

Oregon Daily EMERALD

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Not Like It Used To Be

We heard an ASUO senator remark the other night that this year's senate "isn't like the old senates." We agree.

This senator was referring specifically to length of the meetings. "They don't last so long as they used to," he contended.

But this year's senate is different in other respects too. Its members attend meetings, and they make good grades.

Fall term the senate GPA was a 3.206, with 17 senators ranking above a 3.00. That average is far above the all campus average of 2.5173 and the highest average of 2.90 made by Orides. For that we congratulate the senate members, most of whom had other activities also.

And senators come to meetings this year. Of the 30 persons who served winter term, 21 had perfect attendance. Only one senator missed three meetings and one missed two.

This presents quite a contrast to last year's senate whose members often had trouble getting even a quorum attendance.

In the April 13, 1953 Emerald an editorial commented that an average of 15.6 per cent of the senate was absent during each meeting and that two senators had missed five meetings.

This, of course, was during spring term when every activity has personnel problems. But, after all, we don't consider the senate "any activity." If student government is to have any importance at all, it has to be ranked as more than that. This year's senate seems to realize their responsibilities—at least we hope they do.

And, although we congratulate them, we caution the senators not to fall into a "spring term lethargy"—it's easy to do, even in winter term.—(J.W.)

Senior Meeting A Success

We were pleasantly surprised Tuesday. Seniors have a standing reputation as some unique type of creature who "just couldn't possibly be interested in anything on campus," we all mentally turn the seniors "out to pasture" and disregard them as part of our campus population.

But Tuesday afternoon, approximately 150 seniors drifted over to Commonwealth for the first meeting of the class of '54 since their freshman days (when they were probably much younger, more eager and naive.)

At times, no one seemed actually sure what to do with the meeting. There was a little awkwardness. But on the whole, the seniors carried on their meeting much like other people. They elected permanent class officers, heard a lot of announcements, discussed the senior ball, and planned a senior picnic. And they showed interest.

To us, 150 seniors interested in something is heartening. We'd like to take our bow to the class officers who planned that meeting in the face of the "we all know nobody will come" attitude that prevails in the field of seniors and too many other campus activities.

The Sly One



"I put a desk at both ends of th' classroom—Confuses heck 'out' of those students who always sit on th' back row."

The Looking-Glass Arthur Miller Rated High Among Social Dramatists

By Toby McCarroll
Emerald Critic

Judging from figures of the publishing houses many more people are beginning to read plays. This is particularly fortunate for at least one reason, several "social dramas" have appeared in recent years which express ideas too great to be conveyed only to that relatively small number, who see productions of a play.

In many people's estimation, and certainly my own, Arthur Miller is our foremost social dramatist. There is a question as to whether he is primarily attempting to convey a "message," or is primarily presenting a drama. A third view is that the creation is united to such an extent it could never be so divided. Although this problem is germane, I do not feel I have the time or certainty of mind to explore it further here.

The 48 year old playwright's first successful play (his second on Broadway) was performed in 1947. This play, "All My Sons," is concerned with the moral code of our industrialists. This moral code permitted an ordinary, average businessman to commit a crime and allow an innocent employee to go to prison for it.



The act itself consisted of selling cracked engine heads to the army which resulted in the death of 21 men. And why did he do it? "I'm in business . . . you get a process, the process don't work your out of business . . . You lay twenty years into a business and they knock you out in five minutes . . . I never thought they'd install them."

"Death of a Salesman" came in 1949. Miller recently said of the principle character, "Willie Loman never knew what he stood for. He took his shape from things pressing in on him, and he lost his identity." Neither of these plays carry the implication that the activities portrayed are inevitable but that they can very possibly arise under the standard of values we have set for our-

selves; that standard of values that sets goals above what a Willie can obtain, and make important the artificial superficialities of life

In January this year "The Crucible" was presented. This play might well prove to be one of the greatest of its kind in our age. The plot involves the Salem witchhunts and executions. The original accusation of some girls grew to tremendous proportion, motivated by fear and revenge. Suspicion became normal.

Men admitted witchcraft in order to escape hanging. Small incidents were taken out of context and made the cause of convictions. The main emotion of the episode was frustration. An honest thinking man could not take the easy road and escape injury by admitting things he did not do or accusing those he did not see, nor could he explain the utter stupidity of the situation to the authorities; but one fact was certain, he or friends of his were caught in this giant web and sentenced to die.

The meaning of this play is, of course, universal and has bearing on such events as the Spanish Inquisition or the French Revolution, but particular and inescapable references are drawn to the present day operations of our McCarthy and Velde. It becomes increasingly apparent that we cannot meet this sweeping tide of American grown totalitarianism rationally.

Logic has little effect upon the cliché spouting fanatic, but a play of this sort might affect him. The "Cult of Loyalty" now dictates a single goal and a single method. The power of the cult has grown so far out of proportion that we can no longer merely laugh at its ridiculousness but must design some method of attack or resign ourselves to virtual intellectual slavery. Arthur Miller has given us one weapon in "The Crucible."

Letters... ...to the Editor

Emerald Editor:
We would like to express our thanks to the students for their cooperation in reviving traditional Oregon spirit. We owe special thanks to John Bigelow and the Oregon pep band, the spirited men's white shirt section, and the women's section, which was even better than usual.

We hope that this enthusiasm continues and that we have a representation at Corvallis this weekend worthy of last weekend's fine showing.

Sincerely,
Tom Gaines
Earl Culbertson
Stan Savage

Listening In ... On KWAX

- THURSDAY—
- 6:00 p. m. Sign On
 - 6:03 Piano Moods
 - 6:15 Four for a Quarter
 - 6:30 News Till Now
 - 6:45 Sports Shots
 - 7:00 University Hour
 - 8:00 Patrioscript
 - 8:15 UN Story
 - 8:30 Serenade to the Student
 - 9:00 Kwaxworks
 - 10:00 The SU and You
 - 10:30 News Headlines
 - 10:55 Tune to Say Goodnight
 - 11:00 Sign Off

• The Alpine club will meet at 4 p.m. today in the Student Union.

• Hillel will hold its regular meeting tonight in the Student Union, according to Howard Sussman, president. Room number will be posted, and Paul B. Means, head of the religion department, will speak, with a discussion period following. Everyone is invited to the meeting, Sussman said.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

• Dr. William Burroughs, psychiatrist at the Oregon State hospital in Salem, will be the guest speaker at the meeting of the House Chaplains tonight at 6:30 in the Student Union, according to Jo Hutchon, chairman of the steering committee of the organization.

• The student affiliate of the American Chemical society is sponsoring movies on copper and recent improvement in medical research at 7:30 tonight in Science 16. All interested students are invited to attend.

• Sigma Delta Pi, Spanish honorary, will hold an informal open meeting at 7 p. m. today in Audio-Visual Studio A in the library basement. New slides of Mexico and "Your State Higher Education" will be shown to all members and any interested Spanish students, V. Gwen Paugh, president, has announced.

• "The Cathedral of Chartres," 15-minute sound motion picture, will be shown at 9 and 11 a. m. today in Architecture 138. Visitors and non-architecture majors welcomed.

• Chi Delta Phi, women's literary honorary, will meet at 6:30 p. m. tonight in the Student Union, according to Valera Vierra, president.

• Members of Ski Quacks, skiing organization, are to meet in the Student Union at 6:30 this evening, Sonny Stoyanov, president, has announced.

• The Air Command squadron will meet at 4 p. m. today in the Student Union. All basic Air Force ROTC students who have above a 3 point GPA are asked to attend the meeting.

• Phi Theta Upsilon, junior women's honorary, will meet at 6:30 this evening in the Student Union, according to Janet Wick, president of the organization.

Campus Calendar

9:00 Journ Conf	315 SU
Christian Sci	334 SU
10:30 Rel Dir Assoc	319 SU
Noon Bus Ed Lunch	110 SU
Speech Staff	114 SU
4:00 Air Com Sqd	111 SU
Alp Cl	112 SU
Schwering Din Ger Snpr	
6:30 Pi Lambda Theta	110 SU
Ski Quacks	112 SU
Chi Delta Phi	315 SU
Chaplns	334 SU
Phi Theta Com Lnch SU	
Phi Beta Ger 2nd fl	
6:45 Yng Repubs	114 SU
7:00 Hillel	111 SU
7:30 Delta Nu Alpha	113 SU
YMCA Bd	319 SU
Chem Movie	16 Sci
8:00 City Panhel Brdg	213 SU

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