

Oregon Daily EMERALD

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Letters... ...to the Editor

Censorship Reply

Emerald Editor:
Mr. McCarroll's Looking-Glass column (Saturday, Jan. 23, 1954) again prompts a reply — addressed to him.

In the first place, I believe you inadvertently twisted yourself about in your last statement. It is here quoted: "The moral defense for censorship cannot be met by legal arguments..." Bravo!

To continue the quote "... but it is comforting to know that these moral considerations play no part in the legal arguments." Almost any member of the law school will challenge that statement.

You "suggest that there is not perfect agreement as to what constitutes the moral code of Christ." To the contrary, there is perfect agreement as to what constitutes the moral code of Christ. The disagreement lies with its acceptance.

Censorship is not "protection," as you say, but suppression. The La Ronde Decision is a welcome one. Assuming that all governmental censorship shall now cease, the duty of pointing out the moral delinquencies of films falls where it belongs — with the Legion of Decency. To repeat — the pledge (not an oath) of the Legion of Decency should be administered in every Christian Church.

You speak much of the "power" of the Legion of Decency. Perhaps the best method (anyone can use it) of determining the "power" of any organization is a subjective one. Ask yourself — how much "power" does this organization have over me.

The pledge of the Legion is taken without any coercion other than that of an informed conscience. As you say, moral pressure DOES restrain a person from seeing indecent films, but this pressure comes from within. Before attending such a picture one must deliberately shut out the conscience. At first this is not easy (is it?) but it becomes so with practice.

The theater is the show window of a society. What does our theater ask us to buy?
George J. Wolfe

California Moms Divide State Group

The University of Oregon Mother's club of California has recently been divided into northern and southern chapters, it was learned in a recent letter from Mrs. R. W. Robinson, Palo Alto, Calif. Mrs. Robinson is vice-president of the northern club.

The California Mother's club has been having semi-annual meetings for several years, according to Mrs. Robinson's letter.

Since there are some 400 California students attending Oregon, the mothers thought it necessary this fall to divide the club into a southern club and a northern club which includes the area from Bakersfield north.

A joint dinner for mothers and fathers was held Jan. 12 in San Francisco. More than 50 parents attended the dinner.

Officers of the northern club are as follows: Mrs. Henry A. Lloyd, president; Mrs. Robinson, vice-president; Mrs. M. C. Jones, secretary, and Mrs. Kieth Maynard, treasurer.

The fathers of University students from Northern California are currently organizing a club, with a meeting planned for early spring, Mrs. Robinson's letter stated.

Senate Has Vacancies Not Because of Grades

The ASUO constitution provides that in case a vacancy occurs in any post to which students are elected on the senate, the senate fills the vacancy. The ASUO president calls for petitions for the vacant post and candidates are interviewed by the senate and voted upon.

At the first of fall term, Patti Ruan, senior representative, failed to return to school and Ben Schmidt was selected to take her place. Paul Ward, who also failed to return as sophomore representative and Gordon Rice filled his position.

In the meantime, there had been a missing senior representative and this post was declared vacant. All Oppliger was chosen to fill the position Don Fisher had been elected to in the spring.

Oregon students voted last spring to amend the ASUO constitution and include a graduate student on the senate. The amendment only provided for one to be elected in the spring and rather than waiting for a year, the senate, after much discussion, decided to treat the position as a vacancy for this year and call for petitions to fill it. Dick Bruce was chosen for the post.

This ended the changes for fall term, but winter term started out with promises of even surpassing this record. Marilyn Parrish did not return to school and her senate-at-large position was opened for petitions. Doyle Higdon was selected to fill the vacancy.

Then ASUO Vice Pres. Don Colvin announced he would not be

able to return to school and his position was declared vacant. Bob Funk, senator-at-large, was awarded the position. This left Funk's senate seat open.

In the meantime, Elsie Schiller, senior class vice president, was chosen as Emerald editor and resigned her post. Kitty Fraser was chosen for the office.

The present remaining vacancy is open to any student with a 2 point GPA and will be filled at the next meeting to bring the senate to its quota of 28 student members.

The ASUO senate has had no trouble this year replacing people who didn't make their grades. But there have been six vacancies filled on the UO's governing body and a seventh is pending.

It's all been because one position has been added and other members elected last spring have dropped out of school or assumed other campus positions and resigned.

Two UO Officials To Go to Salem

Mrs. Golda P. Wickham, director of Women's affairs, and Karl Onthank, associate director of student affairs, will go to Salem Thursday for the executive board meeting of the Oregon Mother's club.

The board will discuss Mother's day and the club's scholarship program.

Change for the Better?

Change always causes a bit of a flurry in any situation. We've just been wondering what step the SU board will take now that a little flurry has been kicked up over plans to disband the ASUO senate-SU board joint screening committee in favor of selection by board members.

We don't question the board's ability to select their own members. From the standpoint of efficiency, there is probably no one more qualified to know just what type of membership is needed on the board.

Be we do question the board's ability to select members on the basis of what the campus needs. In any program as extensive as that presented by the SU, a closer touch with all campus activities seems called for.

The board does get some new blood from their members selected as representatives from schools on the campus.

Yet the present proposal, which is being reconsidered by the executive committee, has just a touch of the "ivory tower" about it. One of the criticisms the board does receive is that it doesn't seem to be too aware of other campus activities.

As a case in point, we cite the scheduling of an admission-free mixer on the same date as the annual WRA carnival — their main fund raising activity.

A standing phrase around the campus is "the student union, hub of campus activities." And we certainly think it is. But, in maintaining such a position, the board has to be careful not to over-extend themselves and become THE campus activity.

The board has a liberal budget. They have wonderful facilities in which to execute their program. They have capable people working to produce an excellent program. All that is true. Still, it doesn't make for popularity if that program overlaps many other things on campus or if the planners on the board become anymore isolated from the student sipping SU coffee in the fishbowl.

We don't think members of the senate are particularly qualified to select board members. But we hate to see another touch of democracy go out the window in favor of higher efficiency rates.

What the SU board needs and should be looking for, is some more possibilities to spread out and keep in touch with other facets of campus life.

We don't pretend to have the answers. But we think its a problem the board definitely should be considering if they're really seeking a more effective organization.

We Shall Be Heard!

Yes, we think the editorial policy of the Oregon Daily Emerald is important enough for us to write and for you to read.

Any good newspaper presents news in its columns. The Emerald will continue to present campus news, presented interperatively and objectively. Our news columns will reflect your life at this university.

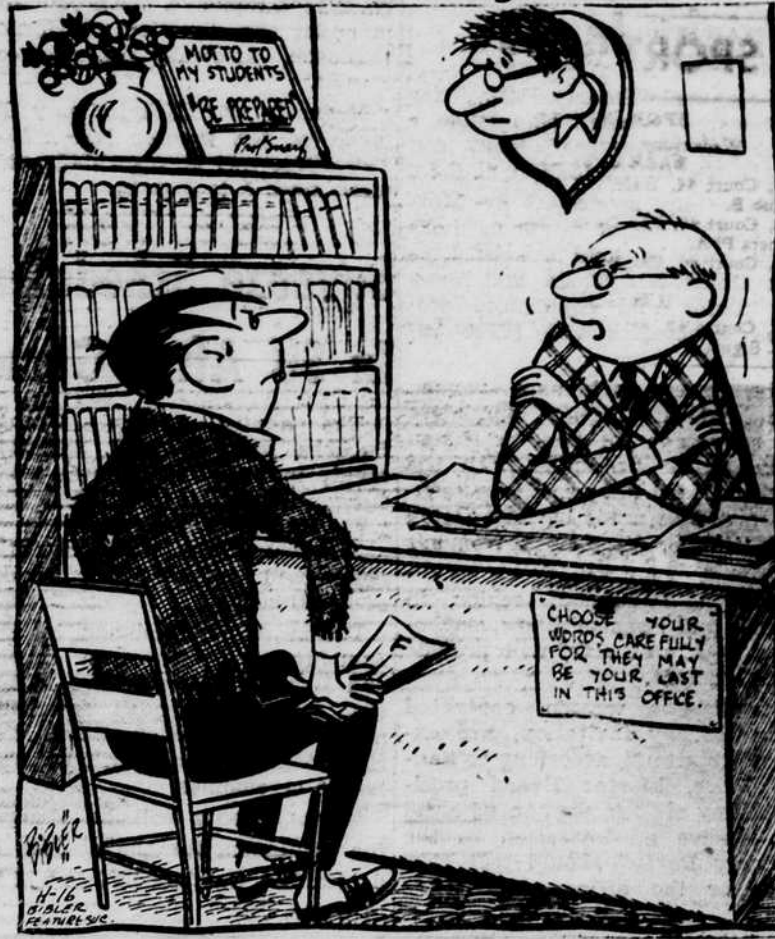
On the editorial stand, a newspaper has a big decision to make. We can speak softly. We can walk with fear and cowardice and our editorial columns can be so much mush.

But the Emerald prefers to be heard. We have opinions. We shall express those opinions — loudly, freely and frankly. When something needs to be "blasted," we will blast it. When something earns a word of praise, we will gladly give it.

We expect criticism. We shall continue to print as many letters to the editor as we have space. We will expect reactions. We will not always be right.

But we shall exercise to the fullest our freedom of the press and we shall be heard!

Mid-Terms Again



"Yes, one othre time a student complained about an exam of mine— Now what about last Friday's test?"

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