

3 Years-- But the 'Doomed' ASUO Still Lingers On...

A Healthy Invalid

A little more than three years ago this writer attended an interfraternity council meeting, as a reporter, at which then-Student Body President James Blais presented an impassioned plea to the house presidents for fraternity aid to bolster ASUO finances.

President Blais, declaring he was speaking for then-Graduate Manager Hugh Rosson and Assistant Tom Stoddard, asked each fraternity head to use his influence to get his organization to pledge and support one athlete every year.

The plan would have meant donations equivalent to almost \$400 in cash each year from every fraternity.

The details of the appeal are not important today, although at the time Manager Rosson saw fit to halt the distribution of papers containing the story and there was much comment from many sources.

It was defeated, largely, I believe, because Emerald Editor Robert W. Lucas printed the story of the meeting—a story which, although fair to the ASUO and President Blais in every detail, informed the campus of the movement and created a strong reaction to it.

What is important is the basis on which that appeal was made. President Blais told the assembled house leaders with a tear in his eye and a catch in his voice that the ASUO's days were

numbered unless they came to its aid. Nothing else would save the student corporation.

Student government and student affairs were, according to the president, going down for the third time. Faced with the necessity of budget-reorganization because of the adoption of optional fees, the manager's efforts to put the business on a sound basis had failed. The end was near.

BLAIS' declaration was one of the first indications the students had of the state of ASUO finances. Not long after the graduate manager and his assistant resigned, adding to the impression that even the captain was leaving a sinking ship.

Reorganization of the ASUO followed. Activities were split into two groups, athletic activities and educational activities, and the president of the University took over, nominally, control of both. Two boards were appointed to handle business affairs. Two managers were named.

Strangely, the ASUO's ship of state is still afloat. All student activities haven't ceased. They have, rather, been expanded; a concert series has been developed, dramatic productions are being offered, and the sports program is gradually being extended.

Apparently the ASUO leaders of three years ago were poor prophets. They forecast correctly the passing of something, it is true. But not the ASUO.

It becomes increasingly apparent, as both

boards come closer to balancing their budgets, that what has passed is poor management.

A few days ago President Barney Hall told the educational activities board that revenue from the sale of ASUO cards for this year had exceeded the budgeted income by almost \$1000, or about 3 per cent. That increase and other increases in income or reductions in expense will probably enable the educational activities board to meet its budget—although it receives, by agreement, only 40 per cent of the increase, the remainder going to the athletic board.

Neither board of the ASUO is completely out of the swamp. It would probably be poor business for either board to run, at this time, entirely within its income. For one thing, both are building up tangible assets—and both must pursue a long-sighted policy which will not permit the sacrifice of ground already gained in order to reduce expense.

But the important thing is that the ASUO is still here, depression and gloomy forecasts notwithstanding. Manager Rosson probably would not recognize the corporation—or, at least, the form in which it is doing business today.

And today's ASUO serves the student better and is, generally, better received by the student. The predicted crisis came. The "government" fell. But the ASUO is stronger today for its downfall.

—L. M.

Lecturer Kirby Page Illustrates American 'Lack of Contriteness'

We Live in Glass Houses . . .

At the forum in Gerlinger hall after the assembly speech yesterday, Kirby Page, the noted pacifist, made a number of significant remarks. Among them was a plea for a new national attitude—one of contriteness, and unknown virtue to most Americans in matters of national or international affairs.

Those who listened to his speech will realize that America does have a history which would well stand a bit of effective repenting. They were presented with the Anglo-American record of imperialism, the long lists of "taken by conquest" which are written across the territories of the two greatest powers of the world. And unless they were unusually dense, they would have seen the irrefutable logic of this "robber story."

Reactions to Mr. Page's statements as shown by student questions during the forum, revealed, however, that too many students were no more contrite for the sins of the United States than they had been previously. Their attitude was typified by the young man who admitted the faults but said it was too late and we could do nothing about it.

DEALING with evils through sources rather than through results has long been recognized, in theory at least, as the better system. If the United States faces a bristling world of dictatorships and aggressors, who have arisen largely, as Mr. Page showed, because of our actions in the past, the logical solution of these evils should be through striking at their sources. If we are willing to admit this thesis, our position in defending present policies becomes weak.

Whether we admit this or not, we should, however, realize that the possibility of peacefully solving the tangled relationships of the nations of the world, is in the hands of the Anglo-American

countries. And what better impetus to easing tense situations could there be than a contrite and repentent attitude for our past?

Mr. Page quoted the parable of the self-righteous Pharisee and the lowly Publican. He did not add that the latter's humble plea was answered. Perhaps if the United States could become a contrite penitent in the circle of the nations she could set a truer example than that of the braggart who "thanked the Lord he was not as other sinners." Completion of this parable in its new international setting needs one great thing—a contrite public opinion. We might do our share by forgetting the old song of "My country right or wrong" and singing the new: "Please Lord, forgive me, a sinner."—P. D.

Here's for More Forums

A student coming in contact with Mr. Kirby Page only through the latter's assembly address yesterday might well have formed the opinion that Mr. Page is something of a propagandist.

From the balcony Mr. Page's presentation of his material seemed over-persuasive, over-emphasized, almost wheedling. The lecturer repeated his phrases a great deal to make them emphatic. He did not, with one exception, advance material or ideas which were particularly original. He touched upon sweeping causes, mentioned broad effects. He did not very definitely establish this thesis.

This was the impression that several students, at least, received. Fortunately, those students voicing this criticism had their doubts as to Mr. Page's thesis and as to the sincerity of its presentation dispelled at the forum held immediately following his address.

It has become increasingly apparent since the development of the radio that the formal address is not the ideal means of establishing communica-

tion between a speaker and his audience. Because every speech must include a certain amount of history, explanation, and ground-clearing, there is not a great deal of opportunity for the speaker to explain and elaborate the conclusions which his analysis of the situation has led him to reach and there is no opportunity whatsoever for the speaker to determine which points in his doctrine are puzzling his listeners. There is no chance for persuasion and counter persuasion.

Whatever its shortcomings, Mr. Page's address provoked considerable interest, for the forum following the lecture was very well attended and the questions asked were for the most part intelligent.

Not all of the audience attended the forum. Many of those who didn't probably derived a great deal from the lecture proper but those who heard him explain and defend his ideas in semi-formal discussion and answer questions about world affairs probably gained a far clearer impression of Mr. Kirby Page and were probably better able to evaluate what he is driving at.

THAT forum, truly invaluable, was possible only because the lecture was scheduled for 10 o'clock. Many students were forced to miss it because postponed 10 o'clock classes were held at eleven.

When a lecturer of the caliber of Mr. Page is brought to the campus, students would derive a great deal more from his appearance if a two-hour period, 10 until noon, was left free of classes to permit them to attend both lecture and forum.

This also should be done in fairness to the speaker. Mr. Kirby Page might easily have been misjudged on the basis of his formal address. Because of the obvious limitations on this type of "communication," the same is probably true of other lecturers.

Aiken Will Speak To Local Teachers In Open Meeting

W. W. Aiken, chief commissioner of relations of secondary schools and colleges, will speak at the open meeting of the Progressive Education association Saturday afternoon at 2 in the physical education building.

Mr. Aiken will speak on the various experimental work carried on by the association and of the summer school "workshops" for teachers. He will also explain the method of obtaining scholarships or appointments to these schools.

After the lecture meeting, the local association will hold a dinner meeting at the Osborn hotel at 6:30.

Faculty members, high school principals, superintendents and persons interested in discussing the experiment schools of the PEA will attend the discussion dinner. Results of experiments relating to the success of college students will also be discussed.

The evening meeting will be the first professional meeting of the local association this spring.

Send the Emerald to your parents and let them read UO news.

Speech Honorary Initiated Eight at Banquet Yesterday

Four men and four women were initiated into the Order of the Mace, speech honorary, at the initiation banquet held yesterday at the Anchorage by the group.

The pledges are Florence Sanders, Pearl King, Doris Leighton, Helen Irvine, Norman Pohll, Marshall Nelson, Kenneth Erickson, and Dean Ellis.

John Casteel and Walter Eschebeck of the speech department faculty addressed the gathering. Bill Lubersky, president of the or-

der, acted as toastmaster.

Plans to sponsor a campus pasty sale to provide funds to send the University women debaters to Seattle were also laid by the group at the meeting.

GETS MASTER'S DEGREE

Mrs. Zelda Morrow, a teacher in the Eugene schools, passed her master of science examination yesterday. Mrs. Morrow's subject was based on a study of modern educators.

Professor O. V. Langton of Oregon State college will take his examination for doctor of education Monday.

Kirby Page Books In Browsing Room

A collection of books by Kirby Page, assembly speaker at the University of Oregon on Thursday morning, have been placed on the center table in the browsing room of the library, according to Miss Ethel R. Sawyer, browsing room librarian.

Among the collection are "Dollars and World Peace," "Individualism and Socialism," "War: Its Causes, Consequences, and Cure," "A New Economic Order," "The Abolition of War," "National Defense," and others.