

Oregon Daily EMERALD

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Sour Grapes and Stanford

A fifth grade teacher once said there are three classes of people: those who make the world go round; those who know the world's moving, but don't do anything about it, and those who aren't even aware of any motion.

She forgot one class, those who balk at every move, those who do nothing but grumble and gripe and criticize the movers.

Of course criticism is important, but a little more constructive criticism and a little less sour grapes would be welcome. Reactionaries—maybe that's what they are—those people who decide they don't like a plan before they even know what the plan entails.

Senator Owen Brewster of Maine afforded a good example of this last week. He was criticizing what President Truman was going to say long before the speech was even made.

And a recent example here on the Oregon campus—those critics of the nine-man committee's trip to study deferred living at Stanford last weekend.

Some said two or three could have done the job as well as nine. Some complained over the use of student funds to pay expenses for such a large group to go all the way to Stanford. And others said these travelers were undoubtedly going to spend all their time playing in beautiful California.

Expenses were not all paid. The Athletic Department paid gas costs, for two cars and that's all. Two committee members paid their own bus fares one way.

Stanford provided most of the housing, but the students paid for one night's housing and most of their meals.

Two or three could not have done as thorough jobs as nine. Each of the nine took one phase of the Stanford dormitory and deferred living program, and they worked two full days. Now committee members are meeting daily to write and compile reports.

Students on the committee came from fraternities, sororities, men's and women's dormitories in an effort to provide impartial representation of all groups involved in deferred living. And when their report is completed, it will carry more weight coming from ten qualified students than from two.

The Censor Is the Student

Campus entertainment is again under fire.

This time it's because the master of ceremonies at the all-campus Vodvil told stories. And the high school seniors heard the stories. And some Oregon students thought the stories were "disgusting" and they passed their thoughts on to the Office of Student Affairs.

The campus entertainment chairman has been very concerned, but she had done her part with the Vodvil and could not control the off-color which came up. The individual skits were all clean enough for the purest high school senior, in keeping with the vodvil tradition at Oregon.

What happened is inevitable and why worry about it? No matter how powerful the entertainment committee is, it cannot predict what a performer is going to say.

Public opinion is the strongest weapon against that which we call "smut." Oregon audiences will decide what they will take and will object if extremes are reached.

Extremes were obviously hit earlier this year, and the Office of Student Affairs stepped in. But then the problem was thrown back to the entertainment chairman for continuing acts and to campus opinion for impromptu performers.

And here the problem should remain. We are confident that Oregon students are capable of censoring their own entertainment. There may be an occasional slip-up, but how prissy can we be!

THE DAILY 'E'...
to Mary Alice Baker, new president, and Frank Cothrell, retiring president, of the University Religious Council, and to their sets of officers which have and will coordinate religious activities on the campus.

USA and AGS--Presidents Explain

By Bill Carey

The Associated Greek Students' purpose is creating an organ through which campus fraternal organizations might voice their sentiments and feelings. Its main goal is contributing its share toward better student government, thereby making the University a finer institution.

The constitution states, "all social fraternities and sororities of the University... which have been duly recognized by the proper authorities and which have been approved by the majority vote of the AGS may become members of the organization by subscribing to its constitution and by-laws." Each member has two official representatives, and one vote per house.

The three elective officers of AGS are the president, the vice-president, and the secretary-treasurer. They serve as chairmen of the three permanent standing committees—the policy, promotion, and the finance committees, respectively. Every member of AGS is represented on at least one of these committees, thus encouraging a more active participation on the part of the representatives.

Due to the reorganization of AGS and the adoption of a new constitution this year it has taken a big stride forward in trying to attain the goals of all the students at the University of Oregon in promoting good, effective student government.

Behind the Initials

Typical was the recent question by a freshman, "what the devil do those USA, AGS initials stand for?"

Because elections are May 2, only two weeks away, that question should be answered immediately. And here the Emerald presents the answers as given by those who should know, presidents of AGS and USA.

Bill Carey tells the whys and whats of his political party, the Associated Greek Students, and Ernie Baldini gives an account of the coalition, United Students Association.

Both parties are accepting petitions for nominations until Friday of this week.

By Ernie Baldini

"The United Students' Association is founded for the purpose of promulgating active student government based on maximum student participation. Such participation is not to be divided on social or class lines at any time for any reason, but on the principle that every individual member shall act as his own representative in the Association."

The above, from the preamble of the USA Constitution, is the purpose of the party.

At Oregon a barrier between Greeks and Independents has shown itself time and again. A coalition party can help eliminate that barrier.

The USA is composed of Greeks, off campus, co-op, and independent students. Its purpose is to have overall representation, so that all views and interests may be represented. Positions on the steering committee are open to anyone interested in and capable of furthering student government.

USA candidates will be chosen democratically in an open assembly Apr. 23. I urge you to attend, to voice your opinions and nominate your candidates.

There are no restrictions on membership in USA, except that USA members are pursuing active student government based on maximum student participation, and cannot, therefore, be active members of another political party on the campus.

The Word

Stanford Showed Us Hospitality While Oregon Handed Out Gripes

From Stan Turnbull



As a member of the much-kicked-about committee that investigated dormitory and other conditions at Stanford, this writer would like to add a personal touch to the editor's thoughtful editorial over to the left.

The committee, which received only transportation and spent plenty of their own money and time, went to Stanford because it's a school that's had the "living-in" plan for a long time, that's worked out a pretty happy solution, that's comparable to Oregon in size of student body—a combination hard to find elsewhere on the coast.

The two things that most impressed this group at Stanford were the hospitality and friendliness of the students and the place that student government occupies there—and one of the things that is the most galling about the criticism the group got for their trouble is that it reflects an attitude here at Oregon that works against both friendliness and student government.

It's hard to understand the thought processes of an Emerald columnist who suggests that "it would appear that Oregon is big enough to work out a program of its own without aping another university." In other words, shut your eyes—don't learn anything from anybody else who's worked out similar problems to your own. This is hard to take.

Why not, suggests a letter-to-the-editor-writer, contact Stanford grads and transfers on this

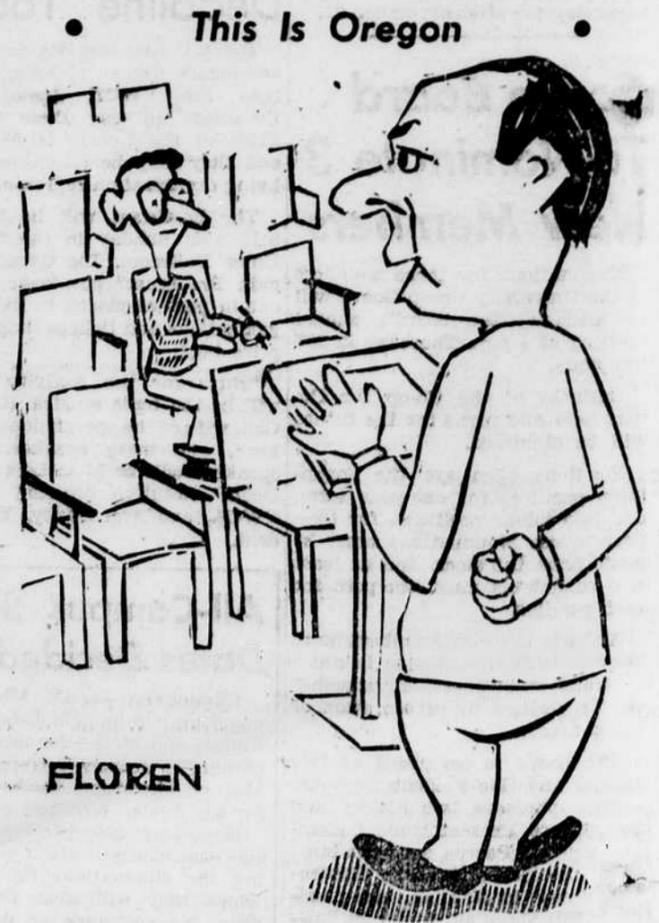
campus? Well, at Stanford the committee talked to the student body president, AWS president, IFC president, head counsellor for the freshman men's dorm and other students and faculty in qualified positions. Such a group would be impossible to round up here.

Another interesting thing was that the committee talked mostly to students rather than faculty—this is because at Stanford student government is a real thing, and the students have a big say in how they're to be governed. Also, the group thus obtained student opinion rather

than the "official" opinion—but the interesting thing was that the opinions of these two groups, unlike here, were so similar.

So there it is. The committee will present its report soon—a report on which this group, representing a good cross-section of independent and fraternity men and women, reached complete agreement.

Possibly with a little more thinking and a little less irresponsible griping, students here will someday cooperate to the point where they can take the pride in their University that Stanford students do in theirs.



FLOREN

Ah, spring! The season when a Prof. often finds himself delivering a man-to-man talk instead of an afternoon lecture.

The Second Cup

Some have said about life: Ofttimes the test of courage becomes rather to live than to die. Alfieri—Orestes.

Every man's life is a fairy-tale written by God's fingers. Hans Christian Andersen

Life is a jig saw puzzle with most of the pieces missing. Anonymous.