

WORK NEVER DONE

Registrar Constance Keeps Order In UO Registration, Grades, Reports

By Lee Peters
Emerald Reporter

Somewhere between the hectic rush of registration and final term grade reports is the almost invisible evidence of the man who kept this four-times-a-year process from turning into complete chaos.

That man is Clifford Constance, University registrar. Under his direction Oregon students, administrators and faculty members somehow manage to weather the rigors of registration. Just when everything seems in good order term grade reports come in and the whole process is repeated.

Constance sits behind the desk in his office in Emerald hall with a calm and easy-going manner which completely belies the demanding rush of his work. The fairly tall man who dresses in a conservative suit and has just a touch of grey in his hair is not in the least harried.

To Constance the student is very important. His office is always open to them. His remark "You don't need an appointment to see me," expresses perfectly his availability to students and their problems.

The job of registrar is not limited to registration. "A registrar is entrusted with compiling and keeping the records of a university," Constance pointed out. He sees this part of his job as recording history and like many historians he feels the pride and importance in making those permanent records accurate and safe.

Files Date to 1876

Along the wall behind Constance's desk is an array of seven file box drawers which line a long shelf. The files are filled with cards. These boxes are a part of a self-appointed task Constance has given himself. He is rechecking and making permanent the files from 1876 to 1932, a job he has been working on for 15 years.

"Though the campus facilities, faculty members and of course students and even registrars all change," Constance said, "the only permanent feature is the records. A registrar's job is not of the same scale as the teacher who imparts knowledge in his class but he keeps the records of what happens in those classes as reported by the instructor."

Attends Convention

Once a year Constance leaves his busy office to attend a regis-

trar's convention which is made up of western colleges and universities. This year it was held in Phoenix, Arizona. Each year the convention is held in a different part of the west.

This trip, Constance feels, gives him a chance to get together with others who are doing similar jobs and compare methods and ideas. "It's not like the English teachers who can just get together over coffee and discuss things," he stated. This convention is the registrar's only chance to discuss registration problems.

System Up-to-date

In speaking of the comparison of Oregon's registration system Constance pointed with pride to the fact that this university's methods are some of the most up-to-date ones.

By getting to know other registrars through the convention Constance finds that it is much better when he is called upon to work with them over such things as transcripts. "It puts us on a personal basis with them."

When Constance has a spare moment he works on a statistical survey concerning the coming tidal wave increase in higher education—the effect it will have

on present facilities, teaching staff numbers and living.

"A part of my job that I especially like is the statistics," emphasized Constance. "Statistics neatly tell the story of events both past and present if they are at all interpreted right."

Constance received his bachelor of arts degree from here in 1925 and his M.A. in 1929. He has worked at the University of Oregon ever since his graduation.

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Morse Refuses Part in Dispute

PORTLAND-(AP)—If any dispute exists between Democratic leaders in Oregon, Senator Wayne Morse does not intend to take part in it.

In telegrams sent to Howard Morgan, state Democratic chairman, and Monroe Sweetland, Democratic national committee member, Morse said he is not choosing sides in any party controversy.

Newspapers in Portland earlier reported Sweetland and Morgan were at odds over whether Morse should give up his independent status to join the Democratic party. Sweetland has urged Morse to become a Democrat, Morgan has not.

Morse said in his telegram to Sweetland:

"If the newspapers are making any endeavor to read into my wire to Morgan any criticism of you by me, let me assure you that the wire is not subject to any such interpretation as far as my intent is concerned. Let me also make clear that I do not intend to be drawn into any controversy between Democratic leaders in Oregon if one exists."

He said in the telegram to Morgan:

"As you know I shall not, and have not, asked the Democratic party in Oregon, or on the national level, to grant me any special consideration in connection with my 1956 campaign if I should decide to make the race as an independent rather than as a Democrat.

"At no time have you or any other Democratic leader suggested or proposed any arrangement with me whereby in 1956 a so-called 'weak' Democratic candidate would be run against me if I ran as an independent and then said candidate would withdraw from the race in the general election. Such a proposal would have been politically unethical."



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