

Oregon Daily



EMERALD

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Always an Alibi

We're considering calling for petitions for charter membership in a new Oregon chapter of Alibis Unlimited.

Last week we were grumbling because we were having midterms. This week we're grumbling because we're getting the midterms back. (Or else because the professor hasn't got around to giving them back.) And when they start coming back, that means we have to become expert in manufacturing alibis good enough to explain away even the most devastating attacks via the grade-book.

But take courage, ye exploited masses! Aid has come from the most unexpected quarters—from the profs themselves, by way of the National Education association. It seems that, tongue in cheek, the NEA has compiled a handy list of suggestions on what to say on a number of academic occasions. We quote:

When you are given an objective test: "It doesn't let you express yourself."

When you are given an essay test: "It's so vague. You don't know what's expected."

When you are given minor tests: "Why not have a few big ones? This keeps you on edge all the time."

When you are given no tests: "It's not fair. How can he possibly judge what we know?"

When the course is in lecture form: "We never get a chance to say anything."

When the course consists of informal lectures and discussion: "He just sits there. Who wants to hear the students? They don't know how to teach the course."

When detailed material is presented: "What's the use? You forget it all after the exam, anyway."

When general principles are presented: "What did we learn? We knew all that before we took the course."

A tip of our well-worn rooster's lid to the NEA... and incidentally, suggestions for additions to the list will be gratefully accepted at the Emerald shack.—G. G.

It All Ties Together

"If one condition for a democracy can be set ahead of all others, it is this: the people, being the rulers, must receive complete and accurate information."

A man who's on campus today—James S. Pope, editor of the Louisville Courier-Journal and chairman of the American Society of Newspaper Editors' committee on freedom of information—made that so-true statement in the Atlantic Monthly last July.

And this is an appropriate time for us... and you... to be think of democracy, freedom and all ramifications thereof.

For 230 years ago today, one of the greatest advocates of freedom for the United States of America was born, in Bridges Creek, Virginia.

We'll wager that George Washington, the first president of this country, if alive today, would agree with that quote of Mr. Pope's. For on Sept. 19, 1796 he said in his farewell address:

"In proportion as the structure of a government gives force to public opinion, it is essential that public opinion should be enlightened."

And is not freedom of information essential to "enlightened" opinion? Throughout the country today we find restrictions on information: President Truman's "classification" ruling on U.S. government information... Increasing refusal of local public officials to divulge news to the local press... Far too frequent reply of "this is off-the-record" to reporters questions on Oregon campus affairs.

This is Brotherhood Week—Feb. 17-24.

And all this business about freedom of information and an enlightened public seem to tie in.

If we are to build brotherhood, between our own countrymen and with the peoples of the world, we must know what each other is thinking, saying and doing.

Ignorance breeds distrust; distrust does NOT breed brotherhood.

One of the stated purposes of this "week"—sponsored by the National Conference of Christians and Jews—is to demonstrate practical things people can do to promote the ideals of respect for people and human rights.

And one of these "practical things" is to tell the whole... and the full... truth to all the people.

Campus Headlines . .

'Gator Appears On JC Campus

The college education of a three-foot alligator was cut short last week after he was found basking in the sun on the campus of Sacramento junior college. The alligator, whose presence on the campus is a mystery, was taken to the local zoo.

Six out of 119 prospective journalism majors at the University of Syracuse, N. Y. correctly answered the question, "Name the Ten Commandments," which was included in an exam attempting to discover if students have the necessary background for journalism. The six students were all girls.

At Washington University, Confucius says concerning exams: "He who makes no noise in dorm before exam makes no noise to teacher after exam."

A new remedy concerning cuts in classes is being considered at Syracuse University: After three cuts a student's name is given to the dean's office; the student is called in and gives his excuse; all this information is then sent home to the little one's Mommy and Daddy. Says the dean: "There are no excused cuts, but illness and death in the family are given consideration."

At Michigan State college throngs of students took advantage of the recent Career Carnival. The carnival offers opportunities to students to speak to 67 representatives of business, government and industry.

The three living groups at Stanford who donate the most per capita in the coming foreign relief drive will have faculty hashers at one meal next week. Several faculty members have written applications giving references in proof of their hashing ability.

Mugs of beer that usually sell for 20 cents at the local hangout, will be offered free to University of South Carolina students who will contribute 15 cents to the March of Dimes.

"The hours for 'free' beer," says the campus paper "will be the usual cocktail hours, from 3 until 5."

A coeducational judo and self-defense class has been organized at the University of Chicago. So far, 14 men and women have signed up for the course.

On the Screen . . .

Weekend Brings Good Movies

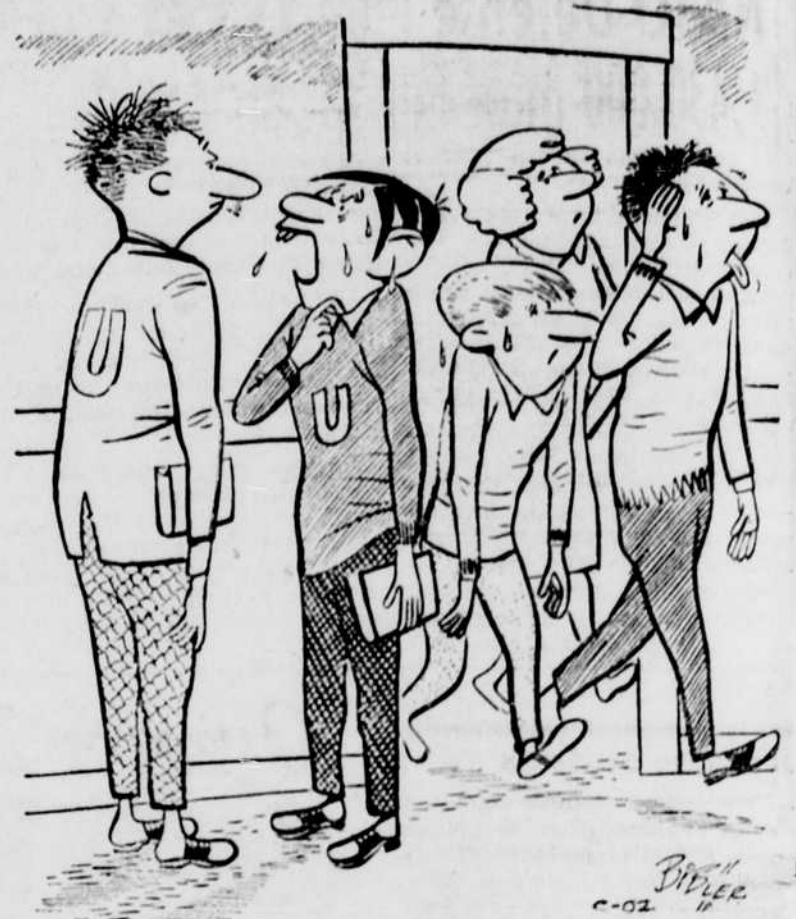
By Toby McCarroll

We are told that movies are getting better all the time, and judging from this weekend's choice that might be true; at least they are not all bad, as is usually the case.

The Mayflower will present one of the greatest films to come out of contemporary England. "The Browning Version," starring Michael Redgrave, won two international prizes. The story concerns the life and struggles of a schoolmaster, hated and misunderstood. He disguises his true feelings behind a mask of stone and a machine-like manner. This is broken down when one of his pupils displays a bit of affection, thus beginning a series of actions which culminate in a seldom equalled, simple and stirring climax. Mr. Redgrave's indescribable excellence is matched only by the quality of the story.

At the McDonald an ex-Eugene dentist, Edgar Buchanan, will play with Kirk Douglas in the "Big Tree." This is the usual story of the fight between the timber barons and the home-steaders with Kirk Douglas playing his usual role. Buchanan managed to get his sister and her two sons into the picture. To those concerned with the Sequoia forests or the Buchanan

Grist for the Alibi Mill



"What a foul dealin', mistrustin', atrocity committin' prof old Snarf is—This test he gave us was completely different than th' one he gave in yer 10 o'clock class."

So THIS Is Oregon

Honor Code Opponents Should Give it a Chance, Then Squawk

By Jim Haycox

Publicity and sweet talk aside, those who believe in an honor code strong enough to go out and hang themselves for it may do just that.

For the opposition among the student body waits only for the completed plan before taking up the howl. It should therefore, be pretty noisy around here in a couple more weeks.

And who knows what stones will be left unturned by this opposition. An honor code, among other things, will be a hot political potato. It will for once, however, give our politicians an issue.

Opposition from another



JIM HAYCOX

source, however, is apt to carry equally as much weight. Just a few faculty members—and there are those few—would be enough to make a beautiful fuss.

This faculty opposition states that an honor code will either turn students into tattletales; be ineffective because it has so far been that way; or will be ignored, perhaps increasing the amount of cheating.

This, mind you, is the faculty. Those who would call us tattletales are applying a connotation to the word that comes from childhood when the smallest kid in the bunch always went running home to mama.

And if it hasn't worked before, it is perhaps because there has been no one idea applied, but a series of weaker or stronger methods favored by individual professors.

Most people have some idea of honor... some believing that it can be shed like a coat in the right circumstances. It would seem then that a code, like an education, would have to start early, be everywhere and be uniform to lick what is essentially the moving spirit behind academic dishonesty... not an ignorance of honesty but the unwillingness to apply same.

Would it be ignored? Let's say, for example, that half a class ignores it; the other half abides. That seems like a good enough start. Certainly no one expects the great dream to be reality as the result of a vote. The code is itself a process of education.

Perhaps it comes down to this. You could sit up all night and think up reasons against the code, or kissing on dates or 3.2 beer. Or you could spend your time doing just the opposite.

But we will never know if this thing is to work—we will never have justifiable reasons for opposing it—unless it is tried. The chances of success and the rewards of success are far too great to let go by without a good trial fling. It cannot be proven guilty by talk alone.

From the Morgue...

Feb. 22, 1937—A new women's rushing plan—calling for a rush week before freshman week fall term—will be considered at a Panhellenic meeting Tuesday. "I heartily endorse this new plan," stated Dean of Women Hazel Schwering.

Coming Soon: Feb. 29, The University theater will present "The Second Man," starring one man, Faber DeChaine.