

Boxer's Life Now Exciting

For ten years a bronze dog of Chinese ancestry sat peacefully on a pedestal in the Pacific university chapel, quietly surveying the succeeding classes of students coming to attend convocation exercises.

Then in 1906 some enterprising students removed the idol from his perch, just for a joke, and Boxer's career of "snatches" began.

Since that time Boxer, reportedly named after the Chinese Boxer rebellion, has reposed under bridges, in flour bins and sewing boxes, and has been suspended on a wire over the Willamette river. He has probably been the instigator of more downright double-crosses than any other incense burner in the world.

Boxer was brought to Pacific in 1896 by Dr. J. E. Walker, a son of early Forest Grove and Pacific pioneers and one-time missionary to China. Dr. Walker purchased the dog, who had graced the door of a Chinese temple for over 350 years, and after paying for him the sum of \$12 presented him to his alma mater.

Back on Stand

Returned to his pedestal once again in 1911, Boxer was destined to remain there only briefly. He was even said to be in France at one time, serving right along with Pershing to help make the world safe for democracy.

The incense-burning idol, who is 18 inches high and weighs 25 pounds, is hardly of the delicate type preferred for serving as object of such cross-country shenanigans.

He seems to bear up quite well, however, considering that one or all of his appendages have been broken off on several different occasions and all have been successfully welded back on again except the bushy tail that is still missing.

Coeds, as well as male students have played a part in Boxer's history. On two different occasions he has fallen into female hands, though admittedly for brief periods only.

Found by a small boy in his father's garden patch in 1937, Boxer's whereabouts were reported to a trio of Pacific girls in



Boxer pictured with his tail intact was a gift to Pacific university in 1896, first "snatch" was in 1906.

from the campus for the excitement-producing hound. The dog was returned late last summer, his first general "flash" being effected in September, soon after the beginning of fall classes.

His last appearance was in the spring, when a very muddy Boxer was the subject of a 3-hour-long battle. At that time he came into the temporary possession of the Phi Beta Tau fraternity.

No telling when he will appear again. But it is certain that each time his short, ugly snout comes into public view, another chapter in one of Pacific's most unique traditions will be written.

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Found by a small boy in his father's garden patch in 1937, Boxer's whereabouts were reported to a trio of Pacific girls instead of their male counterparts. The next morning bulletins on the campus informed the student body as to whose hands Boxer had fallen into, causing no small degree of consternation among the men.

Another time that Boxer belonged to the girls was not affected in such an above-board manner. When fraternity men took their friends out to show them the dog's hiding place, the women turned the table and after the men brought them home returned in a borrowed car to the Pacific mascot's location.

Boxer and Orator

Boxer also made an appearance in Hillsboro along with the widely known William Jennings Bryan. Not exactly scheduled to be on the program, Boxer was nevertheless to be displayed on the speaker's platform.

With several Pacificites in the audience, however, it is not hard to imagine the events that took place. As confused crowds wondered what was going on, one more "snatch" was brought about.

Known as the "spirit of Pacific", Boxer finds it now the accepted custom to be in the possession of either a university class or fraternity group. He is exposed in a secretly pre-determined "flash" at a spot where Pacificites are sure to be at hand, and is obtained by his next possessors as the result of a determined and usually muddy, frequently bloody, fight.

Flashes of Boxer have been numerous during the past year following a three-year absence.