

+ EMERALD EDITORIALS +

Moral Restraint

Moral restraint. That's what is to enforce election regulations this week. According to the Senate, that leaves it up to each candidate to see that the rules are obeyed.

Somehow this seems rather inadequate to us. Granted the candidate themselves may exercise "moral restraint" in their campaigning, but who is to control their perhaps overly enthusiastic fraternity brothers and supporters?

How many volunteers will there be for Bob Sigaboos' cleanup campaign before the polls open? How many people will petition to watch the Student Union and see that no signs are put up? And how many will report any campaigning done on election day?

We doubt if there will be very many, and we also doubt the value of moral restraint as an election control. —(S.R.)

Unanimous Opinion

"Spring term seniors should not have to take finals."

This unanimous opinion gushed from a number of spring term seniors recently polled by the Emerald. Numerous reasons were offered for abolishing this ancient practice—all of which makes good sense to us.

"Suppose I took the last final and flunked," conjectured one marginal senior. He explained that by June his graduation announcements would have been sent out, friends would have bought him gifts, his parents would have been invited to commencement exercises, his portrait with cap and gown would be printed in the Oregonian, and... "Well," as he put it, "it would be somewhat of a pickle not to graduate."

The last minute flunk would be a rather rude shock for any graduation-expecting senior. This and the fact that professors have to work like slaves (or at least harder than they are accustomed to) even to get the tests graded, leads us to wholeheartedly agree that the dirty things (finals) should be done away with. Many colleges and universities have already come to this conclusion (we mustn't let OSC show us up).

Another senior pointed to the wonderful incentive that freedom from finals for spring term seniors would set for other classes at the University. They would all work extra hard

so that some day they too could become spring term seniors and be free of finals.

But the administration might argue that without finals, there would be little to compel seniors to go to spring classes.

"That's good," ventured another senior. "By spring term, seniors are so all-knowing that they would probably start showing up their professors and create an embarrassing situation. Better they run wild."

"Also," this same senior continued, "after four years here in the rain belt, seniors probably need to tan their anemic bodies far more than they need the last minute push in class."

Well, these in the main, are the reasons why Oregon seniors feel that finals spring term are a thing that they could do better without.

And we agree. The only superior suggestion that we have heard to date is that seniors just plain don't go to classes all spring term. —(D.L.)

Footnotes

Nebraska legislators have, as a result of Saturday's panty raid on the University of Nebraska campus, done something that looks almost as silly as the panty raid itself—recommended a review of the University's budget for 1955-56. Seems silly to threaten the functioning of the university because of the actions of 50 or 60 people who had no place being in college in the first place.

Shades of things to come? The underdog Sunshine party captured positions in all the runoff races in the Oregon State associated students elections. This marks the first time a party there has had its slate intact going into the general election.

Overheard in a conversation of an over-worked worker on the Canoe Fete, "The Canoe Fete isn't just another activity—it's a way of life."

Here it is just barely spring and the residents of Carson 5 are already booming summer—some people are never happy.

A prediction based on inside dope: The presidential candidates of both campus "political parties" will survive the primary.

INTERPRETING THE NEWS

Government Publishes Booklet Aimed at Cutting 'Gobbledgook'

By **MARTHA COLE**
Of the Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Comes now the government with a new attack and a new formula for an old problem: Letterwriting.

They're not going to endeavor to effectuate an amelioration.

No, sir. They're going to try to improve things.

The General Services Administration issued a 47-page booklet Sunday with the unadorned title "Plain Letters." It's designed to sweep away the cobwebs of gobbledgook in government letters.

Plain, workaday English is the goal.

The formula is 4-S: Shortness, simplicity, strength and sincerity.

The government writes about a billion letters a year, the Hoover Commission has estimated, and altogether they cost the taxpayer about a dollar each.

Strip "the braids and beads

and fringes" from letters, the booklet says and you not only improve the quality but you cut the cost of all this paper work. The Hoover Commission estimated the government could save 75 million dollars a year with better letters.

Says the booklet: For shortness—Don't "wind up" first with a lot of "in regard to," get to the point, say "we met" instead of "held a meeting."

For simplicity—"Know your subject so well you can discuss it naturally and confidently."

For strength—Use specific, concrete words. Don't explain your answer before giving it. Give answers first, then explain if necessary. And don't hedge with words like "it appears."

For sincerity—"Be human. Don't be obsequious or arrogant. Strive to express yourself in a friendly way and with a simple dignity befitting the United States government."

"Plain Letters" is going to all federal letterwriters. It follows "Form Letters" issued last fall by GSA with rules and patterns for using form letters. Coming up is "Guide Letters" to lay out standards for using predrafted letters to answer foreseeable inquiries.

The public can buy the booklets at the Government printing office.

Mona Sheppard, GSA staff specialist in correspondence management, wrote "Plain Letters."

She closed it with a watch list of 175 words and phrases loved by federal letter writers. For instance:

"Encounter difficulty—Why not have trouble?"

"Expedite—Can't we say hasten or hurry?"

"Assistance—Let's have more help and aid.

And— "Predicated on the assumption—Forget this one."

THE LOOKING GLASS

Real 'Living Legend' On Mayflower Screen

By **Len Calvert**
Emerald Columnist

One of the true "living legends" of our time is currently on view at the Mayflower and living up to every advance report we have ever heard of the fabulous Greta Garbo.

For us, and probably for most of the current college generation, this is the first opportunity we have had to see Garbo, the woman who has consistently maintained that "I want to be alone."

Her last movie was in 1941. "Camille" was made in 1939 and has been re-released by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayor in response to demand created by a recent series on the star in a Luce publication.

"Camille" shows Garbo as a French prostitute who leads a rather frivolous life, finds love, but has to give it up as she is not a suitable wife for the young man (Robert Taylor).

Perhaps it is just as well that the movie was re-released so that people could see Garbo, for she certainly is about the only thing the movie has to offer the theater-going public. The plot is trite and melodramatic as compared to present standards. The movie would certainly lose its audience interest were it not for the famous Swede.

From her first appearance to the end of the film, the eye watches Garbo, her every movement of pieces of furniture placed in the scene for the convenience of the star.

Not a beautiful woman, Garbo has an elusive quality that makes her one of the most fascinating women we have ever seen on the screen. Certainly few, if any, of Hollywood's current feminine stars deserve to shine beside her. Her face is one of the most expressive ever viewed. Garbo can express more by a lifted eyebrow than volumes of dialogue can.

M-G-M did surround Garbo with some very good character actors which provide good counterpoint for her playing. However, some of the other principals leave much to be desired.

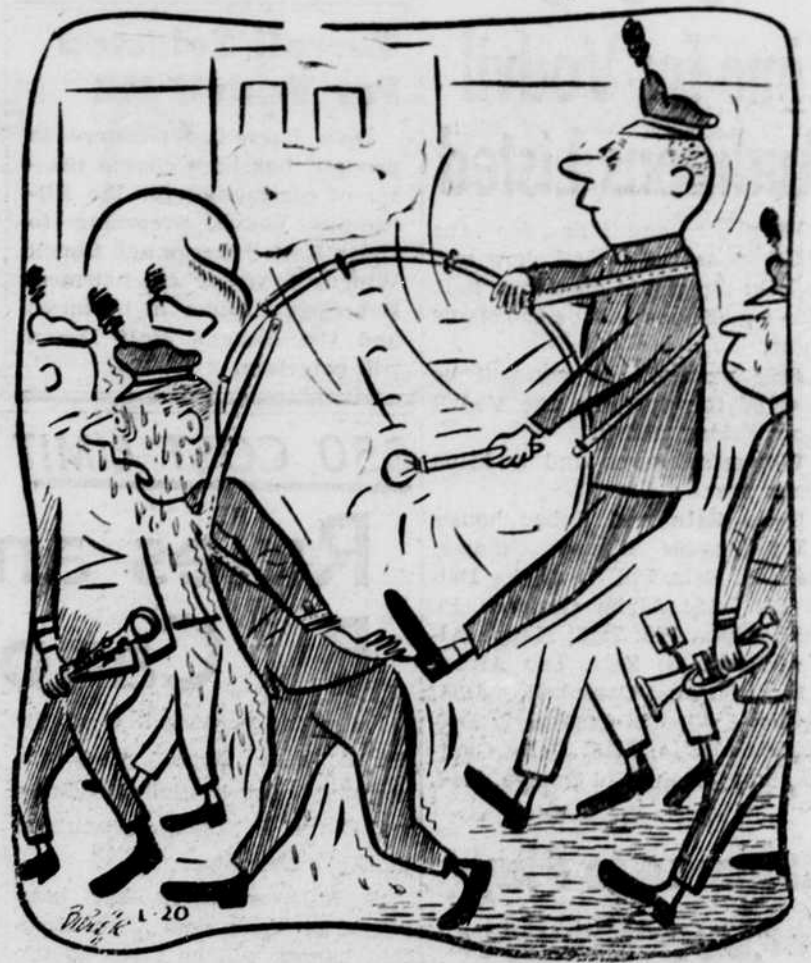
Lionel Barrymore gives what must be the worst performance of his long and distinguished career. In his big scene with Garbo, he is completely unconvincing.

Robert Taylor, looking literally years younger, is adequate as her frustrated lover. He is handsome and well suited to the part. The younger Taylor looks the part of a Latin lover.

We would like to see the great Garbo in a movie with a better plot and with better supporting actors as a basis for further comparison. In places in "Camille," she reminded us somewhat of Ingrid Bergman. It would really be a joy to behold Garbo in a picture like "Country Girl," we believe.

Although billed as a single feature, "Camille" has enough short subjects to qualify almost as a double bill. Included in these is a rather so-so short on pictures currently being made in Vista Vision by Paramount. It is one continuous preview of 11 movies.

Armed Forces Day



"You're right Ed, these big drums do get heavy on a long march."



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