

Oregon Daily

EMERALD

## How to Make an A

# Here's the Key--From Psychologists

"What's the psychology of getting an A?" was one of the ways the question "How do you get an A?" was turned around for the psychology department.

"Any attempt to tell students in general how to get an A is silly," H. R. Taylor, head of the department, exclaimed. "It implies there is some way by which the majority of people can become above average."

The most important single factor in earning high grades in colleges is intellectual capacity, Taylor believed, though he realizes memorized information often gets by as a substitute.

"The amount of time devoted to study, and the efficiency of study habits also effect achievement and tend to be reflected in grades," he continued. "A desirable improvement in academic standards would be achieved if students increased the effectiveness of studying, yet the number of A's assigned might not increase at all."

Working for grades is the poorest of educational motives, Taylor explained. Students are already too grade conscious.

"The only educational values really worth striving for are new ideas and growth in understanding."

## Second in a Series

This is the second in a series of articles entitled, "How to Make an A."

The Emerald isn't setting up an A as the ultimate goal of college achievement, nor is it supporting or opposing the grade system as it now exists. It is simply reporting the best ways to obtain an A as expressed from three different viewpoints: the student, the psychologist, and the faculty.

The final of the three-part series will be followed by editorial comment from the author, Associate Editor Don Smith.

"Forget about grades," is the professor's advice. Work hard to broaden your outlook on life, to learn some subject well; and to discover your talents and diversify your interests and skills."

Miss Leona Tyler, associate professor of psychology, has some advice along different lines. Miss Tyler agrees with much of what professor Taylor says, but her work at the University counselling center has made it necessary for her to give some specific advice to students on how to raise their GPA.

This is what Miss Tyler advises students:

Pick the right field; clear up your troubles; when studying get basic concepts and get them organized; read the material actively; get precise ideas.

"The right field," said Miss Tyler, is the field in which the student has interest and ability."

"Clear up your troubles that might interfere with your studying. Don't just ignore them, that takes a certain amount of mental energy."

Precise ideas help a student in any type test, the psychology professor explained, while general, vague ideas are no help at all in getting a good test grade.

R. A. Littman, assistant professor of psychology, asked, "Should a student try to get an A?" He feels many students shouldn't; that the cost to the student as a personality is sometimes too great, and doesn't warrant the effort.

It's a matter of values, as professor Littman sees it.

"A consuming interest in one or two subjects is a healthy interest," Littman believes. "A student may be willing to accept a B or C in a class, so he could do a fine job of learning in one course."

## No Tears for Beer--Only Action

Out of the smoke of last week have come a good many voices—all of them echoing the same sentiment:

"This problem of drinking is a social problem—one that won't be solved by simply stopping the sale of beer near the campus. Liquor laws should be enforced, but you can't legislate morality."

And surely a handful of administrators in that office called student affairs can't legislate morality. No matter how strict their rules, they'll fail without student support.

A week or two before the cork blew off, the Executive Council was told that excessive drinking and rowdiness were becoming a problem—"but keep this off the record"—Director of Student Affairs DuShane said.

Had there been a little more "on the record"—the problem thrown to the student body—Oregon's own students would have beaten the liquor inspectors and administration's inspector to the draw.

But spilt beer merits no more tears. The students have gone to work.

Some house presidents have already spoken, and ASUO President Mountain is asking support from all living organizations on a policy of "each group responsible for its members staying in line."

New student body cards—complete with photograph—will be introduced to Executive Council members tonight. Incidentally, the Council was working on such cards long before the present ruckus.

And now—if some pressure groups throughout our conservative state and the University administration will wait a minute or two—we'll see just what we can do.

## Relax Your Way to Higher Grades

The University recently has become concerned—and somewhat perturbed—about what was described as an "undercurrent"—an ineffable something relating to a general "devil-may-care, I'm only young once" attitude.

But maybe some aspects of that undercurrent are desirable. For a recent scientific survey hows that leisure is just as important as work—and that it also must be taken just as seriously.

One doctor discovered that "more dates mean better marks—frequent dating enlarges a student's interests, broadens his extra-curricular activities so that he becomes a psychologically healthier and more rounded person."

Now, to see how you stack up, take a look at these questions the experts ask:

- (1) Do you have several hobbies?
- (2) Do you think you know how to make yourself relax, particularly under tension or when you're over-tired? What is your posture for relaxing?
- (3) Are meal times filled with relaxed, pleasant tastes and adventures in the enjoyment of food, or a nervous shoveling in of tasteless food?
- (4) Can you catnap?
- (5) Can you sleep at night even when not physically exhausted?
- (6) Can you concentrate as hard on a pretty girl as on your studies even though you're in the midst of exam week.
- (7) Do you smoke for enjoyment and not just as a nervous habit?—T.K.

## THE DAILY 'E'...

to Oregon's outstanding scholars—Byron Brenden, Dorothy Christiansen, Richard Dahlberg, Roger Moore, Henrietta Richmond, and Barbara Stevenson—who have been chosen the Senior Six of Phi Beta Kappa.

## THE OREGON LEMON...

to the poet who writes so well but fails to sign his name: "There once was a student named Stew who tasted of brew at the U. An official quite fair sniffed a burp in the air, and Stew's college career was quite through."



## Campus Critic

# Movies Better Than Ever: Exhibit 1, 'All About Eve'

By Don Smith

This is the week of good movies in Eugene—which is a refreshing change from most weeks.

"All About Eve" is one of the finest films of this year, with stars Bette Davis, Anne Baxter, and Celeste Holm turning in sharp performances. The comedy is bright and witty, with the smart remarks popping from the screen at a rapid-fire pace.

It's a story about show people, which always appeals to show people, and in this instance should appeal to anyone who likes smart comedy.

The story's about a girl named Eve who climbs to the top of the legitimate stage heap by clawing her way through the lives of the stage's top star, top playwright, top director, and the playwright's wife. She does it all with a "sweeter than honey" attitude that covers up her cunning planning. She gets away with almost everything, but finally gets stopped by a man who's even worse than she—George Sanders as a cynical drama critic, (fashioned, perhaps, after George Jean Nathan).

One plea—this show is two hours and a quarter long (and every minute good), but why, why does the McDonald have to throw in a co-feature as awful as "Holiday Rhythm"?

But if you don't feel like you want to hear snappy dialogue, you can try the Rex and Charlie Chaplin expresses his protest in comedy-tragedy that was made after talkies were in style; but Chaplain expresses his protest in

this one against talkies by making it without sound, and showing Hollywood that good movies are good movies, with or without sound. Filmed about 1931, it's still a funny comedy about the love of a little tramp for a blind flower girl.

The two old-timers at the Mayflower were tops in their days, and should still be powerful films. "Les Miserables" was a Chapman hall Wednesday night movie about a year ago, and was mighty entertaining. "Stanley and Livingstone" is a good adventure story—ten years ago, or today.

## Letters

# The Campus Answers

Oops, Wrong Sex  
Emerald Editor:

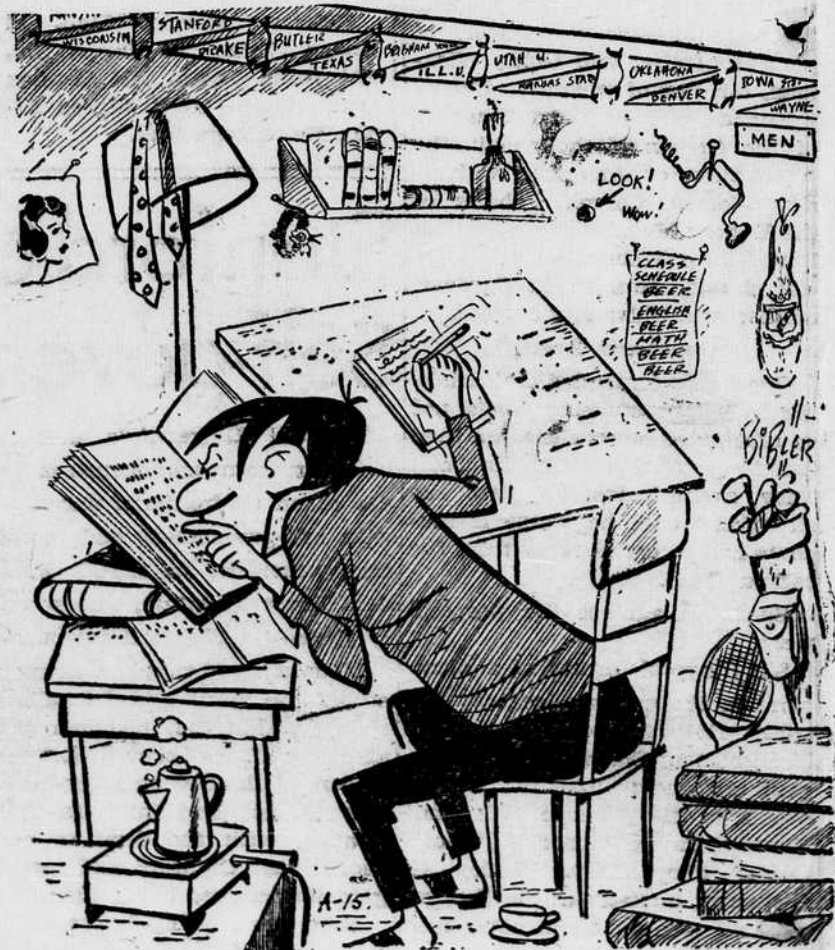
I wonder when the fraternities initiated a new plan of selecting those to receive letters of invitation to rush.

The type of rushing done by the Sigma Phi Epsilons is a little out of the ordinary. Originality is fine but just how original can they get?

Though I am greatly honored to receive such an invitation from the Sigma Phi Epsilons to rush, I being an "old fashioned" girl, believe that the men should take the initiative.

Miss Beryl Parrish

## It Could Be Oregon



(English Assignment: An ORIGINAL composition).

## The Second Cup

Pouring salt into the wound was the headline that appeared in the Oregon Journal Saturday after the University had reams of front page copy in the metropolitan dailies headed "Beer Battle," etc. The head: "OSC Campus Scene of Milk Sanitation."