty relations is a very real thing and will have to be recognized.

It is agreed that the world of today and the way of life under which we live and to which we must adhere to a certain extent in order to sustain ourselves, de-

mand certain concessions. Education cannot be completely ethereal or conducted solely on an intellectual plane.

It is agreed that these discussions shall be continued and broadened to include more people and more diverse viewpoints.

This then is what happened last Monday night. Nothing which the stark realist would call "concrete" was accomplished. No earth-shaking conclusions were drawn. Sixteen people, young and old, simply sat down and talked about something that is very close to us all. They think it was worthwhile.

Is it agreed?

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