

EUGENE AND UNIVERSITY OF OREGON IN '90 WERE RICH IN CHARACTERS, SAYS THOMPSON

(Continued From Page 1)

remember Willard Hall on Commencement day strung in evergreens, the break of the stage banked with moss and lilies, the smell of spring and song of meadowlarks coming in to us through the open windows, the gilt lettered class motto, such as "Ad Astra Perseverando" strung over the heads of the graduates, who sat stiffly self-conscious in their mortar boards and Sunday clothes, Napoleon ("man of destiny"), Cavanaugh, Lincoln and others of the great old noble duty on these occasions. Then came the valedictory, when professors and audience sniffled and wiped eyes, for commencement meant the breaking up of a small family, bound together by six years of association—two sub-freshmen and academic. I recall one class of four members, and a dozen made a fair-sized class.

Daily Under the Tap.
It was as a sub-freshman that I entered college in 1890, having the painful distinction of being the only student in "short pants." As such, I came into undue prominence. I recall three hulking oafs who used to shampoo me daily under a tap. Then they initiated me into college ways, patterned after a contemporary five-act novelette entitled "Shorty at Yale." In raising mysterious noises in the halls, tramping on the fire nozzle and popping across against doors, they displayed a mental acuteness and resourcefulness that was signally absent in the recreation room.

There were three courses, classical, scientific and literary. I omit the business course, since in those times studies of no cultural value were believed to be unworthy of a college. I wonder now what would be thought of a professor of real estate salesmanship! Two preparatory years were held necessary because of the poor quality of most high and preparatory schools in the state.

Mental discipline, ability to concentrate and training in memory formed the basis of the system. Over-emphasis was placed on mechanical memorizing. Original investigation, was discouraged, as leading the student to doubt the word of the text-book writer and professor. The student admiration of professors was thoroughly conformist.

Greek and Latin were begun at the same time in the classical course. Grammar was learned from A to Izzard. I applaud now the thoroughness of this teaching and deplore the present Paley-Farker method of rote.

Three Months Per Science.
The scientific course included Latin and German with all the known sciences, each science disposed of in three months. In chemistry and physics, no student had profane hands on Professor Collier's text books. There was no dissection and no biology.

English accompanied Latin in the literary course. Literature was taught as a historic chronicle, and, as such, something rather removed from human life than as a comment upon it. But, in any case, it was not taught as a science in a laboratory for chloloforming and dissecting books.

We boys never thought it worth while to study English literature. Our reading may have been reckless, but it was our life. I can recall now among my classmates omnivorous readers like Virgil Johnson, Lee Travis, Owen Van Dyke, Earl Church, "Monk" Eastland and Arthur Lowell. I can say honestly that by our sixteenth year we had read all of Dickens, Scott, Mark Twain, Hugo, Irving, Smollett, Fielding, Sterne, Cervantes and Shakespeare, to say nothing of moderns, and had dipped into histories like Hume and Macaulay.

Character building was then considered the main object of education, and no one expected a graduate to make a commercial success for some years. Standards of judging human values were in some respects different from today's. The much-esteemed booster was called a "blowhard," a live-wire was known as a "squirt," and the go-getter was considered a public pest.

A cursory sketch of this kind does not give space for descriptions of the college characters and leaders. But to omit the faculty would be like presenting Handel without the Dime.

President Johnson, a Hunter.
President Johnson was a remarkable drill master, thorough, meticulous, a man of sound sense and a hater of social falls. He had a keen sense of humor and love of jokes, with which he used to illustrate his points. His passion was duck and deer hunting. In his treatment of students he was kindly, and if he seemed at times severe, he was never unjust. His one weakness was the plug, and he was given to nipping off clues surreptitiously in the classroom. He was a small man with a high, rounded forehead, furrowed with wrinkles, and a pointed beard, an old Yale man by training and an old school democrat. His students ever held him in affectionate memory.

Professor Condon was the only member of the faculty who worked on his subject, geology, apart from teaching and his investigations in the John Day country are known to geologists today. He was a dear old gentleman and one of the most beautiful characters I have ever known.

For quaintness, I have never seen the like of Professor Bales—a curiously un-earthy character who lived in a world of sines, cosines and tangents, a trifle deaf and quite near-sighted. He was tall and wore a long, blue clergyman's frock, had a crooked yellowish beard and mustache, and walked with a peculiar stately gait. He had two facial expressions. One was a look of abstraction. In the other, he showed his long teeth, indicative of pleasure, pain or surprise. It was believed that he was never quite reconciled to having girls in his classes.

Miss Carson of the English department always reminded me of Queen Victoria, and from reading Strachey, I think she had many of the outstanding qualities of that remarkable woman. She insisted on strict decorum in her classes and visited her stately displeasure on the temperamental cut-ups who forgot themselves.

Professor Hawthorne from Virginia. Professor Hawthorne, affectionately known as "Hawk," perhaps from his billy-goat beard, was a Virginia gentleman who fought for the south and, I felt, had never quite adjusted himself to his new environment. He was kindness personified and was never known to administer a rebuke or register a frown.

Professor Straub remains today as a sample of the old time quality. Professor Collier, I recall casually as a quiet little man, always smiling and pleasant.

I can not dismiss the list without reference to Professor, then "Tutor," Edgar McClure, who met a tragic death on Mt. Tacoma. I can not think today of his loss without pain. He was a man of extraordinary keen mind, and balanced judgment, of insight and understanding and of noble character.

As I look back upon Eugene in those years, I feel that I enjoyed a peculiar privilege in associating with the pioneers and the interesting types developed in pioneer times. No man or woman could cross the plains or come over the isthmus or around the Horn and remain wholly uninteresting, like the commercial types of today. Eugene was rich in characters. And no matter what my grudge against the public school, where we were forcibly fed on intellectual chaff, I have never wished to trade away my sub-freshman years at Oregon.

Klu Kluxers Got Her Husband and She Said She Was Glad Were Some Men In World



5 Building Permits Are Issued In Day

A goodly number of permits were issued from the city building inspector's office in the city hall today. Peteron brothers will build a \$500 rest-coffee at their service station at First avenue west and Blair boulevard. William J. Donnelly took out a permit to build a \$1000 garage at 407 Blaine and Martin Nielsen of 460 Sixteenth avenue east, one to build a \$400 garage. A residence and garage will be constructed by Frank Seibert at 702 Eleventh avenue west at a cost of \$3500, and Mrs. H. M. Burns of 1658 Orchard took out a permit to do \$750 worth of remodeling on the residence property at that address.

NORRIS STORY FILMED

Charles G. Norris wrote "Brass," the famous novel which has been made into pictures by Warner brothers and which is to be shown at the Hotel. The picture was directed by Sidney Franklin and features Monte Blue and Marie Prevost in the principal roles. One of the most discussed books when it was published, it has received the same attention from reviewers as a film. It is a story of marriage and divorce.

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 - Pacific Fence & Wire Works, Wire Mats.
 - Pacific Tent & Awning Co., Tents, Awnings.
 - Paramount Woodenware Mfg. Co., Breakfast Table.
 - Portland Wire & Iron Works, Screens.
 - Reed Specialty Shop, Reed Furniture.
 - Simmons Co., Beds, Springs.
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 - Universal Bed Co., Beds (Wall).
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Ruth Duplicates his Pet Bat Which was Broken Last Year



Home Run King Enjoys Ice Cream Balls

By BABE RUTH.
I am in the best condition I have ever been. The effects of my sickness at Hot Springs has disappeared. My ankles—which gave me some trouble last year—are strong. And right here I am going to disclose to baseball fans the secret of my present excellent state of health. Last year at the close of the playing season I went to my New England farm for a rest. Later I devoted much of my time directing the affairs of a chocolate coated baseball ice cream company in which I am interested. It is a great thing for a baseball player to have business affairs to occupy his time during the off-season.

When I went South this year I determined to spend most of my evenings at work. This I have done by keeping in constant contact with my New York office. I find the work a tonic that aids me to keep in the best possible condition.

ANY unfortunate circumstances prevented me from breaking my home run record last year. But the fact that I cracked my pet bat early in the season contributed more than any thing in my slump. Few baseball fans know that I broke it for I kept it pretty much to myself. I thought I could easily duplicate it. But this I was unable to do.

When I reached the New Orleans training camp I received a bat made in New York that is an exact duplicate of the one with which I established my 1921 record. The minute I picked it up I knew I could knock the ball over the fence. That afternoon I proved it by driving five over the centerfield fence of Pelican Park. It was the first time a ball had ever been sent over that fence. I have wired for six more of these bats and am confident I will send many balls sailing over the fence of the new Yankee Stadium.