

+ EMERALD EDITORIALS +

Only Average at Best

We're still not satisfied. John G. Hervey, legal education adviser to the American Bar Assn., has clarified his recent criticism of Oregon's law schools by saying he meant only that they were not "superior," which doesn't necessarily impute inferiority. Our question is this, why isn't the Oregon law school superior?

Evidently, it is only average at best. And yet the ABA representative commented favorably on the law library, one of the prime requisites of a good law school. This would indicate that the quality of instruction is not what it should be. Again we ask, why?

The situation certainly merits more than the "nonplussed" attitude which was conveyed by Dean Orlando J. Hollis in reaction to Hervey's evaluation. Oregon contributes many of the future lawyers and judges which form the legal backbone of the state. Our legal system can be only as good as are these men. They should have the best possible education. Apparently they are not getting it.

It's true that Oregon law school graduates usually score well on the state bar exam, a required hurdle before they can begin practice. But this probably can be attributed to the fact that only the best students ever get through the school. Only about 50 per cent of the first-year class at Oregon eventually graduates. Now we don't deny the importance of high academic standards. But the point is this, how many of those who dropped out would have graduated if they had received more competent classroom help? If Oregon had a "superior" school, these men would not be denied a career in law.

Other factors besides Hervey's remarks point to the need for improvement at Oregon. A principal consideration is the dissatisfaction of the students themselves. They have complained about their schooling for a number of years to no avail. This year they have been particularly critical. Yet many of them could not afford to go elsewhere.

Another indication of something wrong is the alarming turnover within the faculty in recent years. Why aren't good men found and kept? Is it because of insufficient salaries? If so, why isn't pressure applied to obtain the kind of money that will attract competent law teachers?

It seems strange that Willamette, which is a private school with high tuition, con-

sistently has an equal number of students with Oregon, although the latter is state-supported with low tuition. In addition, Northwestern Law school in Portland, which isn't even accredited, usually has a greater enrollment than Oregon and Willamette combined.

No, we're not satisfied. Neither are the law students. Oregon should have a "superior" law school. Mediocre instruction coupled with high academic standards means that some students who have the ability to be good lawyers will never graduate. And those who do will not be as good as they could have been. The situation deserves more than a shrug of the shoulders.—(J.C.R.)

Marquam Hill Heartbeat

Doctors with stethoscopes to the heartbeat of Marquam hill have heard aberrations in recent weeks.

For once a group of doctors seem to have risen above the petty jealousies which they have allowed to cloud the reflector of the University of Oregon medical school in Portland.

At stake this time was money for a laboratory and out-patient clinic. The doctors however, sent up a smoke screen which makes the underlying issue appear out of focus: treatment of private patients on medical school property by members of the medical school faculty.

This privilege is not a unique one with the Oregon medical school. Private practice, plus the larger salary received by the Marquam hill pedagogues, is designed to maintain a qualified staff in a profession with a relatively high income level.

John Richards, chancellor of the state system of higher education, seems convinced that such a system is necessary. The Oregon State Medical society has different ideas. Meeting Sunday, the organization's house of delegate adopted a lengthy report demanding the end of the system and charging that the heads of certain departments at the medical school have used their position for private gain while neglecting their teaching duties.

It is obvious that neither side is going to make any headway with existing attitudes. Without some amelioration or compromise the May 5 meeting between the OMS officers and the state board of higher education will produce little to heal a long-festering wound.

Groundswain



"HEY, MAC - OVER HERE WITH THAT SOD-PACKER."

THE LOOKING GLASS

Cast Projects Tensions Of Miller's 'All My Sons'

By Sally Jo Grieg
Emerald Critic

"All My Sons," a powerful play in itself, cannot be described by a single phrase. It is rich in plot, morals, and quotable dialogue. The characters are realistically complex and a challenge to any actor.

On the whole, the University Theatre cast of All My Sons met this challenge and projected the tensions of Arthur Miller's play with such force, that at curtain call they found an appreciative, but emotionally exhausted audience.

Rod Weidman, Tom Gaines and Barbara Nyberg gave outstanding performances. All three skillfully developed their parts, and accomplished the difficult task of holding the audience's sympathy with characters who are not completely morally commendable.

Weidman, a polished actor with much previous experience, created a truly living person in the role of Joe Keller. From the opening scene Weidman subtly made the audience forget that he was acting.

Gaines played the role of Chris Keller to its hilt, registering every emotion from gentle love to devastating grief and inner torment.

Miss Nyberg had the challenging assignment of playing a middle aged mother and wife, Kate Keller. Her performance was surprisingly mature and always convincing.

Although his lines were comparatively few, Scott Lehner gave an intense performance. He made the character of George Deever unforgettable.

Margaret Davis interpreted Ann Deever as a rather young and almost too flippant person, at the expense of character depth and audience sympathy.

Supporting actors Gordon Bussey and Sandra Pearson as Dr. Jim and Sue Bayliss were excellent in both their comic and serious moments. Wayne Medford and Donna Lou Douglas as Frank Lube and Lydia Lube, also added needed comic relief to the tragic tone of the play.

Frederick J. Hunter, assistant professor of speech, directed the play, and Daniel Krempel, instructor in speech, designed the setting.

From the Files

April 25, 1930

In an effort to help members of Sigma Pi Tau get up in time to get to their spring term 8 o'clock classes, an "Aurora Borealis" club has been organized. A deadline of 7:20 a.m. has been set for getting up each morning and various methods are used to help the members meet this time.

April 25, 1931

Senior Leap Week activities will end tonight with the staging of the annual "Barroom Bust" at Hendricks Park. During this time senior girls have had the right of asking senior boys out.

April 25, 1947

A fund drive for the proposed Student Union was opened last night with a snowball rally and an assembly. Students have set a goal of \$5000 for the drive.

INTERPRETING THE NEWS

Eisenhower, Dulles Feel Way Toward New Initiative Expression

By J. M. Roberts
AP News Analyst

President Eisenhower and Secretary Dulles are feeling their way toward a new expression of free world initiative in the cold war, but so far it hasn't jelled.

Perhaps purposely, they have spoken in generalities to Russia and to America's Western allies about a means of creating better world conditions.

Both chose audiences from the press. The President spoke to the American Society of Newspaper Editors, the secretary to the annual luncheon of the Associated Press, within a period of 48 hours.

If Russia wants to impress the world, the President said, she must proceed from denunciation of Stalin's conduct at home to correct the errors he made abroad — the curtailment, and continued attempted curtailment, of the right of free determination for other peoples.

Dulles, on his part, seems to be proposing a crusade by Western civilization, in which the members of the North Atlantic Treaty organization, and their associates in interlocking defense organizations throughout the world, should join to spread more independence, accompanied by economic development, against a background of human brotherhood.

This is all but an open bid for the European allies to join the long-term economic aid program for underdeveloped and uncommitted countries for which the Washington administration is now working in Congress.

Dulles apparently confined himself to generalities in order to avoid any seeming pressure, and to give the movement a chance to get started on a universally voluntary basis rather than have it bear the tag of a purely American project.

In his reference to spreading independence, he also avoided

anything tending to raise the hackles of any of America's allies. He confined himself to general principles, but pointing out that in such work the more stable nations had an opportunity to revitalize their own civilizations, as well as to receive benefits from the civilizations of others.

The proposals are far from being as specific as was the original outline of the Marshall plan, but their projection into something concrete, after Dulles gets the views of his foreign associates at the forthcoming NATO conference in Paris, might be the beginning of something of even more profound importance.

The Dulles speech also serves as a pre-conference reply to those associates who have been suggesting that the United States and NATO, should advance from their prepared military positions of defense into a more positive approach to world problems.

oregon **daily EMERALD**

The Oregon Daily Emerald is published five days a week during the school year and during examination and vacation periods, by the Student Publications Board of the University of Oregon. Entered as second class matter at the post office, Eugene, Oregon. Subscription rates: \$5. per school year; \$2 per term.
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