

Some Homecoming Problems

Somewhat we've always been stuck with the impression that if there's anything we need more of, it's less activities. But the fall term highlight of the activity season—Homecoming—seems to carry on the only really enforced tradition of this campus—building new events.

We applaud the ASUO Senate decision to scrap the all-too-weak float parade in favor of better Homecoming sign competition—this despite the statements of several of the Homecoming chairmen petitioners favoring increasing the parade to a "major" HC function. Fortunately, for the sake of a successful Homecoming and an over-worked student body, the parade has been discarded.

But there remain problems for the Homecoming chairmen and/or the Senate if the 1957 weekend is to be a success in the minds of students or alumni.

Most of the suggestions posed to the Senate by chairmen hopefuls for improvement of the weekend contained ideas for adding to the already too-fat slate of events. Try, if you will: an alum dinner-dance "downtown" to relieve the congestion of the general Mac Court HC ball, a coffee hour for returning alums with no affiliation with living organizations (how many of these return?), a specified minimum sign size (thereby insuring the proper amount of work by each living group).

Add these "improvements" to the present weekend schedule: the mammoth sign construction contest (mammoth and exhausting for some, token for others), a rather confused bonfire queen coronation (we expect one of next year's petitioners to sug-

best burning at the stake—much more spectacular), an even more confused alumni luncheon-barbecue-sack lunch get-together, a "big-name" band dance (we're musing in the ivory tower again, we know) and the game (thank goodness for something simple).

The result: a fatiguing schedule of events rapidly approaching the purposeless and a "simply wonderful" time for all—until you've seen the same thing three or four times and begin to wonder.

Why not, we wonder, perhaps too late for this time, an alumni homecoming weekend for the alumni? Why not let them walk the hallowed (to them perhaps) sidewalks of the old campus and muse of the good old days or sit with their living groups and describe the basement stills of the thirties? Why not this without so much all-out planned activity to greet the alums that we curse them and bless the minute they turn their backs to give us respite from this whirlpool?

Maybe we're just lazy, tired already by the "routine" activity mill established in only two and a half weeks and frightened at the thought of fatigue above and beyond. Or maybe we're just being too idealistic, knowing what we'd like to see in the years after this when we return in that "other" status.

The decision, however, rests with the Homecoming chairmen or, if they care to assume the responsibility again, the members of the ASUO Senate. To our way of thinking, it's a question of whether Homecoming is for those coming home or those already here.

+ + +

Tito and Sputnik

Yugoslavia's recognition of East Germany does not come as a surprise. Marshall Tito, the strong-man leader of this strategically-located central European country, has never indicated a very strong affinity for staying on one side of the political fence. And this looks like another case of "leaning the way the wind blows."

The United States has poured over a billion dollars worth of military and economic help into Tito's country since he broke with Moscow in 1948. Tito responded by making his country the only Communist nation that was not under control of the Kremlin.

He was able to maintain his position as long as the West appeared strong enough to back him up in case of trouble from Russia. Now, however, with the apparent shift in arms superiority, Tito may have decided that too much resistance to Kremlin pressures would be foolishness.

His recognition of the puppet government in East Germany as a sovereign state could be Yugoslavia's first step down the road back to satellitism, unless the West can come to his rescue with weapons to match the Red rocket that launched Sputnik.

Eyes on California

Some Californians' superiority complexes—reflected of late in their attitudes on PCC football and major league baseball—are sure to be fattened by the attention soon to be paid their state on another well-known front, politics.

Favorite sons of the golden state are uppermost in the national political picture, on the Republican side at least. And the early announcements of incumbent governor Goodwin J. Knight and senior Senator

William Knowland for the 1958 chief executive race have heightened interest.

In back of the upcoming Knowland-Knight squabble is the powerful force of Vice-President Richard Nixon, still another Californian. Knowland is generally considered to be seeking the GOP presidential nomination in 1960, something Nixon is also after.

Rumors have been flying regarding deals, bargains and double-crosses involving all three men. It is quite possible that Nixon may back Knowland for governor in exchange for Knowland's support for the number-one job in '60.

The added Knowland support from his Senate colleague, Thomas Kuchel, seems to have left Knight alone. But the popular "Goody" has been no slouch as a vote-getter and will not be counted out.

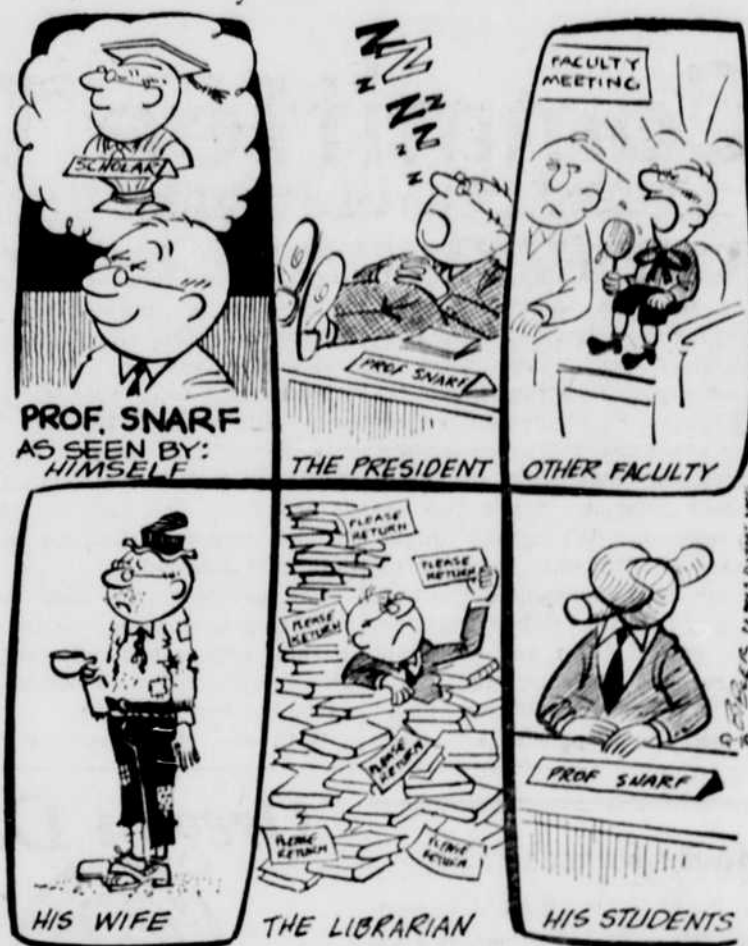
Another complication in the entire picture is a popular Democrat, state attorney general Pat Brown. Under California's cross-filing system, a candidate may receive the nomination of both parties—a coup achieved often by Chief Justice Earl Warren when he was California's governor.

As this complication unfolds, it will have added significance for University students both as potential (and in many cases actual) voters and as citizens of a growing and increasingly-important region. National politics have seldom been affected by Western activity, but an era of exceptions to the rule seems at hand.

Footnotes

Now we'll stand quietly when they throw around "your" for "you're and 'it's"—most of the time. But when the perfectly respectable United Appeal posters come out with "you and your's," we feel it's—er, that is, it's—time to squirm a little.

Anyone You Know?



Classes Take up Again In 1000-Year-Old University

By WILTON WYNN

CAIRO (AP)—School has started again in a thousand-year-old university in the shadow of the domes and minarets of old Cairo. Enrolled this year are students from 54 countries where the Muezzin calls "Allahu Akbar—God is great" from the minaret.

The university called El Azhar is the oldest Moslem center of learning. It clings to traditions and systems begun in days when men thought the world was flat.

Even so, it is the intellectual center of the Moslem world. When its Council of Elders issues a decree, the impact is felt wherever the faithful gather. Its graduates fan out to carry the message of Islam to the ends of the earth.

There is no green campus, no football stadium, no ivied walls. El Azhar is a large mosque topped by three minarets. Around the columns inside, the students literally sit at the feet of learned sheikhs to study the Koran and Moslem theology.

In narrow streets and bazaars about El Azhar, the population buys and sells as it has for a millennium. Merchants sitting cross-legged on carpets puff heavily on hubble-bubble pipes.

The air is heavy with a mixture of odors—amber perfume, tobacco smoke, broiling mutton, and spices of every kind. A woman shopper screams imprecations at a merchant who won't bring down his price. A donkey driver shouts at pedestrians to get out of the way. A weary taxicab chugs through the crowd, patiently honking as it inches along.

You step out of this noisy world into the calm and repose of the mosque.

On the left as you enter is a wooden stand where students pigeonhole their shoes. No one wears shoes inside the mosque.

Through another arch is the sunny, stone-paved courtyard, arched on three sides. The row of arches on the east opens into a forest of columns inside the sanctuary itself. Here the gloom is cut by beams of sunlight filtered through multicolored windows near the ceiling. A mihrab prayer niche points the way to Mecca, toward which the faithful face when they pray.

Around almost every column a circle of students squats cross-

legged on soft carpets covering the floor.

The students represent a cross-section of the Moslem world. They may be black men from Nigeria, yellow men from China, or white men from Albania. But all of them study and argue in Arabic, and almost every sheikh has his hands full coping with alert young students quick to catch the teacher in error.

In a class in grammar, the sheikh may spend endless hours teaching students the nine ways of reciting "In the name of Allah the merciful, the compassionate," opening words of the Koran.

Some of the students are old men who have devoted a lifetime to study in El Azhar.

Our Contemporaries

Michigan State University coeds began a new kind of "do-it-yourself living" this fall. A new "apartment residence hall" houses the students in apartment living units for six girls. Each apartment has a living room-study area, kitchenette and dining space, bedroom, bath.

Girls do their own cooking and housekeeping and take turns at operating the switchboard. Thirty-two apartments will eventually be built.

The apartment plan is expected to furnish relatively low-cost living to residents, the Michigan State News reports.

OREGON DAILY EMERALD

The Oregon Daily Emerald is published four times in September and five days a week during the school year, except 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 year, \$2 per term.

Opinions expressed on the editorial page are those of The Emerald and do not pretend to represent the opinion of the ASUO or the University.

CHARLES MITCHELMORE, Editor
GARY CAPPS, Business Manager
JACK WILSON, Editorial Page Editor
ALLEN JOHNSON, Managing Editor
GLEN GRAVES, Advertising Manager
CORNELIA FOGLE, WILLIAM COOK, Associate Editors
PHIL HAGER, News Editor
JERRY RAMSEY, Sports Editor
JOANNE MILLIGAN, Asst. Bus. Mgr.
EDITORIAL BOARD: Charles Mitchellmore, Jack Wilson, Allen Johnson, Cornelia Fogle, William Cook, Phil Hager, Jerry Ramsey, Wayne Woodman.
Make-up Editor: Wayne Woodman
Day Editors: Joan Kraus, Evelyn Olsen, Pepper Allen, Mike Forrester, Pat Treece.
Night Editors: Dave Lortie, Don Robinson, Frank Ingram.
Women's Editor: Kathy Cook
Office Manager: Alice McKindrie
Asst. Adv. Mgr.: Roger Smith
Natl. Adv. Mgr.: Charming Ford
Executive Secretary: Pat Holley
Chief Photographer: Nathan Hull
Classified Manager: Warren Rucker
Accounting Clerk: Erlene Whitehouse