

Oregon Daily



EMERALD

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KEN NIEHANS, Business Manager

Interested in 'Doing Things'?

Old Signa Phyl Nothing needs another Senate seat, so popular brother Joe is convinced he should run. He's a veteran of three years of Fishbowl maneuvers and knows the necessary number of voters by their first names. He's a natural!

Our advice to Joe: Don't!

The next ASUO President will face tremendous challenges, and opportunity limited only by himself and the Senate which we elect for him.

With the deadline for ASUO offices just four days away, it was The Emerald's first inclination to urge all interested persons to race toward the SU, petition in hand. But we'll qualify that. We strongly urge men and women to run, but only if they are willing to devote great time and effort for the welfare of their fellow students.

The Senate has no need for the conventional "activity man." Too often Senators regard their positions as just another committee meeting to attend every two weeks.

This is extremely unfortunate, because the Senate has great opportunity to serve that is unavailable to any other body. Who else can speak for the entire student body? Who else (besides The Emerald) can conduct thorough investigations into areas vital to student interest? Who else has the prestige to effectively represent us in conflicts with other interests? The Senate needs dedicated men and women willing to do such opportunity justice.

This argument assumes that student government is worthwhile and can effectively represent student interests. It assumes that wherein the Senate fails to fulfill its role, the fault lies with the individuals involved rather than with the system. Actually, however, the fault more properly lies with those of us who elect nice guys, whether or not they have any interest in Senate service.

The Senate is not the "thing to do" unless one is really interested in "doing things."

The 'Petitioning' Season

Petitioning to be honored seems a rather ridiculous idea at first glance. And at second glance. But this is the method which our campus service honoraries have evidently found necessary to employ in choosing new members every spring term.

If it is a necessary step in considering all the eligible students interested in such organizations, it is probably justified. However, we have known persons whose individual standards prohibited them from taking this step.

Others have not chosen to petition because they wish to serve the University and their own individual interests by selecting the exact areas in which to exert their efforts. And they know that the services performed by the honoraries themselves take a great deal of the members' time.

It is this double meaning in the name "service" honorary which many students do not realize. Members are chosen primarily for their service to our institution; and once in the organizations, they continue to serve the school in many ways. The latter aspect has been the target of much criticism from persons who think this is not in keeping with the concept of an "honorary."

Nevertheless, this is the structure of such groups on our campus. And the end product of their year-long work is the awarding of many scholarships to worthy University

students who without them might be unable to continue their education.

No one can deny that this principle service of providing scholarships is admirable. But The Emerald is concerned with the attitude prevalent among many students — especially freshmen — that the service honorary memberships include all those who have really served our campus community.

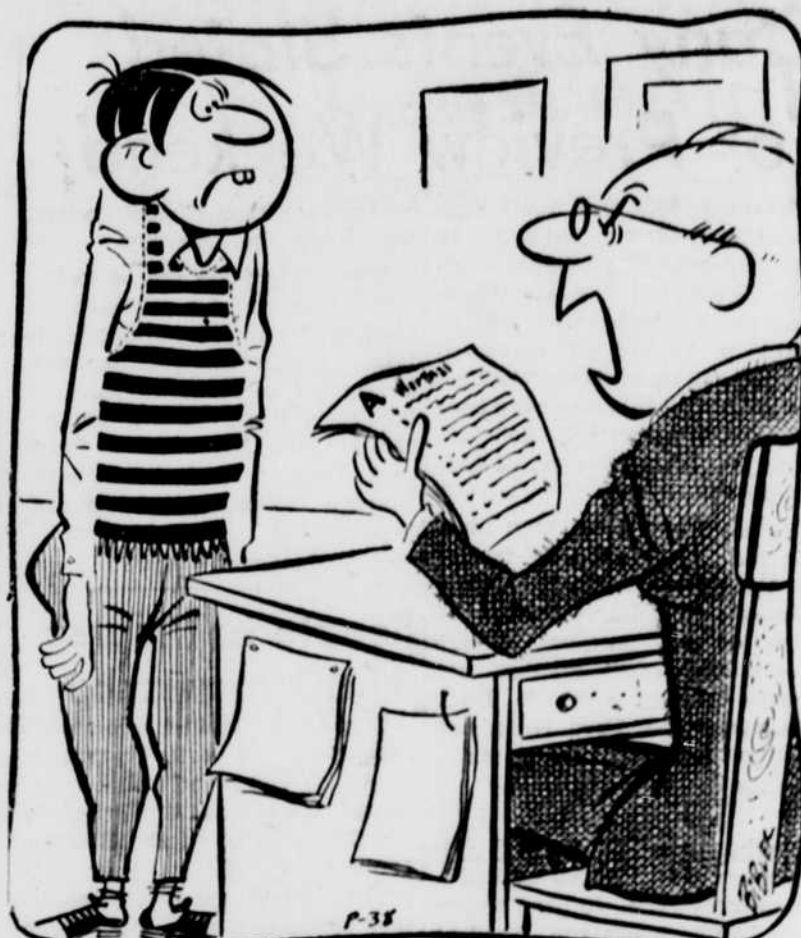
Because of the very structure of these organizations — with petitions required, time-consuming activities involved, and membership limited — this is not the situation.

And so, freshmen, during this "petitioning" season, if you somehow don't feel it is "right" asking to be honored during Junior Weekend tapings for your service; or if you want to devote all your time to specific extra-curricular or academic (more power to you) areas, don't petition. There's nothing wrong with your attitude.

However, if you see in these organizations an outlet for your desires to serve our school which appeals to you, do petition. You may become part of a fine and worthwhile cooperative service group.

But don't let anyone (including yourself) tell you that obtaining an upside-down L or a skull-and-dagger emblem is the only way of serving our campus community or of being recognized for your service. If it were, we'd be in a bad way. (M.M.)

Magna Cum Cheatee



"YOU CAN KEEP THE 'A'—BECAUSE YOU WERE SO CLEVER THAT NO TIME DURING THE EXAM WAS I ABLE TO DETECT HOW YOU WERE CHEATING."

Swan Song

Mr. Everybody Really An All Right Fellow

By SAM VAHEY

Emerald Associate Editor

Actually, despite his many individual faults, the average guy isn't so bad after all. On the surface, it's easy to note the many shortcomings of the common man; but a closer look will reveal some real character.

With these words I mean to include not only the average student, but also the average citizen, who may not have finished the fifth grade.

For one thing, "Just plain Bill" has a genuine spirit of generosity. He may begrudge giving to the WUS drive, and he may dislike the pressures exerted on him so that his house has a 100 per cent donation. But separate him from a solicited contribution such as the Red Cross or Community Chest, and he's more than willing to loan his car to a buddy, visit a pal in the infirmary, or give instructions to a visitor to the campus.

Although he is cautious, conforming, and conservative, he provides a great degree of stability to his society, in seeking security himself. He likes what he has, and he wants to keep it.

This is not a new revelation among mankind, for "just plain Horatio" felt the same way when he was a citizen in the Roman civilization. No doubt about it, the average guy is slow to change. That's human nature, and no one can change it.

Furthermore, Mr. Everybody is generally tolerant. Deep inside, he realizes his own faults; and therefore accepts other people at their face value, knowing that they, too, are only human. It's easy to criticize, but a good saying for everyone to remember, (me, too) is that "People who live in stone houses shouldn't throw glasses."

Granted, man has become a social creature; but it has been the result of necessity, more than anything else. The world is too small a place to live without getting along with others. If the world were bigger, however, or the population smaller, you could take the average guy away from the masses, and I bet he could provide for himself and his family. And be happy, too.

All in all, the common man may be quiet, conservative, and sometimes, unappreciative. But he's generally a happy fellow. This is certainly not the best of all possible worlds, or even countries. The average guy can see this, however; and although he's not working too hard, he's trying to improve it little by little.

Somewhat related to the previous comment is the situation which exists in campus activities—the situation called student apathy.

I sometimes wonder why so many people are worried about it. Do those who worry stop to think that there might be people who just don't "give a damn" about committee work or popularity contests. Everyone has different values, and different goals. Some students, therefore, might rather relax and enjoy themselves, than scurry their little heads off attending meetings.

I firmly believe that there should be campus activities for those who are interested in them. And those who are interested in them shouldn't condemn, criticize or worry about those who aren't. Student government is a type of education, as well as an expression of student views. If some people would rather get their education out of a book, let them. They're not suffering one bit by being "left out" of the campus whirl which surrounds Junior Weekend and Homecoming.

By this, I don't mean to belittle student government or student activities. They are very definitely a part of some people's education, because they develop responsibility and organization, a fact that some of our administrators won't accept.

Furthermore, in regard to interest in student government—Whenever the ASUO Senate takes on an issue of major importance, there will be active expression of student thought, as evidenced by the recent comment about racial clauses. Until that time, however, many students will be content to sit back and let someone else do the committee work.

— Letters to the Editor —

Emerald Editor:

For the past month this column has been shot full of letters discussing discrimination by fraternities. By the application of a little objective, unbiased logic, we can solve this weighty problem. First, let us try an Aristotelian syllogism.

1. The Constitution guarantees freedom of religion.

2. Discrimination is a religion.

Therefore, fraternities are free to discriminate.

How simple that is! But I see you question the minor premise. This was determined by the use of John Stuart Mill's theory of residues. Discrimination has no logical or scientific rationale;

therefore it is best described as metaphysical or a religion. And outside of human sacrifice and unchaperoned orgies, the frats have Constitutional safeguards to practice their religion. For further notes on this subject see *The Constitution and What it Means to Me*, by Dave Beck.

Let us waste no more time or postage on this trivial matter, for there is a more terrible evil running rampant on this campus. Like a cancerous growth gnawing at our vital organs, 13th street threatens us all. And all right—thinking letter writers should take up their cudgels and join this Great Crusade.

Perhaps you have always

thought of this infamous street as simply a thoroughfare for motor vehicles, for this is the Popular Front it hides behind. This is not true. When we rip off this innocuous mask we see it exposed for what it really is; an insidious subversive tool by which the Fifth Amendment city planners of Eugene seek to violently overthrow the American way of life on this campus.

Let's look at the record. Thirteenth Street is now carrying more traffic than ever before, and it will continue to grow until it drives a concrete wedge through the heart of our campus.

For the following reasons we
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