

# Oregon Daily EMERALD

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## A Special Invitation

We'd like to get in our note of approval for the senate's decision to include foreign students in its meetings as non-voting members.

The special invitation to the campus foreign students is very good public relations if nothing else, but we think it will benefit both the senate and the students selected by K. S. Ghent to represent the foreign population on campus.

To the senate the program will give a slightly different aspect and perhaps some new ideas and outlooks.

To the foreign student will go the opportunity to witness a form of representative government in action. And a chance to let the senate members know the problems faced on campus by the foreign student population.

Some persons have suggested giving these students a vote on the senate. We don't agree here. Not because they're not qualified, but because the foreign student enrollment is so low in proportion to the total university enrollment that a vote exclusively for them would be unequal representation.

Students from other countries may always run for senator-at-large, a class officer position, and we would encourage any who remain on campus for more than a year to do so.

Having the foreign students at senate meetings to voice opinions and join in the discussions is a good idea. We hope the students selected will benefit from the program and we hope that they will not hesitate to express their opinions. That's the only way the program will accomplish its purpose.

It's a nice gesture, senators.

## Ideals to Live By

At an ASUO senate meeting several weeks ago, we overheard one student senator, in recommendation of a fellow student petitioning for office say, "He doesn't let his ideals stand in the way of his practicality."

Is that a recommendation?

We've been musing over that statement for weeks now and we still haven't come up with just the exact answer. But we think we might have stumbled across an answer to the current collegiate question of whether ours is a "silent generation," and, if so, why.

Ideals versus practicality—it's a debate of long standing and certainly not confined to the collegiate circles of the mid 20th century.

Still, we've been spoon-fed on the "starry-eyed visionary" and the "idealist" until we almost unconsciously accept the thesis that an idealistic person is bound to be unsound, impractical and just a little mad.

Ideals are a funny thing. They can be comprised at any time for the sake of expediency. Ideally, you may except the premise that "Honesty is the best policy." But, practically, you might find yourself in the position of flunking a test or cribbing a little. Is that bad?

You can believe in truth. But, sometimes, the truth hurts and it's much easier to just color the whole thing a little. Well, you're being practical.

Freedom of speech is an ideal. But, sometimes from a practical standpoint, somebody else practicing freedom of speech can be very dangerous.

An ideal encompasses ideas. If we're going to disregard ideals as impractical in a starkly practical world, then we find ourselves coming up with a shortage of ideas. Imagination is a priceless gift. Practical aims curtail imagination at the source.

There's a funny philosophy going around that ideals are something to die for. But there hasn't been too much talk about ideals being something to live by. We wonder why.

It's strange but if you cut out ideals there isn't a great deal left to live for or by. Man is just an animal grubbing away for an existence — even if existence is a home on the hill, a two car garage and a bank account. Everything man does, he does so he can get up the next day and do the same thing. You're living to work instead of working to live.

Is it true that we are a generation whose dreams have all been dreamt? Is it true that machines and mass production and modern living force us to consider only the practical?

We may be fools but we still carry around a few ideals. And try to live by them.

## House Dances?



## A Day at the Zoo 'Silent Generation' Ideals Topic of Concern, Question

by Bob Funk  
Emerald Columnist

A number of persons have expressed, through the columns of the Emerald and otherwise, their regret and concern upon the resignation of Dick Williams, student union director. We are in very firm accord with the opinion that there is much to regret. It is entirely improbable that we will ever again get a student union director who performs his duties with so much imagination, diligence, and idealism. Opinions which vary from ours can be very easily explained: they are wrong.

When we started writing this column, Elsie Schiller was writing an editorial about "Ideals." Ideals, the oft-repeated story goes, are something we, "The Silent Generation," have none of. Or if we have any, they have to do with digestion, reproduction, and hoping that no one draws us into any unpleasant arguments.

An ideal is easily acquired; you can find one in lots of books. Once you have it in possession — sitting out in the garage, so to speak — it is awfully hard to tell how to handle the damned thing. First: your friends may not care for your ideal. They may not care what kind of a car you have, but they care awfully about your ideals. Either your supply of friends gets pared, or your supply of ideals. Ideals cannot go to the show with you, can't loan you money, won't vote for you, and they won't kiss you in the dark, baby. Perhaps you should keep your friends.

Secondly: ideals are noisy. You cannot just let the ideal sit in the garage, rusting quietly. It will start jumping around to get out and insult somebody. We realize that "insult somebody" is rather pessimistic language. But you should know that while some people may like your ideal and think its just real 'cherce,' most people will be insulted. That is because ideals too often interfere with OTHER people's little plans as to digestion, reproduction, and the whole crowd.

Thirdly: ideals are easily disposed of. There is no corpse to throw in the river or bury under the basement floor. There

is no story in the papers. There is only a tremendous feeling of relief.

University students are frequently perplexed with ideals. Ideals are supposed to flourish at universities like tomato plants in hothouses. This is not the whole truth.

At some universities it is very difficult to keep an ideal. If you are a student, you cannot speak out (or will not, rather) because your professor may flunk you; an administrator may glare at you for four years; and you may find yourself generally low man. We concede that it is only a petty professor or administrator that would hold your speaking out against you; but at some universities, some people are petty.

The faculty and administrators, for their part, may not feel able to speak out, either. Their jobs, the intricacies of tenure, and their little nests in faculty politics keep them in line.

Because everyone may fear petty acts of vengeance from everybody else, nobody says anything. This leaves the way clear for small, vicious acts, done in silence.

We are perfectly aware that no such fear of pettiness exists at Oregon. We are fortunate in having a perfectly enlightened, perfectly objective faculty and administration. Injustice is something which does not breed here.

## Letters... ...to the Editor

### Cagey and Lucky

The Emerald  
c/o the Country Club  
University of Oregon  
Eugene, Oregon

Emerald Editor:

After scanning the Monday issue of the Emerald, we couldn't help but laugh. Underneath an editorial on booing the opposition while they are making a free throw is a supposed rebuttal of the remarks by Bob Ingalls, Corvallis Gazette-Times editor, on Oregon conduct, and in essence the same booing.

The "poor thin-skinned Beavers" sometimes get over-enthusiastic in their yelling, too; but they seem to have the sportsmanship to keep from riding players while they're shooting.

If Oregon's white-shirt section was at its best during the Oregon State contest, we'd certainly hate to see it at its worst. From where we sat in the press box right back of the section, the air was polluted with comments which weren't half as offensive to the players as they were to the ears of other listeners.

In short, the boys would get their heads together every time Oregon had the ball and then come up with a new and different piece of verbal abuse when the Beavers came down the floor the next time. It got pretty tiresome after a while.

If you're going to make the Beavers welcome when they play at the Southern Branch soon, the least that can be done is to leave enough room on the playing floor so both teams can work a fast break without landing in someone's lap under the basket.

As for beating OSC, you were cagey and plenty lucky once; but don't count your championships before they're hatched because this one won't hatch at Eugene.

Tam Moore  
OSC Barometer Sports Ed.

## CAMPUS BRIEFS

House chaplains will meet at 6:30 p. m. today in the Student Union. Donald M. DuShane, director of student affairs, will be a guest.

### GUADALAJARA SUMMER SCHOOL

The accredited bilingual summer school sponsored by the Universidad Autónoma de Guadalajara and members of the Stanford University faculty will be offered in Guadalajara, Mexico, June 27-August 7, 1954. Offerings include art, creative writing, folklore, geography, history, language and literature courses. \$225 covers six-weeks tuition, board and room. Write Prof. Juan B. Rael, Box K, Stanford University, Calif.

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