

Don't Follow the Leader

Some students and faculty members have been wondering why there have been a few student cars parked consistently on such forbidden areas as 13th Avenue, and the faculty parking lots. A certain amount of envy and resentment arises when rules are seemingly unenforced—and someone appears to be "getting by."

It is necessary to bear in mind that there are several disabled veterans on the campus. These men have difficulty in walking and the exceptions are a necessity.

Consequently special permission was granted to them last year both on the campus and by the Eugene Police department for privileges in other parts of the city.

This convenience is virtually a necessity for a very few. But there are no excuses for "follow the leader" tactics by the student body as a whole.—H.S.

The Real Nuisance

Moving picture theaters are nice places. We can stand most of the pictures, we can tolerate the drug store in the lobby to which patrons retire during intermission, we can even bear the advertisements from local merchants. All these, because we understand that the local movie distributor makes most of his profit from candy and popcorn, and not much from the movie itself.

However, the film industry's short propaganda piece on the federal excise tax of 20% on admissions is more than we can take. We go to a movie to be entertained, and do not appreciate the efforts of the industry to use its audience as a pressure group.

Hollywood is naturally worried about b.o. (that's box office.) And if admission prices were cut, more people might go to the movies. But if film quality were raised more people might go to the movies, too.

The reference to the 20% tax as a nuisance tax is not particularly adept, either. It may be a nuisance to the film industry; but to the paying public it is probably an easier-than-most way to be taxed.

Taxes must come from somewhere, and since movies are a luxury (though frequently a painful luxury) a 20% tax doesn't seem unjust. What does seem unjust are some of the products of Filmland—particularly its propaganda piece.

Offhand Observations

'Lizzie Borden Took an Ax And Gave her Father 40 Whacks'

by Bill Rogers



The two-bit word for "mercy" killing—*euthanasia*—has been enjoying a lot of popularity lately.

It had its latest revival in mid-December, when Doctor Herman N. Sander closed the books on a cancer patient by pumping forty c.c.'s of air into her veins.

As soon as the word got around a young lady named Carol Ann Paight got into the act too. Her father was incurably ill of cancer, as the story goes, and so she took his service revolver and pumped a little lead into his brain. Before it all dies down there are probably going to be as many "mercy" killings as marathon prayer meetings.

Carol Ann got out of taking a rap by virtue of temporary insanity. How Dr. Sander is going to beat the law isn't established yet. There is one thing about the whole messy business that is a little troubling when you get to thinking things over, and that is that two murders have been committed, no matter how you look at it.

How much of an excuse is temporary insanity for being acquitted of murder? You sort of wonder how many killings there would be if the murderers weren't temporarily insane. Not only that, but the punishment of such people is not supposed to be directed against them personally, but is for the protection of

society. What's to keep a temporarily insane person from going off his stick again? The next victim might be suffering from a head cold.

It's a bit difficult to plug up a bullet hole in the head of someone who has had the benefit of *euthanasia* and write the death off to natural causes. And that's what's so surprising in the case of the now famous Doctor Sanders; the colossal gall he displayed in writing up his murder in the medical history of his victim. If he thought he had done the right thing by her, he should have kept quiet about it and it would have gone unnoticed. It may sound a little calloused, but it would have been the smart thing to do.

Whether you're for this *euthanasia* business or not, Sander committed a crime by breaking one of the oldest laws. If he is acquitted, as was Miss Paight, it will be a miscarriage of justice. It will establish a legal precedent for "mercy" killings, and protection of life will be gone. If you go out and bump somebody off, you can always claim you did it in his own best interests.

Here is something to chew over in case *euthanasia* legislation is forced because of the present controversy. Who will be considered incurably ill? There were plenty of people in that bracket twenty years ago who could be cured by today's medicine.



"Don't worry about her—she'll have plenty of dates when finals start showing."

Ritin' at Random

Foreign and Good Not Synonymous

by Jo Gilbert



Two of the most thought-provoking pieces of writing of this year in this person's opinion are found in last Friday's *Emerald*—on the edit page. An editorial, "It is Easier to Love," and a letter to the editor by Bill Hilliard, "Is This Week Necessary?" It's gratifying to find the *Emerald* more than a University "house organ." Re-read the two articles—a re-evaluation of your attitude might result (faculty included!!).

With our season passes in hand, we dutifully went to the Foreign Movie the other night. "La Traviata" by name. To say the least we were sadly disappointed. It was not up to caliber of the other films shown by the group, and even Hollywood has done better. The acting was sad, the recording worse, and my guess is that the production was a good 10 years old. If the distributors are planning to palm off such shows under the club's auspices, I believe that many club members will be lost. It seems a shame to cheat the members, but beyond that, the trade for the foreign movies of a higher caliber could easily drop off as a result. The public doesn't like to be fooled, and the label "foreign" on it doesn't necessarily mean that the film is good. The club members discovered that last week. "La Boheme," presented by the Educational Activities Board, a few years ago, was on the same theme (of a story following the opera's story)

and much better done. A German film, fairly old, but quite satisfying.

For the last few years any film coming from across the seas was termed "wonderful, magnificent, and superb" by critics. And for the most part the criticisms were just; because the early foreign films were good.

But now, however, both the novelty and the quality is wearing thin. Sub-titles no longer mean excellent filming; and foreign no longer is a guarantee for good.

This is probably because with more and more foreign films coming to America, the movie-going public is seeing more of the common-run product, and not only the best from the European countries.

A bad picture is a bad picture; if it is in Italian, French, German, or English. And a good picture is a good picture. Particular audiences (and there are few) will soon become as discerning in their pick of foreign films as they have (these particular few) in their selection of American films.

An author that isn't given a great deal of the recognition due him is Ludwig Lewisohn. A number of his works are out in two-bit editions including "Tyranny of Sex," "Anniversary," "Forever Wilt Thou Love," etc. A fine understanding of living is shown by this man. I've read several books of his, and all are sensitively written.

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