



"I understand he was just about to graduate—and the veteran's office made him take a vocational aptitude test."

Honorary Masquerade

Skull and Dagger, sophomore men's honorary that has been termed nothing more than a group of "house representatives" by Emerald editorials for several years, took a tiny step aside this year concerning membership.

Membership in the honorary is based, supposedly, on activities, service to the University, and scholarship. (Scholarship, in this case, meaning a 2. GPA which is necessary if you care to remain at the University). Members are picked from the freshman class, to serve as Skull and Daggers when they are sophomores.

It so happens that membership has been limited to 26 members in the past, 21 from fraternities, 1 from Campbell Club, (men's cooperative), and 4 from the dormitories.

Naturally many active freshman are overlooked; frequently a freshman a house is "pushing" is selected in preference to a freshman who has proven himself and needs no pushing. Often the second best of the Chi Chi Chi's does not receive the honor of membership though he be superior in activities, scholarship, and service to the first choice of Beta Beta Beta.

This year, however, Skull and Dagger announced an outline for a revised method of selection. From each fraternity, and from independent groups, these petitions will be solicited. (In the past, one name was submitted by each group). From each of the 21 fraternities, one person will be chosen for membership; from the independent groups 11 members will be selected (probably one each from Philadelphia House and Campbell Club, and 9 from dormitories).

Now, this is a very meek step. From a group supposedly composed of the strongest and most active male members of the class of '52, it does not speak too well for their courage. Or it could be, the honorary feels that it should be a group of house representatives.

But the point we bring up is this: If it is an honorary, let it be an honorary that selects members on the basis of service, activities, scholarship and what ever other qualifications the group has formed its membership. If it still remains house let them call themselves house representatives, and let it be a known and open fact that it is not necessarily composed of the most active members of the freshman class, but in some cases the members who must actively need to be pushed.

There seems to be some great horror at the prospect of having two Skull and Daggers selected from the same fraternity. This would arouse jealousy, and would spoil the beautiful balance of the group, some people fear.

There is something to the desire of the group to have a wide representation of the freshman class; but this broad representation will usually be secured naturally—it is seldom that one house will have 32 freshmen who happen to be the cream of that year's crop.

The change made this year is something, but not much. It sounds a little better, but in actuality it is not much better. The group has increased its membership, but it still remains house representatives masquerading as an honorary.

Now that the group has made this little beginning, is there some Skull and Dagger who would be willing to go a great deal farther and make membership in his group a real distinction which outstanding freshmen may feel honored to accept?

On The Air Emporium Reflections... Gone Are the Days

by Marty Weitzner



The other day we were sitting comfortably in a booth in one of the local beer emporiums. A couple of young people came up to the counter, ordered a couple of cokes, and took them to a nearby table. One of our companions, a recent graduate of the University, shook his head sadly.

"Things sure have changed around this school," he lamented. "Gone are the days when nobody knew what stunt would rock the campus next." Our bleary eyed friend went on to regale us with tales of week-long California trips, midnight swimming parties, and wild football rallies, all staged in a day now only a distant memory. "No," he wailed, "the place isn't the same."

We don't totally share the gentleman's sad outlook, but we can see that things certainly have changed. There is a lot more serious approach to college than that which we had before the war. Professors worry whether they will have to face a loyalty oath in order to teach. They wonder whether the subject matter of the notes they repeat term after term has not become subversive. We heard an instructor merely mention the name of Owen Lattimore, and three people on the verge of sleep almost bounded to their feet.

The student body has a different approach. They still retain that devil may care, Joe and Jane College attitude, but underneath it all there is also a new drive behind most of them. They now know that there are more college

graduates in the nation than ever before. Just mention "job" to a senior and watch his ears wiggle. In years gone by his answer was "Well, I'll dodge it another year by becoming a five year man." Now he petitions to drop hours, requirements, or anything else that keeps him from getting out a term ahead of his class. Unofficially, Oregon used to be a five year University. Now there are people working on angles to cut it to three.

In line with this, the various departments of the University are concentrating on reputation. Many a senior who long regarded him or herself as a "wheel" in one of the various departments has found that it is now harder than ever to get places on reputation. One instructor answered a protest with, "We have a reputation to establish. You want your degree to mean something when you get out of here don't you?"

In its post-war life, the University has set its sights on new goals. It is on the road from country-club to an institution of higher learning. We think the choice is a good one, and the new idea of looking on some pre-war "customs" with disfavor shows the right attitude. But just as we often play too hard, we can work too hard, and both have the same disastrous results. Our intellectual reputation will spread, but it is a slow process of evolution, not an overnight accomplishment of decrees by an administration or self imposed abstinence by a student body.

Ritin' at Random

Concerning Pig Latin Or-- Shulman Sans Spontaneity

by Jo Gilbert



Would advise all high schoolers to take Latin or French either in high school or their first year of college. By the way, include German in that list. The reason? I have been unhappily struggling through a book in which every other word is in English, yet! In the first place, it takes half an hour to read a page, even with the aid of Webster's section on foreign words and phrases (and not all of those mentioned in the book are included in the dictionary). After completing the page, I again read the material hoping to discover what the author has said. Then advance to the following page, using the same method. The discouraging thing is, when I gaze upon these pages the next day, I recognize nothing. Ah, such is life in the Far West.

As a result of this tedious studying, I turned to Max Shulman's newest epic the other night, the name being SLEEP TIL NOON (fine advice to all enrolled in eight o'clock's). Conclusion: Mr. Shulman has for the third time, re-written BAREFOOT BOY WITH CHEEK. He tries too hard to achieve humor throughout the book and none of the spontaneity of his first writing is evident.

The story is one of Harry Riddle, who is

told by his Pa to "get rich, boy. Then sleep til noon..." Harry is all for this, but wonders if wealth will corrupt him. However, he decides he still will stay pure and undefiled, and so marries one Esme Geddles. The marriage results from an all night drunk on the part of Miss Geddles and her wealthy father leaves the country at the sight of his new son-in-law, Harry, and his parents.

Dumb, stupid Harry enjoys his money, even though not allowed to enjoy his wife—she sobered up. Finally, through the kindly agencies of Payson Atterbury, he bankrupts his best friend, George. But all is well, for money had corrupted George anyway, and so really Harry has done him a favor in returning George to poverty—for George once again has his integrity. Of course, Harry is still uncorrupted, rich, and loaded with integrity, and his wife has finally realized Harry's hidden worth. She now loves him and the curtain falls.

All in all, it is okay for an evening's reading. Highly recommended for BA majors. Shulman gives the impression at times of trying to bring into the melee a message—it doesn't reach me.