

# Oregon Daily EMERALD

The OREGON DAILY EMERALD is published Monday through Friday during the college year, except examination and holiday periods, with issues on Homecoming Saturday and Junior Weekend Saturday by the Associated Students of the University of Oregon. Entered as second class matter at the post office, Eugene, Oregon. Subscription rates: \$5 per school year, \$2 per term.

Opinions expressed on the editorial page are those of the writer and do not pretend to represent the opinions of the ASUO or of the University. Initialed editorials are written by the associate editors. Unsigned editorials are written by the editor.

## On the Air... Two 'Hits' Slighted By SU Juke Box

By Don Collin

Of the "Hit Parade's" big three, how come only "Undecided" on Student Union juke? Where's "Slow Poke" and "Down Yonder"? The story of how "Down Yonder" written in the twenties achieved fame in the fifties is in Newsweek of Dec. 31.

For the Sunday early birds, two outstanding news commentators are Howard K. Smith and Charles Collingwood (aired on KERG at 9:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. respectively.) Smith is chief European correspondent for CBS news. Broadcasts originate in London or on the Continent. It's on the scene reporting by a brilliant analyst. Collingwood is top Washington reporter for CBS.

Speaking of Washington reporters, Fulton Lewis Jr. (4 and 10 p.m. Monday thru Friday on KORE) got commendation for being on the same network at the same time for 15 years—a supposed accomplishment. Off the cuff comment of Lewis' long reign due more to the stock he owns in the network than to the quality of his work.

Football over (Dick Patrick got Hoffman award); and basketball taking a breather before the season. Not much in the way of sports this weekend except for wrestling on KORE Saturday at 9:30 p.m.

If you haven't stepped out by 8:30 p.m. (Saturday) give a listen to KUGN's last broadcast of a series of four documentaries on the Soviet Union. Mrs. Ada Siegel, daughter of a non-Bolshevik Minister of Justice in Lenin's first coalition cabinet, narrates the series, entitled "USSR." Saturday's broadcast is on "Russian Humanitarianism vs. Marxist Communism." Others dealt with nationalities and minorities in the Soviet Union, the economy and the evolution of a new Soviet man.

A map showing the forced labor camps is available at following address: USSR, American Broadcasting Company, New York 20, New York. Will report later if scripts are available.

Comments of the week: Ed Morrow (KERG 5 p.m. Monday through Friday) on Stassen's list of presidential advisors including Baruch, MacArthur, Eisenhower, Harry Byrd and Jim Farley. "The sum total of this advice will be confusing"... Charlie McCarthy (KERG Sundays at 5:30 and 9 p.m.) on superstition that a kiss takes ten minutes off your life. "I'm going out and commit suicide."

KPOJ's Ted Hallock (ex U of O) wants to sell his record collection for a price with four figures... Band for Military Ball January 19 will probably be K.P. ... A University student is trying to get a 15-minute spot of the local air for a "Student Views of Politics" series. Now that an election year is with us, many students will be first-voters. Purpose will be to review and discuss issues and candidates with occasional guest experts and the candidates themselves.

KASH's Dinner Hour Concert (5 to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Friday) now announcing name of selections, helps those who know themes but not titles. KASH barely keeping head out of water financially... NBC's expansion of stations may by-pass Eugene or to get it another network may have to be dropped.

## From the "Morgue"...

15 YEARS AGO  
Jan. 4, 1937—Oregon's new \$365,000 physical education building will be opened for public inspection tonight. The building, which is almost entirely artificially lighted, will be open for student use Tuesday.

Eight students made all A grades fall term, the honor roll reveals. The School of Business Administration ranked highest with 19 students on the honor roll.

## So THIS Is Oregon Silence and Disinterest Slow Progress of UO Student Senate

By Jim Haycox

Depending somewhat on individual opinion, the ASUO senate either ran or stalled its way through fall term and its first 12 weeks of existence. To me it clattered—a word I'll define as halting but hopeful motion in a more or less straight line — toward success, we hope.



JIM HAYCOX

But that, many senators will agree, is no real compliment. Nor was it so intended.

Lots of things went wrong which shouldn't have. Most could and should be explained as follows: It was a new organization somewhat undefined in spite of a constitution and made up of students inexperienced in the roles they were to play. Most, I said, but not all.

The thing that really stuck out like a sore thumb, at the first and at the last, was the indolence, indifference, and ignorance of some of these so-called "senators." Roughly half a dozen of the group did most of the talking and seemingly carried all the weight of decision. Why others even bothered to interrupt their Thursday nights is a mystery.

Granted, it got slightly better near the last. But just a few of these silent-senators are still a few too many.

Apparently, nobody ever told these sheep why they were there. Nor did they stop to ponder the question themselves when they petitioned.

Back in PS 201 and 202 they try to impart the idea of a national senate and house of representatives. As our group is unicameral, its duties may in some ways differ from those we hear about on the national scene. But the great duty of any senator, be he or she here, in Washington or Timbucktoo, is a constant one; that of representation. It can't be done by sitting back in your chair and picking your nose.

Which brings us to a second sticker. You can't make much noise if you don't know what's going on. You can't be much of a senator if you begrudge the student body three hours of a Thursday night, stay fogged in through most of that, and then

forget the whole works till the next Thursday night. Being senator is a job in itself. They are more than a few in this category, too.

But these two things, the lence of some of our erstwhile senators and their apparent disinterest, are the only two charges of any consequence I can make. Other points of confusion came up but as often as not provided welcome comic relief.

For example, hardly a meeting went by without some tangle with parliamentary procedure. More than once the group passed something, went on, then wondered they passed it legally or not. About this time somebody takes off both shoes and begins to count. Several times the vote was insufficient, so another vote was taken. On one memorable occasion they couldn't scrape up the extra ballot and a motion that would have passed by majority was vetoed.

The record, thus far, is not what one would call impressive unless you consider that they've only been at it this one term. This will not be time to really judge this group until perhaps the end of school.

But there is a chance that within the next couple of months the senate will have a chance to show itself as the powerful and representative body it should be.

The issue may well be the committee members, all but a couple of them senators themselves, encouraging. Before the end of the term that committee may report back with a workable plan of operation.

But here's the hitch. If a small group of "silents" within the senate refuses to get on the stick and goes on playing its little game of boredom, the honor roll will probably go down the drain just as NSA (National Student Association) did. And you should have heard that debate... it was sad.

I doubt if more than three or four senators knew anything about NSA. The rest showed up either by saying rather senseless things or, as most of them do, by saying nothing at all.

Let's just hope it doesn't happen again. Let's hope this year has brought new vitality to this organization, Oregon's greatest experiment in student government.

## A Walk Before Breakfast

Like to take a brisk walk before breakfast? That's what three-hundred odd residents of the Vets' dorm are doing starting this term. That is, if they want to eat.

The Vets' Commons was closed by order of the administration because it was operating at a financial loss, and because John Straub hall was not filled. Residents are now eating at Straub. (The page one story will tell you all this, so we're not going into the whys and wherefores again here.)

We agree that the University cannot afford, in these days of high-cost living, to operate a facility losing \$2000 a term. The Vets' Commons at Oregon State college was closed at the end of the 1950-51 school year for the same reason. Dorm residents there eat in the Memorial Union.

But we think Vets' dorm residents should have been consulted before hand. The closure decision was made on Saturday, Dec. 15, the middle of final week. Only dorm counselors were told of the problem. A letter dated Dec. 22 informed the dorm men of the committee's action. Nice Christmas present!

The students affected should have had a chance to consider the problem and possible alternatives to the closure. Their decision might well have been the same as that of the administrative group, but they would at least have had a voice.

H. P. Barnhart, director of dormitories, agrees with us here. He admitted, after the decision was made, that it would have been preferable to consult students. But he pointed out the committee did not know until Dec. 15 that there would be so few men in the dorms. Room reservation slips, due Dec. 10, were turned in late. The drop came as a surprise, he said.

It seems strange that the possibility of closing the Commons could not have been anticipated and presented to the students as an "if" proposition: If enough students didn't reserve rooms, what should the school do? Or, room reservations should have been requested earlier.

The administration has doubtless made needless enemies by keeping students in the dark again. The fellows hiking down to Straub for meals would still dislike the three-times-a-day trek, but they'd be more apt to cheerfully take it in stride if they knew they'd had a part in the action.

## The Useless Jan. 2 Classes

Generally speaking, the first day of January is regarded as a holiday. At the very least it should be a day of rest for the common man who has spent the preceding night ringing out the old and in the new.

Morally, the practice of getting pie-eyed for New Year's Eve may be inexcusable, but the custom is widely practiced by all hands, including college students. This makes hangovers, etc., the order of the day for January the Firsts. Unless, of course, one goes against the mops and spends the number one day traveling back to the campus instead of recuperating.

Is there justifiable reason for having regular classes the day after the annual defeat of some PCC football team in the Rose Bowl?

We'll discount the line of thought in our leading paragraphs as being too weak to stand alone. But many students enrolled at the University wouldn't. So they celebrate or recuperate, etc., and return to school several days late.

This makes regular classes on Jan. 2 something of a farce. Even those students on campus have to complete registration (preregistration notwithstanding) and pick up various supplies. This may not take very long (depending on the length of the lines) but it usually kills at least one class period.

Class attendance seems to vary from 25 to 75 per cent. Some professors will dismiss the class. Others will stubbornly lecture if only one faithful conformist appears. Most professors will feel obliged to repeat their first lecture at least once. This either makes a sucker out of the professor or the students who made the first lecture.

So why be dogmatic? Why not forget classes for Jan. 2? If it were declared a Rope Yarn Sunday, students could straggle back to their respective houses or halls, finish registering, draw supplies, and just generally slide back into the groove without shortchanging themselves or their professors so early in the term.

It might be argued that the same sort of situation would have to be faced regardless of when classes started. That might be correct to a certain extent (we won't be dogmatic) but a considerable segment of the campus population would appreciate the opportunity to draw an extra breath before the bell rings for the next round.—B. C.

## Did This Happen Here?



"Gosh, what a Christmas list. You must be sending 'Noel Cars' to the faculty!"