

Oregon Daily EMERALD

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Looking Back... And Ahead

This is the last 1951-52 Emerald, and our last editorial page. We're sitting here in our messy little office doing what so many persons do when they reach the end of something—reflecting. Thought you might like to join us for a moment.

We've been mulling over some of the gripes we've aired, and the compliments we've paid. Now we're wondering what's to come in the future.

Take that eternal topic: Campus politics.

We became pretty involved, what with Greeks calling us dirty Independents and Independents calling us dirty Greeks.

It's important for the campus to have good student officials. Whether these students live in a Greek house, or a dorm, or a co-op, or off-campus makes little difference in their capabilities to handle a student office.

So, taking a look back at our four spring term elections, we say the campus could try a different system.

Certainly we grant that campus politics, in their present form, are realistic training for state and national politics. But we also think many persons on campus who now turn up their noses at what they consider foolish child's play might not do so if a different system were tried.

Out of curiosity, we wrote to other Western schools for opinion. Editors and student body presidents replied. Only one was satisfied that his school had THE system, and, had no Greek-Independent schism. That was Stanford. They utilize the individual petition system, with no parties.

The same old story came from other schools—confusion, parties based on living groups, Greek-Independent splits, apathy.

Several of the writers suggested that Oregon take the lead in improving the campus election system.

The ideal seems to be parties based on platforms, not living groups. We've mentioned this to many students here. Their replies have been discouraging.

So, the Stanford no-party system sounds sensible. We'd like to see it tried. We can see some hope this year along the line of abolishing the you-belong-because-you-live-here party. But we wish that we could see tangible effort, not just hope.

Then there are the pay telephones.

We fought a long verbal battle to rid the campus of the pay phones. We think it was worth it. But we know the job isn't finished, as long as the dorm students are paying 10 cents a call.

There are people in the administration who agree completely. With persons like Lyle Nelson, who gave us invaluable aid, around next year we're confident the administrators will be behind the students again.

And the speeches we heard.

Our most cherished opportunities this year were those of talking with, hearing and writing about the famous speakers on our 75th anniversary assembly program. We hope the tradition, though expensive, is carried on.

There's much we could say here, but space is growing short.

A moment ago we looked back to our third issue of the year. There we ran a statement of policy. We said:

"The... editorial page will take stands on issues. It will not try to sit on the fence and please everyone."

"Conclusions drawn by the editorial writers may be wrong, but they will be the result of sincere conviction."

We have earnestly endeavored to follow these.

We've tried to tell you what we thought you were entitled to know about life in your community—the University of Oregon.

We've served you as best we could. Our job is done.

Monday We Tell Them

Oregon students get their chance to let their profs know what they think of them Monday and Tuesday.

Faculty rating forms, prepared by Mortar Board, will go out to classes of professors who want the rating. Students will indicate—anonously—their opinions on the professor's class presentation, tests, assignments, and personal relationships.

We're all for faculty rating. If the students will take the time and thought Monday and Tuesday to give constructive criticism—not omitting praise where it is merited—and if the faculty will give serious consideration to what their students have to say about them, it's possible that some measurable improvement in the level of teaching may be noticed in 1952-53.

—G. G.

A Letter to the Editor

Dear Larry: There's a Job Ahead for You and the Staff

You're not going to be the most popular man on campus next year, Mr. Hobart. But we hope you'll be among the most respected.

Why do we say this? Because you will be the editor of the Oregon Daily Emerald, not just any campus paper. Because you don't have a faculty "adviser-censor." You don't have journalism profs heading classes which staff your paper.

Consequently, you will say what you wish. And you won't be able to pass complaints off on anyone else. You're it.

You see, many persons on this campus—both faculty and students—think we should print only the good news. They don't like it when the bad appears. That's why you won't always be popular.

You have an important decision to make at the first of the year—are you going to print a NEWS paper, or a publicity for the University? Actually, you'll do both. The only means of publicizing campus activities will be through your paper. You cannot escape that fact.

But that doesn't mean you have to ignore robberies, fires, cheating—if you think your readers are entitled to the news. You won't print everything. No self-respecting newspaper does. You will bypass, if they occur, the attempted suicides, the more sordid crimes, and so on unless the persons involved are so prominent the public must know why they are no longer with us.

You will be told that you should keep in mind the "good of the University. Remember that the Em-

erald goes to persons throughout the entire state." And you will consider this. But you will try not to always place it above telling your readers what is going on.

Remember that whenever some news event occurs, people begin talking. Perhaps the event is damaging. But also consider the wild, ill-founded rumors that result when word of mouth is the only means of communication. A simple news story, giving the facts, will dispel the rumors.

Talk to lots of people. Encourage them to disagree with you, and hope that, occasionally, they will agree. In your position it's extremely important to gather all the sides of an issue because you will judge that issue—in the manner you consider right—and over 3000 persons will read what you say.

We said the administrative people are always thinking of the "good of the University." But remember, that's their job. They can be tremendously cooperative and helpful, and usually are.

Your biggest asset will be your staff. The students working with you on this newspaper will be your staunch supporters, as well as willing, efficient newspapermen and women. They'll be your friends, too.

They're a tremendous crew. And we know, from working with you for nearly three years, that you will be a capable editor.

Together you and your staff should publish one of the finest Emeralds yet. Good luck.

On the Stage...

Student Actors Good in 'Seagull'

By Toby McCarroll

"Greater Drama" has seemingly, a prerequisite of limited enjoyability. "The Seagull" meets this. Fortunately, the enjoyable parts are so good they compensate for the dull portions. Unfortunately, one must sit through the latter to see the former.

The people of drama must be admired for their courage in bringing this play to the campus.

In the first act the characters and their reasons for unhappiness are introduced in some of the finest satirical irony put before an audience. Chekhov, in the second, invites you to jeer with him at the characters and plots.

But in the third he seems to become tired, for there we find little more than a couple of dull plots. To end the play Chekhov returns to the basic plot and conflicts as the audience waits patiently for a central character to shoot himself, and the curtain.

The cast was worthy of this great writer's work. There was no star, nor did anyone try to star. The actors were more interested in the composition as a whole than any individual glory.

There were moments of artificiality and this show had one of the worst cases of "nervous hands" ever seen, but the quality of acting is high. Because of the magnificent interplaying, any praise of one actor is praise of all.

A Day at the Zoo

Drawer Raids vs. Education: Columnist Quite Disillusioned

By Bob Funk

Women have been wearing underclothing for a number of years. Young men who never look at clotheslines might not be aware of this—true, there are some rather obvious clues in advertisements and store - window displays, but not everyone catches on.



BOB FUNK

One characteristic part of this underclothing is called the "panty." Just why it is known by this rather emetic name is unknown. "Panty" seems to be the word "pant" with a diminutive ending. Women seem to feel much more womanly talking about "panties" than they would be talking about "drawers." Panties are, however, drawers.

Now it is characteristic of men that that which is hidden gains great allure. You can know that the drawers are there, and that they are drawers. But they are hidden, and therefore become pearls of great price. Thus it is not unusual that large numbers

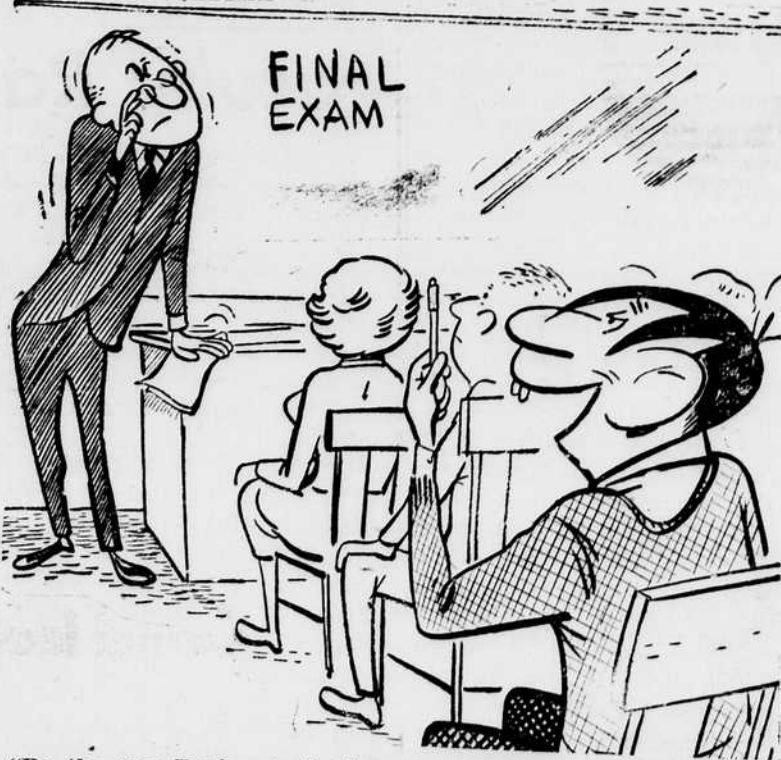
of college men, determined to demonstrate that they are sophisticated, worldly, collegiate, and all other desirable things, should engage in nocturnal "drawer raids."

It is probably in excellent psychological tradition that the University of Oregon should stage an official "drawer raid." This, according to Psychology 204, should take the kick out of an actual raid by negative conditioning, or something like that. So the jolly University students went out into the night and participated in a planned drawer raid. It was hilariously funny.

And a University-sponsored raid is such an improvement over the real thing. Why, there were only a couple of people injured, and—well—only a few men broke into Hendricks hall—and that was in (oh, ha ha ha) such good fun.

We had a subtly humorous drawer raid. We really showed OSC (it is always important to show OSC). This is the type of vapid activity which one might expect of students not quite used to being away from mother (now Egbert, Panty Raids aren't NICE, so go up to bed). But it is rather disillusioning when a drawer raid is University-sponsored. Whatever became of education, anyway?

Can This Be You?



"By the way Prof—what's the name of this course anyway?"

A Note to the Editor...

Dear Lorna:

There used to be a derogatory term on campus a few years back—"lady editor."

The term is still here, and still will be when ever there is a woman editor, but now there is no justification for it. You have proven during this last year that the courageous decision, the fair and equitable judgment and firmness of one's convictions are not the prerogative of the male but only the hallmark of a good journalist.

We, the staff, have enjoyed working with you. We think it was a privilege.

A school paper can be a wishy-washy thing. This year's Emerald wasn't that. It took stands on issues and fought for ideals. You deserve the credit for the character of this year's paper.

The Staff