

The Oakland Observer

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Dorm Hours

Persons attentive to the administration of student affairs in the university community have noticed that questions pertaining to certain problems are asked over and over again. Sometimes the repetition is occasioned by changing circumstances, which require that problems be re-studied. But sometimes the repetition is necessitated by the fact that no one ever steps forth to answer the questions asked.

We have certain questions concerning closing hours in the women's dormitory; the questions have been asked before, but never has an answer been given. We shall try again:

What is the purpose of dormitory hours for women? We have heard a number of guesses from girls in the dorm and from interested persons outside. Some people say that there are closing hours because the girls want them. Some say that parents want them. Some say that the community demands them. Some say that closing hours are the University's way of controlling illegitimate pregnancy. Others believe that the hours enable the school to keep its resident co-eds off the streets during dangerous hours. But most people simply do not know why the hours are there at all. And we do not know either.

Every reason we have yet heard for closing hours seems wholly invalid. No one has ever asked the girls, yes or no, if they would prefer to regulate their own hours, without the school's intercession. And even if a majority of the girls did desire to permit the University to regulate their comings and goings, should their wishes be binding upon those girls who want to be left on their own? To say that the majority of girls in the dormitory have the right to regulate the movements of all the girls is to ascribe to the girls' dormitory a property which belongs uniquely to a society. But the dorm lacks other features characteristic of a society, such as a culture, a sense of interdependence, and universal identification. The girls' dormitory is not a society in any sense of that term we understand, and to accord it the right to legislate rules for its residents is to conduct a pretentious, underhanded sham.

The feeling that parents have sovereign authority over minor children is generally held by the community. If a girl's parents believe that she should be in at a given hour, why is it not the University's responsibility to see to it that the girl complies with her parents' wishes? And if another girl's parents wish her to be entirely free of the constraints of hours or leaving word as to where she is going, why cannot the girl be free to comply with her parents' wishes? Should two sets of parents have the legal or moral authority to set and enforce standards of conduct for a child not their own? Our civilization does not seem to think so, so why should Oakland U.? Hence the argument that parents require dorm hours is a transparent fraud.

Some people believe that closing hours are a reflection of the morals of the larger community. It seems incredible that anyone could suggest that the community's values must be reflected by the University. What if the public at large were informed that The Communist Manifesto is required reading for all Oakland freshmen? They might demand that we discontinue assigning that document. Would we submit?

Suggestions that the University could control pregnancy or any other sort of moral promiscuity by enforcement of closing hours are absurd and irresponsible. Ignoring for the moment the question of the University's right to police its students' morals, there is absolutely no data or intelligence to suggest that there is any correlation whatever between closing hours and promiscuity, drunkenness, pregnancy rates, or crime rates. Suppositions that closing hours are related to immoral behavior are entirely conjectural, and have not the slightest basis in fact.

So far, we have heard no justification given of dormitory closing and checkout. They do not exist for the boys' residences, and no notable anarchy or debauchery is there in evidence. We strongly urge that closing hours and checkout procedures be abandoned on a trial basis in the girls' dormitory. If they are not so suspended, we feel that the community is entitled to a detailed explanation from the heretofore silent housing office as to what closing hours are supposed to be for, and what indications there are that they are accomplishing their objectives.

Dorm RA Jobs open

Alice Haddix, director of student housing, announced Monday that applications are being accepted now through July 3 for the position of Resident Assistant in the Oakland University Residence Halls. The appointment is for one semester, with the opportunity to renew for successive semesters. Applicants should have at least one semester residence at Oakland and a grade point average above 2.0.

Remuneration consists of room fee and \$150 per semester. Openings are available for both men and women. Applications should

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Appoint 4 New Faculty

Four new faculty appointments were ratified by the Board of Trustees at its meeting last week, Chancellor Varner announced Tuesday.

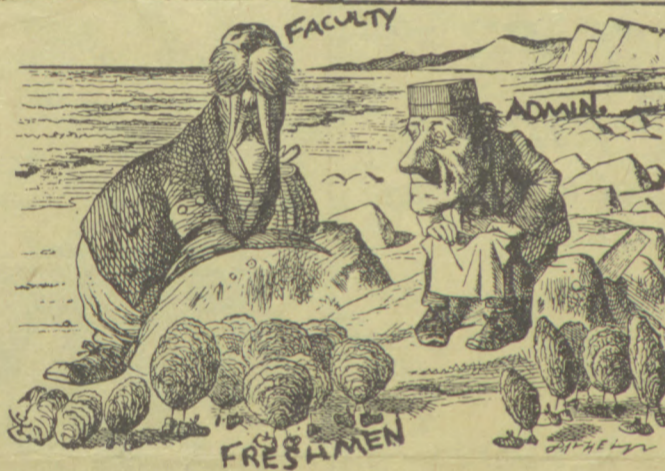
Among the new appointments were Walter Wilson 46, who will be professor of biology. A native Pennsylvanian, Wilson was awarded the Ph.D. by the University of Pennsylvania in 1949. Among his professional credits are service in the U.S. Office of Scientific Research during the Second World War, service in the Manhattan Project (which developed the American atomic

bomb), and some thirty professional publications over the past eighteen years. Wilson has been associate professor of physiology and biophysics at the University of Vermont since 1960.

Also appointed were two additional members of the Department of Modern Languages. James Bailey, Jr. will be assistant professor of Russian. He holds the masters degree from Indiana University and expects to be awarded the Ph.D. in Slavic languages and literatures from Harvard University. He has been a teaching fellow at Harvard, and last year was instructor in Slavic Language and Literature at UCLA.

William Cullen Bryant is appointed instructor in Spanish. Bryant received the Masters from U of M, and expects the doctorate this year from the University of California, Berkeley. He has been an instructor of Spanish at Dominican College, San Rafael California, for the past three years.

Appointed assistant professor of history is V. John Barnard, who has been an instructor in history at Ohio State University since 1960. Barnard received his Ph. D. this year from the University of Chicago in American History. His masters, also from Chicago, was in English History.



"Welcome to Oakland!"



Meadow Brook Music Festival construction is progressing on schedule. This week James Hicks, Festival manager, announced that a block of 100 tickets for each of this summer's concerts has been set aside for students. These tickets are being sold in the student activities office in Oakland Center.

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be sent to Mrs. Haddix, 137 North Foundation Hall, and should consist of:

a letter from applicant stating his qualifications and reasons for wanting the position, and two recommendations of applicant from faculty or staff members. (These recommendations need not accompany the applicant's letter.)

Applicants will be interviewed by the Head Residents of the Residence Halls, and appointments will be made before August 1. If an application is presently on file with Mrs. Haddix, please notify her office if it is to be reconsidered. Requests for additional information should be made to Mrs. Haddix, 137 NFH, Extension 2145.

WANTED—Regular Babysitter for between 3-7 children. Experience desirable. \$15.00 per week. Inquire, Mrs. J. G. Blair, 338-3506.

The paper was censored again - this time by the printers - Polsky had a nude man with a fig leaf in his hand before they took it out

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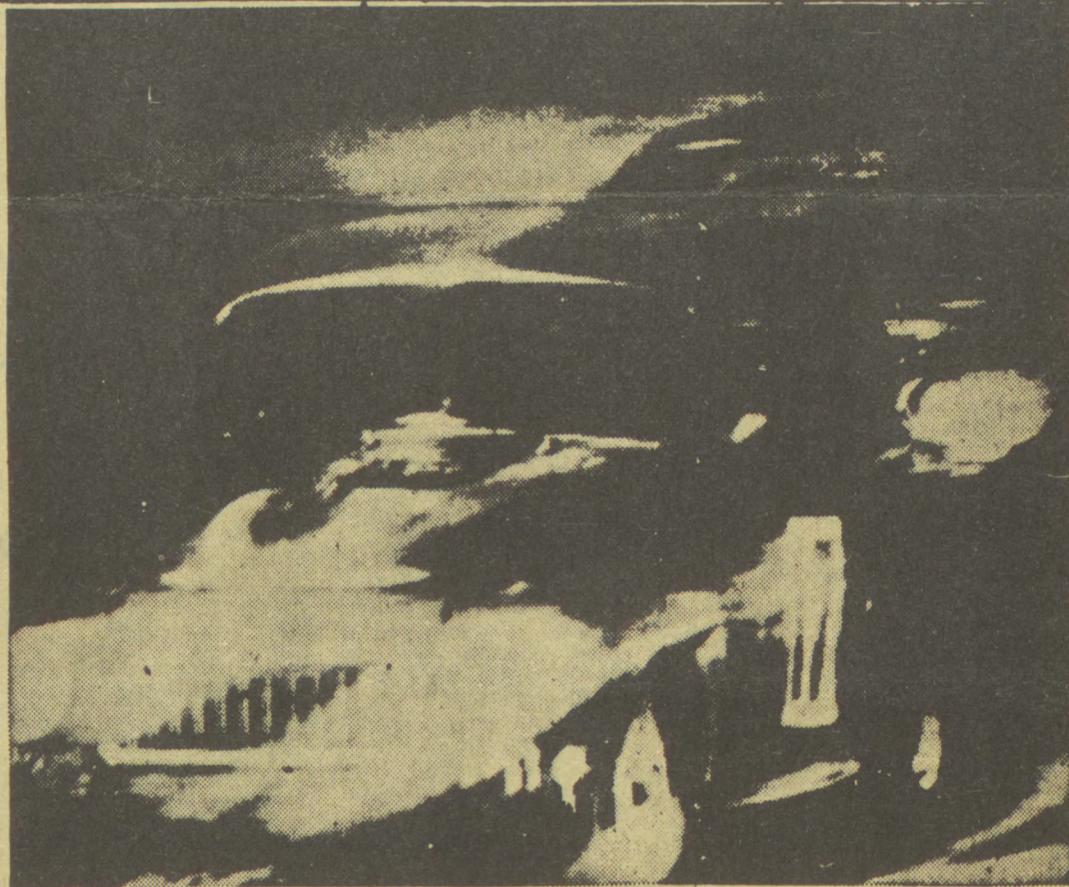
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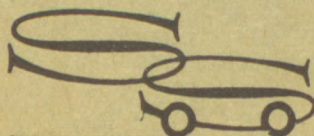
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