

Boyd considers research prime University function

By KELI OSBORN
Of the Emerald

The University probably looks like a "giant teaching machine" to the outside public, but it has other functions that also deserve attention, University Pres. William Boyd says.

Research and creative activities are as important as instruction, and may be misunderstood, Boyd told an audience of about 60 at the Latter Day Saints Student Association Friday forum.

Speaking without a prepared text, Boyd talked about students' perception of him and what may seem his preoccupation "with that abstraction — the University."

Colleges and universities pass on bodies of knowledge forming a cultural membrane which, he said, "is the only thing that keeps us from falling through into the savagery humans are capable of."

But this University has functions that go beyond the transmission of that body of knowledge, Boyd declared. Research and similar activities distinguish the University from colleges and, "in the long history of the planet," may turn out to be just as important as teaching.

"We are the inheritors of enormous wealth," Boyd said. But our resources, human labor and knowledge must be replenished if we are responsible stewards, he added.

As natural resources continue to diminish,

the University's role grows ever more important, Boyd said. "We must help change the formula, so that the wealth of the future will rely less on resources — and more on human knowledge."

"Knowledge is the capital from which future wealth is created," Boyd said, adding his own interpretation of a couple of common aphorisms.

"Some say knowledge is power," he said. "Power doesn't have to be an evil thing — one of the worst things is powerlessness."

Another aphorism, "knowledge is virtue," means that "the virtuous life is the life that benefits the human being," he noted.

Boyd insisted that he didn't want to denigrate the teaching function of the University, but wanted to advance the merits of research.

"We want to keep that discovery alive."

In a question-and-answer session, Boyd declined to reveal specific plans to enhance his image among students. But, he added, declining enrollment and a shrinking pool of 18-year-olds mean an increased emphasis on undergraduate education and services.

Only 1,000 persons with doctorate degrees will be needed in 1980 — none in 1985 — according to Department of Labor projections, Boyd said.

"For the next 10-15 years, undergraduates will be receiving more attention with such things as more of the teaching by senior faculty."

Californians are coming Flocking to Oregon

CORVALLIS — On her first trip to Oregon, Joan McElearney saw a bumper sticker that read "Don't Californicate Oregon."

But she and other recent California immigrants in the Willamette Valley around Corvallis say they haven't encountered much hostility — simply because there are very few people around who are Oregonians.

"I've met quite a few Californians up here," says McElearney, a 24-year-old social services worker, "and people from Nebraska and Ohio. Where I work people are from Michigan, Arizona and Utah. I suppose there are a lot of Californians up here, but there are people from other states too."

William and Marjorie Mullins arrived in Corvallis two years ago from Mendocino, Calif. They offer an interesting perspective on the issue because they lived in California during the great immigration there during the Depression.

"I, being a native Californian,

had strong resentments of the Okies and Arkies," he recalls.

Oh, I can understand how Oregonians feel about the state being overrun with Californians and others," she says, "but you can't stop this. You're just talking ragtime to try and stop growth."

When the Mullins first arrived in Corvallis, to be near their son, William, who runs Mullins Engineering Co., they were apprehensive, having heard of Oregonians' resentment of Californians.

"But we haven't found that to be true at all," says 76-year-old Marjorie. "We've found everyone here so nice, so kind, and willing to accept you."

McElearney says at first the thought being a Californian might be held against her when she applied for a job. "But people that I met on interviews, I think, considered me as equally as any other person."

But she admits she doesn't always tell people on first meeting that she is from California.

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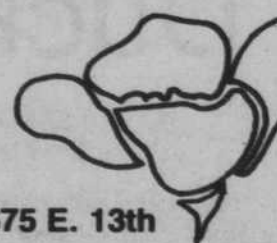
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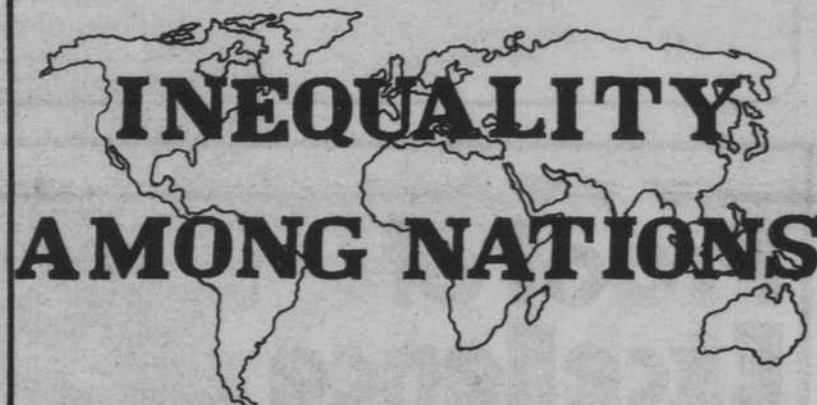
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