

# 'O' Reaches Turning Point

by Jim White  
Emerald Feature Writer

November marks the end of the bright times of the year, and for the University it marks a fatal turning-point in the life of one of the oldest and best traditions the 'O' atop Skinner's Butte.

The 'O' may fall victim to civilization. As the area around Skinner's Butte became more developed, it was evident that the old landmark would, in time, be crowded out; but no one suspected that University students would considerably hasten its death.

The 'O' was constructed in 1909 by the junior class of that year, and for 44 years it withstood the rigors of weather, tar and paint, until at last imaginative vandals, supposedly U O freshmen, dynamited the solidly-built concrete structure.

### Located on the Butte

The landmark, located on top of Skinner's Butte, a little hill, just north of Eugene, faces the city, and overlooks the main street of town. In such a location, it was only reasonable that the 'O' should become one of the best-known of the city's landmarks. Townspeople became accustomed to the ever-changing color of the 'O'.

Until 1952, freshmen at the University painted the 'O' lemon yellow twice a year—at Homecoming and during Junior Weekend. OAC (now OSC) also pitched in to help the freshmen about once a year, painting it a bright orange color. Estimates as to the number of times it received a new face range from 120 to 150.

In 1940, when Oregon and UCLA were the principal combatants in the Homecoming celebration, the 'O' did its best job of changing colors. It was painted yellow on Thursday as scheduled, black Friday, not according to schedule, and Sunday morning it was adorned by four bright hues; black, yellow, blue and brown.

On June 7, 1952, at 3:45 in the morning, the city of Eugene was rocked by a mysterious blast that had the citizens in an uproar for several hours. It was finally discovered that vandals had set an entire box of dynamite off under one side of the 'O' to make an almost perfect 'C'.

### Easier to Ignore

The 'O' stayed in this condition for nearly a year. Since it was the duty of no specific organization, the Oregon students decided that it would be easier to let it go than to put out a little effort in repairing it.

Finally, Delta Upsilon fraternity accepted the project, and on May 5 the 'O' was once again intact. The landmark received its last coat of paint May 6 for the annual Junior Weekend celebration. At 3:10 a. m. on May 15, an explosion, estimated as about twice as strong as the 1952 blast, completely destroyed the lower half of the 'O'.

Police later found unexploded dynamite under the upper half of the 'upside down U' that would have completely demolished the structure and "rained cement half-way down Willamette Street" had it gone off. Rumors attributed the blast to UO freshmen.

The DU's volunteered to fix it again and "keep repairing it as long as they try to blow it up," but the citizens of Eugene were becoming irate. A week later, Dr. Eva Frazier Johnson, who lives in the vicinity of the 'O', circulated a petition requesting the removal of the old landmark. The petition, with the signatures of 123 Eugene residents was taken before the city council but no definite action was taken on it.

## TO SU CENTER

# Three Oldest Traditions Moved

By Lee Ramsey  
Emerald Feature Writer

Since the completion of the Student Union in the fall of 1950, three of the oldest homecoming traditions have been moved from their former location on the old campus center about the SU.

Homecoming in 1950, in addition to the traditional ceremonies, included the dedication of the SU which Donald M. Erb, former University president, had visualized as early as 1923. Construction on the building was begun in 1948 and continued through the summer of 1950.

The Oregon seal, annually scrubbed by members of the freshman class as part of the homecoming festivities, had originally

been dedicated by the class of 1912. At that time it was located on the north side of Villard hall near the Dad's gates. As the campus expanded, the center of student life began to move southward from Villard and Deady, the oldest buildings on campus.

### Seal Relocated

In 1950, the class of 1912 unanimously voted to relocate the seal in its present position in front of the SU. In the old location they left a plaque telling of the moving of the symbol. The seal received its first scrubbing in the new position during the 1950 homecoming.

Oregon's original hello walk was destined to the same fate as the seal. Originally located on the old campus, it was moved to its position from the SU main entrance to the corner of 13th and University streets in 1951. The walk, where students are supposed to greet everyone they meet, traditionally stretched from the front of Villard to the front of Fenton hall.

The old tradition was not limited merely to homecoming but was observed during the entire year. Rededication of this campus tradition was further evidence that the center of campus activities had shifted from the old campus.

The senior bench tradition is one that has been observed on and off for several years. Originally it too held throughout the year and woe betide any freshman, sophomore or junior who ventured upon

its sacred sanction. Recent neglect of this custom is evidenced by the fact that the bench in its present condition appears to have gone five or more years without a painting.

In 1910 the bench was donated by the graduating class and placed on the old campus. Later, however, it was moved to a position between Susan Campbell and Hendricks halls where it stayed for several years. This year the large concrete bench has been moved to the block between the SU and the physical education department, directly across the street from John Straub hall.

## Then There's Oregon

Faculty house directors at Southern Methodist university vetoed a proposal to extend the Friday night campus curfew to 1 a.m. The 1 a.m. extension was passed by the Associated Women Students, who maintained that women on campus favored the new ruling. However, the house directors have the final say.

The dean of women said the veto came about because the directors were "definitely of the opinion that the majority of women students . . . did not really want the 1 a.m. permission."

Following the incident, the SMU Campus took a survey which showed 11 out of 12 women wanting the extension.

# Alums Honor Hayward

(Continued from page one)

from the Wesley house were serenading him with Christmas hymns. The physician at his bedside, Dr. Hal Chapman, was a former football player under Hayward.

In 1947, the Eugene Realty board named him "first citizen" of Eugene. The Oregon Alumni voted him an honorary membership in that organization.

As a further tribute, the athletic department is making plans for a Bill Hayward lounge and trophy room which will be located in McArthur court, according to Bill Bowerman.

Many of Hayward's trophies and other awards have been donated by Mrs. Hayward. His letterman sweater which is now in the trophy case in McArthur court, will also be displayed in the memorial room. Given to him by one of his teams, the sweater has 28 stripes on the sleeve signifying his years of coaching at the University up to that time.

As alums and students celebrate this Homecoming, Col. Bill Hayward is remembered not only as a great athlete, trainer and coach, but as a man who made sportsmanship and clean, rugged competition traditions at the University.

# Student Church Directory

## First Congregational Church

490 13th Avenue East

TWO SERVICES — 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Last in a series on God and Man

"Protestantism Prepares"

Wesley Goodson Nicholson  
Minister

Weston H. Brockway  
Director of Music

Sunday Service—8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

"Who Will Love God?"

(Sermon by Vicar Arthur Wright)

Bible Class: 10:00 a.m.—Dr. E. S. Wengert, Leader

Thanksgiving Day Service, Thursday, 11:00 a.m.

Gamma Deltans meet 5:30 p.m. in church parlor.

Welcome!

## Grace Lutheran Church

East 11th Avenue at Ferry Street

W. B. Maier, Pastor

Arthur Wright, Assistant

## First Assembly of God

710 W. 13th St. (about 1 1/2 miles west of the university)

Rev. E. Elsworth Krogstad

Rev. Norman Campbell, Minister of Youth

9:45 a.m. Sunday School. 11 a.m., 7:45 p.m. Preaching Services

9:45 a.m. Sunday School hour

Special class for college students in beautiful youth chapel

11:00 a.m. Devotional service

6:30 p.m. C.A.'s Youth Service in chapel

All Students and Alumni Welcome

## First Church of Christ, Scientist

A Branch of the Mother Church, The First Church of Christ, Scientist in Boston, Massachusetts  
14th and Pearl

Sunday Services 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.

Sunday School 11 a.m.

Sermon: "Soul and Body"

Nursery Facilities During All Services . . . Reading Room 86 West Broadway . . . Organization at University of Oregon  
Tuesday 7 p.m. First Floor Gerlinger

11:00 a.m. "A Song of Thanksgiving"

Broadcast over KASH

University Class, 9:45 a.m., Dr. Webster, teacher

7:30 p.m. Baptismal Service

Sermon: "The Battle of the Stars"

## First Baptist Church

Dr. Vance H. Webster, Pastor

Brdwy. at High

## First Methodist Church

1185 Willamette

Two Services — 9:45 and 11:00 a.m.

Sermon: "Our Heritage"

Ministers: Berlyn V. Farris, S. Raynor Smith, Dorothy Harding, Kenneth W. Peterson

## First Christian Church

1166 Oak

Phone 4-1425

Dr. Carroll Roberts, Minister

TWO SERVICES 10:50 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

9:15 a.m. Donut Hour and Bible Class

5:30 p.m. Fellowship and Discussion

9:00 p.m. Fireside Hour

Students are invited to sing in our Student Choir on Sunday evenings

CHRISTIAN HOUSE—OUR STUDENT CENTER—736 E. 16th Ave.

Let's Go to Church