

Worthy Wheels?

A continual complaint through the last few years has been the method of selection of members into the Sophomore men's honorary—Skull and Dagger. Supposedly based on service to the University, the group selects each year 26 freshmen men, who have, supposedly, been outstanding during their first terms at Oregon.

It is at this point things take an unusual twist. Instead of picking 26 outstanding men from the class at large, the honorary picks the outstanding man from 22 houses, three from the dorms, and one from the independent off-campus men's group. As has been said in years before—this gives the honorary a house representative look.

Obviously, a first-rate man from Chi Chi Chi may be far inferior to a second-rate man from Xi Xi Xi. Just as there is no certainty that there will be three outstanding freshmen men from the dormitories there's no certainty of the same in houses—some years there may be more, some years fewer.

The natural method of selection would be on the basis of an individual's actual abilities. However, some groups apparently think Skull & Dagger a stepping-stone to greater things; frequently, even, groups have placed a person in the honorary, not because of his activities, but because they want him to get in activities.

The greatest service this honorary could give to the University would be to investigate the possibilities of changing their method of selection.

If Skull and Dagger delays too long, perhaps the executive council can exercise its regulatory powers over the honorary.

A Liberal Passes

The recent death of Oswald Garrison Villard, noted American journalist, is of special significance to persons interested in the University. Villard Hall, second oldest building on the campus, was named for his father.

To many, Oswald Villard was the surviving voice of "old-fashioned democratic liberalism."

For 47 years he was associated with The Nation magazine which he received from his father. "The Nation" under him in the 20's was avowedly and outspokenly a fighting and muck-raking magazine. Financially independent, he was able to write the things that some journalists only dream of writing.

The list of causes for which Villard battled covers most of the major controversies of the late nineteenth and of the twentieth century.

He worked to improve the status of the Negro and was one of the founders of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; he lifted his voice for suffrage of women; he struggled to keep America out of the Spanish-American war and later out of the First World War; he battled for the conscientious objectors after the latter war and for the victims of the Espionage Act and Palmer's Red Raids. Always he attacked tariffs, trusts, Wall Street, and corrupt politics.

The elder Villard, a foremost financial leader and railroad promoter in the Northwest, came to the University's rescue in 1881 when a judgment was attached to the school property for non-payment of debts.

The University building (now called Deady Hall) was put up for sale. When Henry Villard learned of this, he assumed most of the responsibility for the debt. Without this financial assistance, the University would probably have faded out of existence.

Later, Henry Villard gave money to the University for purchasing books and equipment. He also donated \$50,000 in railroad bonds which yielded an annual income of \$3,000 for the University.—H.S.

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For the past 84 years Albany has had no law prohibiting theft of articles valued at less than \$30. Embarrassed city officials promptly remedied the situation on its discovery.

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A Caveat to Every Webfoot

(These are the "rules of the road"—the discipline code applying to all students in the University. It was adopted by the students and faculty on the disciplinary committee in the fall of 1946.)

The University presents this code in full recognition of the fact that the overwhelming majority of students need no code imposed upon them and that the offenses outlined are uncommon on the campus. Nevertheless, it is in the interest of the entire University community that the student body know what general policies and procedures the Student Discipline committee and the Office of Student Affairs intend to follow in their disposition of such disciplinary cases as may arise. The following code is deliberately kept flexible in order that each case may be decided on its own merit.

Article I—Expulsions

The following offenses are punishable by expulsion or such other penalties as may be imposed. (Expulsion means final and unconditional dismissal.)

1. Wanton destruction of property.
2. Drunkenness.
3. False information concerning overnight off-campus privileges.
4. Immorality.
5. Gross indelicacy.
6. Misbehavior punishable under the State of Oregon Criminal Code.

* Students may also be expelled for fraudulent registration.

Article II—Suspensions

The following offenses are punishable by suspension or such other penalties as may be imposed. (Suspension means involuntary removal for a fixed period of time or until specific conditions are met.)

1. Cheating.
2. Unauthorized absences from living organizations after closing hours.
3. False information concerning overnight off-campus privileges.
4. Traffic in or possession of liquor at any University-sponsored activity.

5. Any other action which brings discredit upon the University of Oregon.

Article III—Organizations

1. The administration of the University of Oregon expects each group organization that exists on the campus by the sanction of the University to conduct its affairs in such a manner as will reflect credit upon the good name of the group and the University.

2. Student organizations which violate the provisions of Article I and II, or whose members do so in such a manner as to fix responsibility on the organization, are subject to such penalties as the disciplinary officers in Student Affairs or the Student Discipline committee may impose.

Article IV—Administration

1. Administration of this code shall be the primary responsibility of the Director of Women's Affairs and the Director of Men's Affairs, who may make final disposition of all cases involving punishment short of expulsion from the University.

2. The Director of Women's Affairs and the Director of Men's Affairs shall refer to the Student Discipline committee all cases in which they wish to recommend from the University.

3. The personnel deans may at their discretion refer any case to the committee and the committee will consider the referral itself as evidence of the gravity of the alleged offense.

Article V—Implementation of the Code

In order to prevent vandalism, officials of the University of Oregon and Oregon State have mutually agreed to suspend any student who engages in malicious acts on a foreign campus.

Disciplinary officials have been directed to assume that participation in an unchaperoned party at a hotel or in a motel is sufficient cause for suspension from the University.

The privilege of any student to have a car on the campus may be revoked at any time for due cause. Students must not park in restricted areas. In driving they must observe the basic rule and other traffic regulations.

Our Readers Speak--On Advising

To the editor:

Jo Gilbert's attack on the advising system calls for a reply. We realize that signed columns are not necessarily the opinions or the responsibility of the editor, but a little more respect for facts is certainly to be expected in one of the leading college dailies.

I refer of course to the statement that the University entrance requirements require that students have to make average or above high school grades. This requirement does not apply to freshmen entering directly from an Oregon high school. (Catalog 1949-50 pages 51 and 52.)

A student at the bottom of his class who made his grades in shop or tap dancing can still be admitted to the University. Many seem to come because they cannot think of anything else to do; and with luck they can stay a year or even two and enjoy the social advantages of the University.

Frequently the only reason such a student fails to make a 2. is that his adviser insists that he take at least the lower division requirements although camp cookery or band

might raise his GPA. (Incidentally the adviser can only advise and has no legal power to compel a student to take any course.)

Advisers have their faults, many of them, but from a perusal of the programs taken by graduating seniors I am convinced that they err more by not encouraging the better students to take solid courses and get a real education. Johnny Playboy could get along much better without an official adviser. At least his fraternity brothers could steer him away from all tough courses.

Once a professor prepared a bulletin of all the rules and regulations and other pieces of information that an adviser should know. That bulletin was nearly as big as the catalog and no adviser who read it conscientiously had any time left for advising. So long as we are all human and so long as we humans make the "system" which is the University there will be mistakes and gripes. When these gripes help to correct a bad situation they are invaluable. But a gripe founded on a false assumption may do more harm than good.

Robert B. Dean, Adviser.

We Need A Good Constitution!

It is significant to note in this "year to remember" that besides the student union, the millrace, women's dorm, and new theater the students may also get a revision of their constitution.

So far nothing concrete has been done. But the ASUO President and the executive council have been doing some talking, and may come up with a plan for revision. Certainly with the student union board soon to come into existence, this would be an opportune time to get a

new, or revised, constitution.

There are the obvious mechanical faults of the constitution—reference to the new non-existent Dean of Men, Dean of Women, educational activities board, and Oregon Federation President.

There are the almost as obvious faults of election of yell king at regular elections in Spring, the preferential voting system, the amendment to the constitution process, and the "limited power" clause: