

Why Study--Chemistry?

By A. H. KUNZ,
Head, Chemistry Department

(This is another story in the series offered by Phi Eta Sigma, scholastic honorary, on the value of courses offered by various departments.)

The chief aim of the University of Oregon should be to help all its students obtain a liberal education. At the same time it should not be blind to the fact that its students will have to make a living for themselves and their families after graduation.

Some, but not all of the departments of the College of Liberal Arts are not very liberal in recognizing the value of a so called practical education. One can better appreciate the beauties of this world on a full stomach. Similarly, some, but not all of the professional schools, are content if their students take the minimum of two group requirement courses in the College of Liberal Arts. There is too much emphasis on courses such as typing and shorthand. The University should not become a trade school.

NICE COMBINATION

The Department of Chemistry is ideally suited to help provide an education for students seeking a combination of the practical and the cultural. The ease with which its better graduates are placed in teaching positions and industrial and governmental research work is a testimony to the dollars and cents practicality of its curriculum.

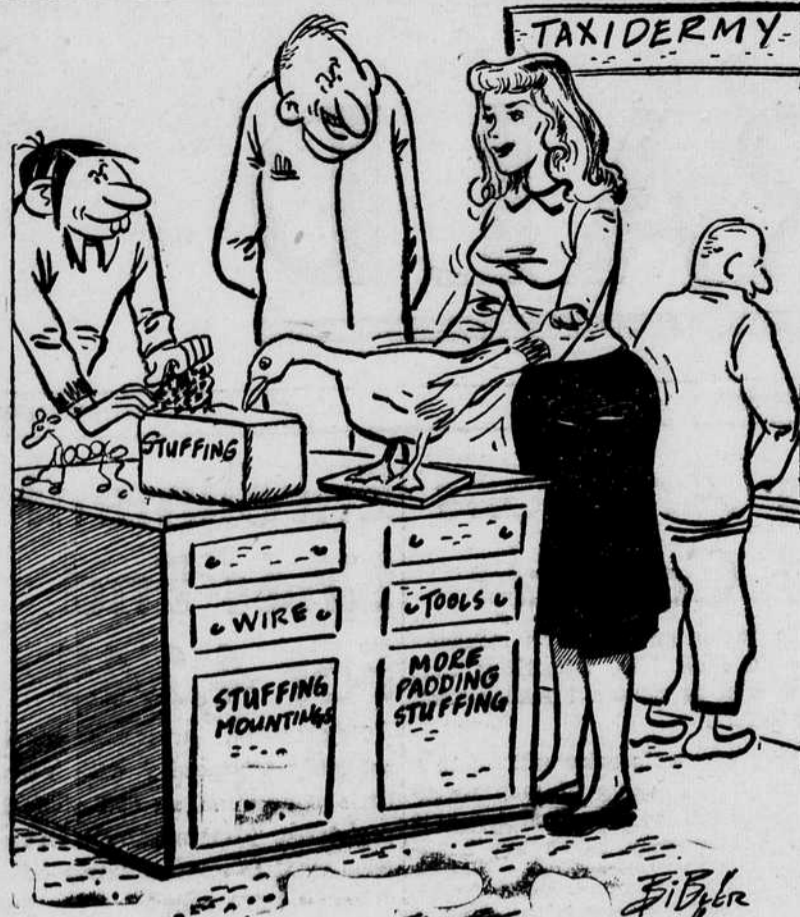
Operating as it does as one of 164 departments of chemistry in the United States which have been approved by the Committee on the Professional Training of Chemists of the American Chemical Society, the Department has support in its own desire to insist on a broad curriculum. I believe the curriculum for chemistry majors is the only one, other than German itself, that has two years of German or its equivalent as an absolute requirement for the bachelor's degree. In addition to the university group requirements many chemists take the "Development of Scientific Thought" in the Department of Philosophy. Others have been known to take additional history, political science, Shakespeare, music, speech, etc. It should be admitted, however, that chemistry majors in general, do not take as many courses in social science, literature, and the professional schools as they are encouraged to take. In some respects the curriculum is too highly professionalized.

RESEARCH PROBLEMS

Throughout the chemistry curriculum, an effort is made to inculcate the scientific method of investigation. It is in the natural sciences that this method can best be illustrated and used. At least by the junior year, and in some cases as early

as the freshman year, chemistry majors may undertake minor research problems either in connection with their regular courses or in special courses for the purpose. If facilities and staff permitted, more of this work would be done by undergraduates. Until the new science building is completed, most individualized work must be restricted to graduate students.

Graduate students similarly are expected to develop a broad program of studies. At this level, however, more specialization in chemistry and related sciences is necessary. Nevertheless, formal minors or service courses in education, business, journalism, etc. are encouraged. Unfortunately, seldom do the students have the necessary prerequisite for graduate courses in these fields.



"You should do well in this course, Miss Paddon."

Then There Were None

Grades, illness, graduation, and Washington, D. C., have taken their toll from the Executive Council, leaving a hardy crew of eight on hand to select four new members.

But every cloud has its silver lining, and would-be politicians can now step up into the limelight in their petitions for one of the four vacant offices.

Hardest hit was the junior class, with both reps not returning. Anita Holmes accepted a secretarial position with Idaho's Republican Senator Henry Dworshak, and Bill Lance, who is trying to hurry things up and graduate in June, feels he had better study Winter term.

Phil Patterson, senior rep, graduated at the end of Fall term; and Ron Brown, sophomore rep, left school late in Fall term because of illness and will not return until Spring term.

So Winter term will give opportunity to politically ambitious students, no matter what their class. Freshman may try their luck in class of '53 elections, and sophomores, juniors, and seniors may petition for Executive Council positions.

The Council will most likely fill the positions with students from the same party as the absenting member. Particularly since both parties have suffered numerically equal losses.

The appointments may also be in the form of a preview of coming attractions, especially with the junior petitioners. With spring elections not too far off, both parties may be inclined to try out potentials by placing them in Executive Council positions. Which may not be such a bad idea, since it gives the students a chance to show their abilities, and gives them valuable experience. Too often, ASUO candidates have been elected without any first-hand knowledge of student government.

The resignation of the four reps leaves a situation which will undoubtedly have interesting developments. But there will have to be some pretty good petitioners to replace the lost members.

Patterson served his term in office with distinction, Lance was a veritable whirlwind of activity, Brown was taking his first fling in student government, and Miss Holmes — well, she's worth an edit of her own.

The Council is faced with a challenge in appointing new members of the caliber of those who have resigned.

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Miss Holmes Goes to D.C.

How many right hands can a person have?

Quite a few, apparently, and still not be all thumbs.

The University lost a student who was the right-hand girl to a lot of people.

Josephine Moore of the news bureau no longer has a top-notch Oregonian correspondent. Jim Wallace of Old Oregon is left without an efficient managing editor. Phi Theta Upsilon has to pick a new secretary. The Executive-Council and Art Johnson have to look around—for a new junior rep. The Winter term honor roll will miss her name.

It is rather difficult to be an activity girl, 4-point and honor roll student, beautiful, and a BWOC in general, but Anita Holmes managed to do it.

And what she dislikes most of all is talking about her accomplishments. And her next favorite dislike is other people talking (or writing) about her achievements.

When she was a freshman she didn't petition for Kwama, despite 4-points and Emerald, Oregon, Old Oregon, and ISA work, because "I'm not the Kwama type."

When interviewed for her Executive Council position she forgot to mention that she had been student body president of her high school, a "first" in her town for a woman.

Yes, Anita has gone to Washington, D. C., to work for Idaho's Senator Dworshak; and, to use an old phrase, Washington's gain is our loss.

And if we seem to have gone a little overboard about Anita's departure, don't blame us too much. A lot of people, and organizations, have gone overboard for Anita.

And if she was the right hand to a number of people, she was something special to the Emerald, too.

She was kind of a left-hand, part-time associate editor.

A Way to Make Sure

"It can't happen to me" is a time-honored American misconception, and it probably is useful in keeping us all from becoming quivering neurotics, fearful to peek out from under our bed-clothes lest disaster strike.

But the definite knowledge that "it isn't going to happen to me" is a much more sound basis for confidence.

And next week students will have a chance—free and next to effortless—to make sure that at least one thing is NOT going to happen to them, when a mobile unit of the Oregon Tuberculosis Association visits the campus.

Free chest x-rays will be available to all from 9 to 5 Monday through Thursday, and Friday morning from 9 to 12.

Tuberculosis isn't as picturesque a way to ruin your health (or worse) as some of the other methods available these days, but as Dr. Miller, director of the health service, points out, it is still a major cause of sickness and death among young adults.

It shouldn't be necessary to wheedle and cajole college students into taking advantage of an opportunity such as this, so we won't.—Stan Turnbull.

The Mid-Century Laugh

Variations on the tired theme of New Year's bells: Newspapers, and magazines such as Life, Time, Boo and what have you had editorial orgies the last month reminiscing the half century.

Although the editors were wise enough to see that if they laughed too hard at Daddy's quaint ways, they'd be leaving themselves wide open to the scoffs of editors yet unborn, they couldn't resist a few guffaws at the expense of their ancestors.

In retaliation we'd like to jump the gun on the editors-yet-unborn and snicker grimly at the mid-century man. Was there ever such an earnest man? Besides, admirably enough, expecting to reconcile in one generation the east and the west, the strangeness between white and black, and the snarled diplomacy of the last 200 years, he has become social conscious on a more minute level. He has his world neatly divided into capitalists, communists, white-collar workers, high-brows and low brows. The last two are sub-divided into upper-middle brows, etc. and according to their place in this sub-division people buy double

(Please turn to page three)