

Maybe We'll See Some Action Now

Thanks to the efforts of Dave Todd, junior in pre-medics, all parties concerned with the future of the millrace are combining on a program to do the most possible now to put the race in good shape.

A meeting of students from millrace houses, townspeople, University officials and City Manager Oren King held last month got the plans going. Todd, seeking to do something about the stagnant condition of the race, organized the meeting. Another meeting was held Thursday night in the student union.

The gates on the upper part of the millrace were partially opened, allowing a fair flow of water which has for a month now replaced the previous stillness.

A big cleanup, with students and city workmen participating, is planned for Saturday, April 18. And a city engineering survey (with engineers from OSC, even) which will determine what will be physically possible in improving the situation is nearing completion.

At the same time a committee of the ASUO senate is working on the problem, but from a different angle and

with less tangible success. Headed by Senator-at-Large Mike Lally, the committee figures that the city, judged by past evidence, will not provide much support for millrace improvement unless the students show a real interest in using the race.

So Lally's committee is planning a shack on the millrace as a canoeing headquarters, with the University to furnish the manpower for running the place. Houses or private parties will have to provide the canoes.

Lally said that he would expect a cleanup of the millrace sometime this summer. But the cleanup is apparently coming a week from Saturday.

There is certainly justification for thinking that the city needs at least concrete evidence that the students want the full use of the millrace before it will lend a hand.

In 1948 the city was to float bonds to match a \$20,000 sum to be raised through contributions from students and townspeople, the total to be used for improving the race. Contributions amounting to some \$24,000 were raised, the

sum to be used to install a pump at the intake end of the millrace on the Willamette river.

It was used instead for work on the banks, preventing overflows, and the like, gravity being relied upon for the flow. The bonds were never floated.

Since then little has been done on the situation, although the city isn't solely to blame. Sporadic efforts have been made by student groups, but never to much avail.

The real problem of the millrace's stagnancy is one whose solution lies in the future. A five-block long culvert underneath the highway was installed when the new highway was built, and is too small to allow a fast enough flow of water. Also, a break in the dike at the upper end of the millrace causes much of the river water to flow around the intake dam, rather than over it, thus eliminating much of the head of water.

Both of these difficulties will require very extensive and expensive correction — and that's why nothing has been done in some five years to put the millrace back onto a fast-flowing, un-polluted basis as it once was, in the

days of the Junior Weekend canoe fetes.

Another problem, in the opinion of Todd, is the retaining wall on the millrace's upper end. Logs and debris have torn away much of the wall's backing, and if it isn't repaired in time, the walls may erode away. Then there will be no millrace of any kind, Todd said.

Of course, there are the problems of a polluted race which will probably be corrected when Springfield's new sewage disposal plant — to be completed within a year — replaces dumping of sewage into the Willamette river) and other relatively minor defects in the millrace channel.

But the three-point program worked out by Todd's group — students, townspeople, University officials S. W. Little, Orville Lindstrom and I. I. Wright, City Manager Oren King Parks and Recreation Superintendent Tex Matsler, Millrace Improvement chairman Kieth Fennell will do much to provide a better race.

The water is now flowing fairly well — and the four gates can be opened further, Todd says. The bottles and other debris in the bed of the

millrace will be cleaned out, and the engineering survey may provide a long-range solution.

Lally's committee, more than a year old (though not headed by Lally that long), may provide the student interest angle. It has operated with a somewhat passive approach, but after little success with the city. The city is evidently providing real help in cooperation with Todd's group.

Although the senate was skeptical about the extent of city cooperation, a more aggressive program might have produced the same kind of results that Todd's program appears to be getting. (We call it "Todd's" program merely for convenience, realizing the various parties involved.) The senate would have done much to justify its work by driving hard on such a problem as the millrace.

All that aside, we would suggest that Lally's committee coordinate its plans with Todd's program, and that all students interested in getting the best possible millrace setup back the program at further meetings and the April 18 cleanup, as well as future developments. —(A.K.)

Numerous Variations on the Theme of Spring

It is now spring, in spite of Nature's rather unsportsmanlike reluctance, and time for the annual intense drive on the part of the student body to flunk out of school. The Primrose Path of Daliance begins somewhere along Thirteenth Street and continues out in the general direction of the River, and with a little more sun it will probably experience quite a traffic jam.

We have been contributing to our spring term delinquency in no more serious manner than eyeing,

with more embarrassment than pleasure, the covers on paperback books sold in campus business establishments. It is not that we have just discovered this form of art, or are so naive to think that the interiors correspond with the covers.

It is just that this type of thing seems to be an insult to the intelligence and dignity of the American people, or some awesome group like that.

These covers, or at least an amazing percentage of them, dis-

by bob funk

play wondrously formed women posed about in general disarray. This would be all right, or at least truthful, if the books were all about wondrously formed women standing about in disarray. However, the books may be anything from Everybody's Handy Pocket Dictionary to Gardening Made Easy. This type of book with that type of cover is a fraud and a come-on.

Besides, it is monotonous. Not all of the women in all of the books can possibly look like that, and surely in just a couple of books they are fully clothed at least a certain amount of the time.

If there is a female mentioned in the book, it will be she, wearing nothing much more than a provocative smile, who graces the cover. If Alice in Wonderland were to be made available in a pocket edition, Alice would be pictured, probably, in a negligee open at various places, smiling congenially (at least) at someone of the opposite sex (the March Hare?). There would be a caption "She was a small time girl until she fell suddenly into the underworld, where life is an orgy of teas and croquet matches, and a girl has to watch her step..."

The trend, we realize, is against us, and for the pocket book covers. This is called progress.

The birds are back from wherever the birds were, and any number of different kinds of flowers and insects have bloomed and hatched, respectively. Some of the more common species to be seen on campus this spring:

The North American Cross-Eyed Sprinklersetter. Habitat: campus sidewalks. This interesting member of the animal kingdom hibernates during the winter in the physical plant, comes out spring term in a big way. Probably under the impression that he is yards out in the middle of the quad, the sprinklersetter sets springers in such out-of-the-way places as the steps of Friendly, all available sidewalks leading

from the co-op to anyplace else, and the front walk of the student union. Rumor has it that an especially large sprinkler is going to be set in the square in front of Commonwealth. Just watch.

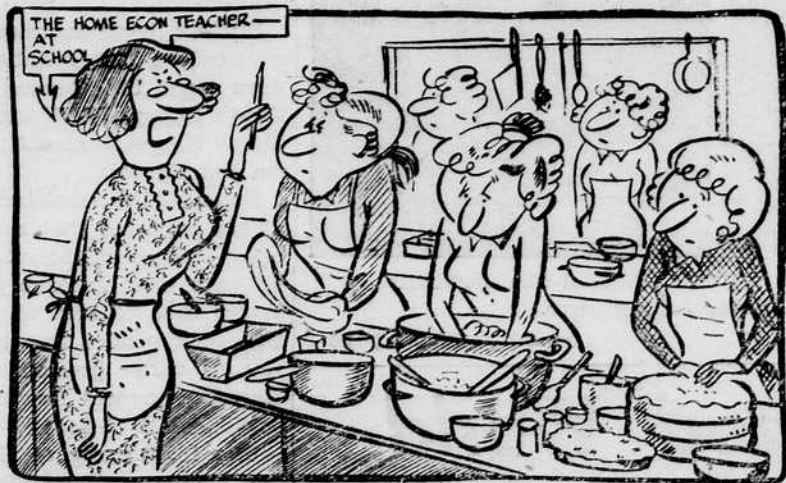
The Invertebrate Bottleopener. Habitat: up the McKenzie. Distinctive features: a bottle-opener grafted to the right hand, a bottle in the left. This species is thriving, although a number of them have fallen into the river and drifted down to sea. The Honorary Tapper. Hab-

itat: the Junior Weekend picnic. Very little to be said about this one except once tapped by an honorary tapper you are an honorary tapper yourself, so don't make any sneering remarks.

The Leering Stepsitter. Habitat: Fenton Hall. This bird perches out in the sun and compares the cotton dresses of the class of 1954 with the cotton dresses of the class of 1955. There are worse kinds of birds to be.

The Spring Term Scholar. Hab-

With Wisdom Comes Practicality



The College Crowd

Campus Headlines Elsewhere

By Rae Thomas

The sharpshooting Idaho women's rifle team unceremoniously beat the Army ROTC squad by a one-point margin. The final score was 968 for the ladies, 967 for the men. 1000 is the highest possible score in a five-man match.

A Miss Cates headed the match by shooting 198 out of her possible 200.

In Tennessee was seen a boy who took no chances on anyone swiping his bike while he was in class. The fellow took the handlebars off the bike and put them in his locker.

Oscar Levant will be at OSC on April 18th.

A "thrifty" fellow at Cornell was fined \$25. He didn't want to pay for new license plates for his car, so he painted his old ones over in the new color.

A history professor at UCLA declares, "I don't mind much kids coming in late. I don't mind too much when kids leave. But I do mind when the kids coming in late meet the kids going out early."

"Chew for Charity" has begun at UCLA. Bubble gum can be bought from student salesmen in classrooms and on the Quad. The gum is five cents for two pieces or three cents apiece. Gum chewing in classes this week has been sanctioned by department heads. Oh, goodie.

A student, tired of complaints at the University of Washington that there was not enough school spirit at basketball games, acily asked, "How do you expect someone to yell and cheer when there's a psychology professor beside him taking notes on mob behavior?"

From "The University of Washington Daily"—An economics major with a four point grade average who wanted to get in a more exciting field" had his wish granted this week.

Robert Girard, who will be graduated this June, passed the difficult Harvard law school admission test with an unusually high score. He ranked among the top two per cent of the 25,000 students who have taken the test since 1947.

The test is used as an admission examination for several law schools. Girard, who will enter the Harvard law school next fall, received a score of 98. "I think," said Girard, "that I slipped in English. I never was very good at that."

Girard has had only one grade below "A" during his attendance at the University. He received a "B" in a non-academic physical education course.

When asked by an economics professor why he wanted to go to law school when he had done so well in his present field, Girard said he wanted to change to something "a little more exciting."



The OREGON DAILY EMERALD published Monday through Friday during the college year except Jan. 5; Feb. 23; Mar. 2, 3, 5, 9, 10 and 11; Mar. 13 through 30; June 1, 2 and 3 by the Student Publications Board 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. Editorials are written by the editor and the members of the editorial staff.