

Oregon Emerald

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Preparedness—But Not for Peace

RE-ARMAMENT marches on. The last student opinion survey of America reveals that 62 per cent of the college young people are behind the program to build up a military and naval machine "for the protection of all nations in the Western hemisphere."

It seems that the war scares of Europe, the spy scares of the United States, and the subversive activities scares of the Dies committee have changed the colleges from a "hotbed" of pacifism which they were a few years ago, into a stronghold of militarism. While this is an extreme pronouncement of the trend, an observance of the facts will show it to be true.

THREE years ago on the Oregon campus, the ROTC was subjected to severe criticisms on the basis of whether it should be compulsory or optional. The campaign for optional, which had been gaining momentum during the years preceding 1936, reached its height in the initiative measure put before the voters in that year. Faculty sentiment was at one time almost equally divided on the subject, if not at times in favor of optional military. In 1936 the suggestion to establish additional ROTC units on the campus would have met with a storm of protest.

In a sense, this attitude in regard to the military (as exemplified by the anti-ROTC sentiment) was reflected throughout the nation. In many schools the battle against compulsory ROTC was carried on, and in many the battle was a success. Armament was looked on with suspicion. It was during this period that the neutrality act was passed, an expression of national opinion that agreed to a certain extent with the student opinion expressed in the fight on ROTC.

IN the two years that have passed since the days of the ROTC initiative a great deal of history has been made. Hitler has terrified Europe—taken Austria and part of Czechoslovakia. Mussolini has rattled the saber on the African colonial problem. Japan has marched over China. The civil war in Spain has become a daily news story.

In a sense, the population of the United States has been propagandized to, or has voluntarily accepted, a point of view which is distinctly for preparedness. It has looked upon a world of power politics and decided that the game is being played on a basis of force. Now, the United States seems to be preparing to enter this game with full equipment.

WE have seen the first examples of the change in American attitude in the "strong" policies which have been pursued in regard to Japan and Germany. We have seen the Secretary of State declare that the United States will stand ready to protect the entire Western hemisphere with arms if necessary. And we have seen a population first condescend to such a program, then carefully approve it, finally all but applaud it vigorously.

Perhaps a strong policy is necessary if democracy is to be preserved, as some experts say. But before we unanimously approve an American venture into the perilous game of power politics, it would be well to remember that it is a dangerous game. Its final and eventual end is war.

IS America ready and willing for war? Sixty-two per cent of American college students—the young people of the nation who should have a sound and intelligent opinion—have indicated that they approve re-armament. By this approval they have also given tacit sanction to war, since the power politics which are made possible by the armaments, and the billions of dollars worth of munitions themselves will lead to this end, and to no other.

Preparedness is preparedness for war. He who thinks armaments and power politics will give peace and save democracy had better think again.

Looking to the Future

JUST yesterday as I carefully picked my way across planks and through mud that dots the campus in various places these days the thought entered my mind that the University's newest building program means something more than additional room for an expanding school.

The program now being carried on, including the Humanities building, larger stands for Hayward field, and branches of the service tunnels, has the sum of approximately \$253,170 available.

WHAT then have the powers-that-be in mind to sink that sum into this campus? Have the Commerce building and Deady hall been without heat and light so long that \$47,000 worth of tunnels must be installed now? Have the Hayward field stands been filled so many times that a \$40,715

enlargement must be rushed in time for next year's one or two grid games? Have classrooms been so crowded by increased enrollments that a \$165,455 structure must rise before next fall? Or is it just that the easily procured federal government funds have caused this building boom?

Probably our education officials would verify the first three of the above reasons with speed if questioned. And would hint broadly that the last reason also is plausible.

IN a sense, the powers, in building this larger physical plant, are taking care not only of the present generation of higher education seekers, but are more firmly laying the foundation for the University of Oregon of the future. They are making certain that the next generation will have an opportunity to attend the University in Eugene—and their children after them.—B.P.

A Long-Term Program

IT is to be expected that there will be difficulties in putting the no-grade system into effect. From the art school, where the grade reform has been used for the first time, come a number of student grumblings. To some, who think or are forced to think in terms of GPA's, the change seems to be no advantage.

Viewed in the light of individual circumstances or the immediate present, the pass and flunk system may appear to be of little value. The student who loses the chance to get two hours of A or B in an easy course will not be apt to see the good in a system which takes this opportunity away from him. Then too, any change from the status quo receives a great deal of criticism just because it is a change.

Another point which should be considered in passing judgment on the no-grade revision is that it is a recent change and has been in effect but a short time. There has been little opportunity to discover its defects and make necessary changes. Until the new system has been observed in actual working conditions there is a distinct possibility that there may be disadvantages, possibly even injustices.

TAKING a more far-sighted view, however, we feel sure that the grade revision will bring benefits. It will be the beginning of a de-emphasis on grades. It will take away the burden of making impossible comparisons in many courses where the A, B, C, D set-up brings about what the faculty has called "fictitious" grades.

These benefits will not be recognized immediately. Some people now attending college will never see the benefit involved in the new system. They are those who have not the true student attitude—whose goal is a grade instead of information.

Reforms of the nature of this change in the University grading system cannot be evaluated immediately. They are long-term projects, whose good effects will come to light in the passage of years. The true student will see no disadvantage in the loss of an easy A. He will see the gain in more opportunity to get a complete education.

What Other Editors Believe

RESPONSIBLE STUDENT OPINION

It is the opinion of 20 student leaders at the University of Oregon who have been consulted by President Erb that it would do no good and perhaps some harm, if the selling of beer were to be forbidden in an area of six blocks around the campus, as requested by the Eugene Ministerial association. This is the belief of 20 able young men and women who know their 3,000 fellow students perhaps better than anybody else can know them. And these young people have the utmost loyalty to the University and its good name among the people of Oregon.

This statement does not mean that "beer guzzling" is in any degree approved and encouraged—as for instance in the early days at Michigan and Wisconsin when those schools were attempting to ape the traditions and manners of the German universities. Quite the contrary! It means simply that student leaders recognize certain facts:

1. Approximately 60 per cent of the students in the University of Oregon are over 21, and close to 75 per cent of all students are totally or in part self-supporting.

2. The five establishments which sell beer within six blocks of the campus are not "saloons"; four are eating places; one is a drug store which sells packaged beer to be consumed elsewhere.

3. Each of these establishments for a long time has had furnished by the University an official copy of the "Piggers' Guide" (University directory), with the date of birth noted opposite the name of every student.

4. Disciplinary records show there have been very few cases where drinking has been even an

incidental factor to charges, and the moral tone of the University is unusually high.

5. The evil, if any, in the opinion of these leaders lies in places remote from the University and therefore not possible to supervise.

Now student opinion runs something like this: Most students are too decent or too poor to be bad.

There is no use trying to conceal the fact of liquor which most students see anyway, in their home towns and their homes.

The "smartie" may learn to stop with one beer where there is an example of temperate and matter-of-fact use; he inclines to get a "snootful of mixes" if you drive him outside.

The modern concept of education is not "preparation for living" but LIVING.

The liquor question is a good deal like the questions which revolve around such current issues as communism, fascism, war, peace and other matters controversial. Many sincere people believe students should be shielded. Others believe all issues and all problems must be accepted and met by guidance.

Students here have a right to resent the implication that their standards are in any way inferior to those at the State College where virtue is paraded. The difference in the attitude of the two schools finds expression in little things. A few years ago the University body abolished freshman hazing and freshman caps. The University pursues the ideal of self-control and self-government, and while this doesn't always work, there is much to be said for the campus which says:

"It's up to you, now; try to act grown up."—Eugene Register-Guard.

Barrett Will Leave For Mexico After Erection of Statue

Following the erection of the Roosevelt memorial in Battleship Park, Portland, Dr. Oliver L. Barrett, associate head of sculpturing, will leave for his delayed trip into Mexico, Dean E. F. Lawrence of the art and architecture department said.

Dr. Barrett had planned to leave for Mexico in September, to study the art and architecture of the country but because of the delay in erecting the memorial which he has been supervising, his visit had been postponed.

The statue, which is made of Tuffa stone found near Bend, Oregon, is being erected by the Spanish War veterans. The erection is expected to be completed in about a month.

MISS SMITH HEADS NORTH

Miss Janet Smith, employment secretary, will spend the weekend in Portland looking over possible positions for graduate students.

Noble Cain, nationally recognized composer for NBC, will write a song to be dedicated to the Guilford college a capella choir.

During 1938, the University of Kentucky constructed 72,879 square feet of sidewalk.

You are cordially invited to hear

Dr. Dan Gilbert

General Secretary of the "World's Christian Fundamental Association"

Sunday Evening

January 15th

He will speak at the

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

on the following subjects:

Sunday evening, "Revolution or Revival."

Monday evening, Jan. 16, "The Shadow of Sodom over Christian Civilization."

Tuesday evening, Jan. 17, "Insurrection or Regeneration."

Wednesday evening, Jan. 18, "The Ten Commandments in the 20th Century."

Thursday evening, Jan. 19, "The Sermon on the Mount in an Age of Science."

Friday evening, Jan. 20, "Regeneration or Regimentation."

Saturday evening, Jan. 21, "The Anti-Christ Terror in Some Schools."

Sunday morning, Jan. 22, "Christ in the 20th Century."

Sunday evening, Jan. 22, "A Revolt of Christian Youth."

Looking Back...
WITH WILBUR BISHOP

CAMPUS CALENDAR

One year ago today—Oregon defeated Oregon State, 38 to 32. Oregon State flipped in one more field goal than Oregon, but the Webfoots scored 18 foul shots to the Beavers' 10.

The educational activities board went on record as favoring four men from the 54 applicants for the position of head coach. They were: Ted Banks, Idaho; James Bradshaw, Fresno State Teachers; Tex Oliver, Arizona; and Gene Shields, line coach at Oregon.

Five years ago today—Dr. Alexander Goldenweiser, professor of thought and culture of the Portland extension center, spoke in Villard hall on the subject of "Our Economic Complex."

Ten years ago today—Thirteen sororities and two fraternities went over 100 per cent in the second Oregon drive, Jim Raley, circulation manager, announced. The drive netted 300 subscriptions, bringing the total for the year to approximately 1800.

Twenty-five years ago today—It was announced that examinations for the first semester's work will begin February 2, and last a week. (The two semester rule was in effect then.)

Thirty-five years ago today—The students of the University have organized an orchestra of several pieces and expect to begin practice at once.

Tabard Inn members will meet Wednesday at the home of Dr. Kenneth Shumaker, 1369 Emerald.

Sigma Omega Chi pictures, originally scheduled to be taken yesterday, will be taken at 12:30 Monday in front of Oregon.

'Western Cities' Has New Five-Year Index

A five-year index for the "Western Cities" magazine, compiled by John March, has received favorable criticism from the public administration libraries of the University of California and the American Municipal Association in Chicago.

Mr. March, assistant reference librarian at the University library, was assigned by Josephine Evans and Frank Chambers. The index will be mailed out with the January issues of the magazine, the official monthly publication of the leagues of California, Washington, Oregon, and Arizona.

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