

Monogamy?

Centennial 'Snag'

On one of the inside pages in Tuesday's Oregonian, Washington correspondent A. Robert Smith reports that plans of the Oregon centennial commission for kicking off its publicity campaign at the White House have "bumped into a snag."

The "snag" was none other than Oregon's junior senator, Richard L. Neuberger.

Neuberger came out against asking President Eisenhower to take part in a ceremonial affair on the occasion of his signing an Oregon centennial proclamation. Neuberger cited concern for the president's health, and lack of time for such things.

Neuberger said: "His strength and vitality are definitely limited. They must be spared for the greatest duties of his office . . . If I can ask for the president's time and energy so that I can present him rose slips on behalf of the Portland Rose Festival, then some other U. S. senator can make a similar request for the Wenatchee Apple Blossom festival, the Pasadena Tournament of Roses or the Nebraska Ak-Sar-Ben festivities. There would be no end so such demands."

While Neuberger may have overdone the "limited strength and vitality" line, he's dead right on ceremonial affairs. The last person who should be bothered with them during these times is the President.

It would be a good idea for more political and social organizations to pay attention to Neuberger's statement that "all of us Americans must exercise restraint in burdening the President with such purely ceremonial tasks as this."

All's Not Lost

"Rosy Outlook" is the headline over the lead story in last week's Time magazine cinema section. Among other things Time notes that Hollywood's 1958 production schedule is "the most ambitious in recent years." Paramount plans to release 32 movies this year; Warner, MGM, Columbia, United Artists, and Twentieth Century-Fox all plan production increases. This, of course, is good news for the entertainment-hungry college student who has been close to nausea since he that heard "movies are better than ever." Perhaps—with more movies—there'll be better movies.

Emerald entertainment editor John Lengel has frequently noted last fall's lack of quality in downtown movies. We've been forced to agree.

But take a look at recent developments. Things are looking up. Within two weeks, two of the funniest shows ever ("The Ladykillers," "Don't Go Near the Water") made appearances downtown. Just last week came

more good news. The grand old Mayflower announced its re-opening and the coming of "Oedipus Rex," "Richard III" and "The Red Balloon," with promises of more high quality films to come.

The Student Union has scheduled a good line-up of second-run movies for the rest of the year including "The Bad Seed," "Seven Year Itch," "Moby Dick" and "Bad Day at Black Rock."

While we're on the subject of good movie entertainment, we shouldn't forget the University Film Society's slate which includes a schedule of excellent classics, such as "All Quiet on the Western Front," "A Day at the Races" and "The Good Earth."

So, maybe all is not lost for campus movie goers.

Worthwhile Lecture

Once termed the "Drowsing" Room lectures by a witty Emerald writer who was covering the weekly series, the current slate of Browsing Room speakers has awakened new interest in the program.

Several of this year's lectures, especially those of W. O. Shanahan and E. S. Wengert, were so well attended that seats were at a premium. Tonight's lecture by R. F. Mikesell, Miner professor of economics, is expected to be as popular.

The major factor in the surge of campus interest in the series is perhaps the more timely choice of topics for this year's lectures. The series has always tended to appeal more directly to the intellectuals and scholars who have some direct interest in the topic's field, but the subject matter should not be such to discourage listeners who would simply like to know more about the topic.

Perhaps one of the best examples of the specialized topics was last year's speech on "The Influence of Freudian Psychology on the Criticism of Literary Works." This subject would rarely be discussed outside graduate seminars and five hundred series courses.

A good lecture should hold some challenge for most listeners. It should not, ideally, be over the heads of listeners who are not specialists in that field, yet not be so simple that it fails to stimulate the speaker's contemporaries in the audience. It should seek to encourage further thinking no matter what previous knowledge individuals in the audience have on the subject.

Few students and probably a good number of faculty members have had much time to study the philosophy and development of U.S. foreign policy. Tonight's lecture on "Trade, Aid and National Security" ought to prove informational and stimulating to those attending.



Jack Wilson

Present College Generation Different from Those Past

Having received, at this writing, no denials of Nicholas David's theory that the brevity of campus love affairs is exceeded only by their shallowness, I suppose it's up to this writer to offer the defense.

And it's not so much a defense as it is an explanation. An explanation, you might say, to the American public from college students about our apparent lack of sincerity.

Are we really so much different from the college generations which have preceded us? For good or for bad, we are. A pinning was unheard of 30 years ago, except as an occasional genuine prelude to engagement. Otherwise, the stag reigned supreme, and the more girls a man could take out without getting involved, the higher his esteem.

(The stag is still an important individual in the South, where it's pointless to take a girl to a dance if you expect to dance with her. But I suspect that even the conservative old South will be unable to hold out against the trend very long).

It has been said of us that we are a monogamous group, but our monogamy is not always confined to one partner. We engage in a "monogamous polygamy." This sounds like a conflict of terms, but it isn't. It is our custom to concentrate our affections on one person for a length of time, then go on to another. But during that time, no infidelity by either partner is allowed.

If I were to twist Dave Cass' observation the other day, I might comment that these "streaks of monogamy" correspond to the streaks of marriage and divorce which are becoming more prevalent among American adults.

But that is obviously not a valid conclusion, any more than the conclusion that a long pinning period corresponds to a long marriage is valid.

Sincerity is the key word, I think. It could only be insincerity that causes a fraternity pin to hop around as if afflicted with St. Vitus' Dance—and it

isn't always insincerity on the part of its original owner. Both parties have to share the blame.

I don't think this insincerity is intentional. Sure, there's always the guy who likes to make his wall look like the side of a World War II fighter plane with sorority stickers, and there's always the girl who thinks a collection of pins is a more valuable reminder of her college days than her diploma.

But most people aren't intentionally insincere—that's a form of dishonesty, and few of us are morally constituted to be intentionally dishonest.

We're just like inexperienced shoppers, buying the first thing that strikes our fancy, then returning it for something a little better—or different, and repeating the cycle until we finally select something that suits us. Some of us get what we want on the first purchase. For others, it takes several transactions.

In contrast, our parents—or so I'm told—did a lot of window shopping before they bought, saving themselves some trouble but coming out about the same in the long run.

Whether our mating habits—so shocking to the older generation—are good or bad, moral or immoral, is impossible to judge, at least from our position in the middle of the forest. But I doubt if we're any worse than any other generation of college students was or will be.



Our Contemporaries

Religion Is Valid State University Study

(Editor's Note: The following editorial, from the Eugene Register-Guard, comments on the editorial "Specter of State Religion Haunts American Society" which the Emerald reprinted from the Colorado Daily)

The editorial columns of the Oregon Daily Emerald have been used in recent days to explore that old bugaboo "separation of church and state." And it's a good thing they have, because student opinion on such matters should be encouraged. Far better, we believe, to get worked up over the issue of religious freedom than over the burning issue of supporting the team.

Unfortunately, however, the issue comes up right before the university observes its "RE Week," known some years as "religious evaluation week" and

some years as "religious emphasis week." This is a university sponsored observance, an observance of a type not permitted at the University of Washington because of a misunderstanding by that institution of the "freedom of religion" and "separation of church and state" concepts.

We agree at the outset with students who have said they fear a growing trend toward institutionalizing religion in American life. We agree that it should come naturally and from the churches or not at all—certainly not from the government.

At the same time we see a need for the study of religion, for a study of it from a philosophical and social point of view. No area of human experience that means as much as religion means to millions of

people can be neglected by an institution devoted to the humanities and the social sciences. Here in Oregon we can be proud that our university recognizes an important aspect of life.

However, we'd like to see more real argument. Too often these religious assemblies attract only those who are already convinced. Four years ago, recognizing this, the university provided for a "skeptic's hour," in which those who wished to come to scoff could do just that without being coerced into staying to pray. But not a single old-fashioned scoffer turned up. The main feature of the meeting was a high-brow give-and-take session between some amateur theologians and the visiting parsons.

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.

- ALLEN JOHNSON, Editor
- GARY CAPPS, Business Manager
- WILLIAM COOK, Editorial Page Editor
- PHIL HAGER, Managing Editor
- GLEN GRAVES, Advertising Mgr.
- JACK WILSON, JERRY RAMSEY, Associate Editors
- PEPPER ALLEN, News Editor
- BOB MULLIN, Sports Editor
- JOANNE MILLIGAN, Ass't Business Manager
- Editorial Board: Allen Johnson, William Cook, Phil Hager, Pepper Allen, Jerry Ramsey, Jack Wilson, Bob Mullin.
- Day Editors: Wally Slocum, John Lengel, Don Jepsen, Al Reynolds, Evie Olsen.