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Campus Honors Oregon Mothers For Thirty Years

By KAREN TERRY

One sunny May day, 30 years ago, a small group of mothers gathered on the Oregon campus for the first official University observation in honor of mothers.

The event grew in importance and interest, until it was combined with Junior Weekend 23 years ago, becoming Mothers' Weekend.

Encouraged by Arnold Bennett Hall, then president of the University, mothers came to see how their sons and daughters worked, played, and lived at Oregon.

The number of visiting mothers increased as the University grew. Last year 540 registered for the weekend.

The Oregon Mothers' Club, organized in 1927, furthered interest in the weekend. First president of the group was Mrs. Walter M. Cook. The association's functions include service, support of University enterprises, such as the Student Union drive, and promotion of better understanding of the University's activities.

Mothers who come to the 1950 weekend will find many changes—a nearly-completed Student Union, the Erb Memorial, and a new women's dormitory. But they will find unchanged the traditions and friendly spirit of Oregon.

Author Binns Commends Creative Writing Courses

By WALT CRAYDON

If you want to write, enroll in the creative writing courses at this University, for they are "teaching at its best," said Archie Binns, visiting novelist, in an interview Wednesday.

"I am pleased with the novel course here," he said, "and the short story course is equally good. Instructors at this University do not attempt to mold or form a student according to their ideas; they develop the type of talent that he already has."

Many Fads Elsewhere

Binns explained that many universities have "fads that do not last" — stressing symbolism for instance. This school gives instruction that will last — "it is guidance at its best," he said.

The new program to go into effect next fall will be even better, Mr. Binns added.

"Students have something to write about today," he said. "Anyone who has facts will have an audience. When I studied at Stanford, the only writing course offered was short story prose writing. No one had thought about a student writing a novel."

"It was believed that one should go to the South Seas or some similar place to gather material. Today, college is the best place to

gain the mechanical skill necessary, and anyone with mature ideas and experiences has something to write about.

What? A Novel?

"I think that someone would have fainted if it had been suggested that a student write a novel when I attended school."

Mr. Binns said that his first novel, "Lightship" required about one year of part-time writing. It was about two years later that he managed to get it published, and he nearly had to create a new publishing company in the process. That was during the depression.

"It is much easier to get something published now," he said, "for the mature outlook of the general public and their demand for facts has done much to afford new authors with opportunities."

Write at Leisure

"One should not leave college and attempt to support himself by writing. He should choose a job and write in his spare time. After you have written a few successful books, publishers will offer you contracts, and you will be able to devote all of your time to writing."

He stressed the fact that students cannot be taught how to write. Writing courses guide the students and show them "what not to do."

Music Contest Slated Friday At University

Another group of high school students will invade the campus Friday and Saturday for the Oregon State annual Music Contest.

Hundreds of high school musicians are expected to take part in the contest. The entrants have all received top ratings in previous contests held in eight districts in the state. Solos, groups and ensembles, bands and orchestras are to be heard during the two-day judging.

In charge of the contest is John H. Stehn, professor of music, who announced that a full schedule has been arranged, beginning at 9:30 Friday morning. Solos and small ensembles will be first on Friday's schedule, including all solo instruments, vocal ensembles and solos, and string ensembles.

At 8:30 on Saturday the judging of chorus and glee club groups will begin in the School of Music Auditorium. Bands and orchestras will be heard at the same time, playing in McArthur Court. Nine judges are expected to hear the several classifications of entrants.

Chosen from Three States

These judges were chosen from music fields in all three Pacific states. They will rate each entrant as first, second or third grade on technique and performance. The contest is not competitive but affords a chance for one group of judges to rate leading musicians in the state at one time each year.

Housing for the large group is being arranged by the University Music Department, and meals will be served at Vets' Dorm and John Straub. Light lunches will also be served at a concession booth set up in McArthur Court.

Interested persons may attend the contests. Students and townspeople will also have an opportunity to see and hear several of the bands which are expected to participate in the parade Saturday noon sponsored by the Boy Scouts of America.

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Traveling Jobs Open for Men

Several positions for men willing to travel have been received by the graduate placement office, Karl W. Onthank, placement director, reported Wednesday.

"This is a good chance for men with sales ability, preferable single, and able to get a car, to make good money at interesting work," Onthank said.

Some positions are available immediately, others may be held until after the end of the term.

Interested students may contact Onthank,, 216 Emerald Hall.

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Forum on Insurance Scheduled at 3:30

A forum on life insurance careers will be held today at 3:30 p.m. in 106 Commerce.

W. C. Schuppel, chairman of the board, Standard Insurance Company, will address the group.

The forum, sponsored by the National Association of Life Insurance Underwriters, is planned to provide information about life insurance work, rather than to recruit employees.

'Theater Excitement' Planned May 9, 10

"Theater Excitement No. 2, the University Theater's 1950 Ethel Sawyer Memorial Production, will be presented May 9 and 10 at 8 p.m.

Open only to season ticket holders, the production will consist of four one-act plays, staged, directed and acted by the Theory of Acting class of the Drama and Speech department.

Theater Excitement is an annual performance for season ticket holders, in memory of the late Ethel Sawyer, former University Librarian and University Theater supporter.

Last season, the Theater presented "Measure of Reason," by Robert Frost and "Theater of the Soul" by Evreinoff.

Oregon Retailers Schedule Confab Here May 14, 15

Merchants from throughout the state will gather on the campus May 14 and 15 for the 11th annual conference of the Oregon Retail Distributors' Institute.


The conference program will include a Sunday night banquet and business meetings, addresses, panel discussions, and election of new officers Monday.

Eric Stanford, secretary-treasurer of I. Magnin Stores, San Francisco, Calif., will be the principal speaker at the banquet. Mr. Stanford is past controller of Olds, Wortman, and King Co. in Portland and of the Boston Store, Milwaukee, Wis. His topic will be "How to Solve Some Current Retail Problems."

University faculty members to participate in the program are Victor P. Morris, dean of the School of Business Administration; N. H. Comish, professor of business administration and secretary of the institute; and University President Harry K. Newburn.

The conference will begin with the banquet, scheduled for 6:30 p.m. May 14, and end with a tour of new campus buildings at 4 p.m. May 15.

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