

OREGON *Daily* EMERALD

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If It Works It Was Worth It

YEAR after year, although student government is a relatively impotent thing and its heads constitutionally likewise, the spring always produces a more or less heated series of political campaigns, punctuated by the usual non-indicative elections and the usual party outbursts. In many of these campaigns the Emerald, the best-organized voice on the campus, has taken active and decisive part. As recently as last year this was true.

This year, however, the Emerald, in the interest of deflating student politics down to their proper level, and to forestall some of the customary post-election hard feelings, went through the campaign resolved not only to relegate politics to their proper level but also to take no active part in the campaign. Both sides received equal treatment, the cold shoulder.

Student politics at the University have in recent years never gotten to the point of vegetable fights and personal contact common at other schools. The battle was undercover, and took place before election. Last year the campaign was particularly hot, and it took a long time cooling off after the election.

THIS year's score in the fight to keep out of politics is highly significant, in view of the original high resolve. There has not been nearly the amount of public mudslinging of past years, but apparently the other aspects are none too savory.

The box score:

1. One freshman election—protested, on the ground that handbills stuffed by unauthorized parties into the Emerald unduly influenced the election, the protest reserved until the elections were all counted, although

the handbills came out in early morning. The Emerald accused by both sides.

2. One sophomore election — protested, also after the votes were counted, on the ground that the ballot box was stuffed, this influence arising from the failure of the name and check lists to balance against each other. Slipshod methods at the polls. Same interests in second protest. Emerald bedeviled by both sides for help.

3. The payoff: four candidates for four positions on the executive committee, a maneuver which makes an election merely a matter of placing the order of the candidates on the committee. * * *

ALL in all, it would seem that the year has not been one to be proud of in politics. In fact it looks like a banner year for sharp practices and questionable results.

The contribution of the Emerald itself remains to be seen in the aftermath of the final election today. If the hard feelings of last year are still apparent, then the job was too big for one year to do.

Already, however, gratifying results are apparent in the orderly conduct of the student body race, in the mutual respect among the leading candidates, who have optimistically indicated the war will be settled by the election with no hangover. This smoother sailing will pay dividends to the ASUO in the long run.

If it succeeds in accomplishing no more than this little bit the Emerald has gained the only justification it needed for doing what it is ethically bound to do anyway, as long as the Emerald is the only campus newspaper, which means simply to work for equity and a square deal for everyone.

Preferential Voting Made Simple--?

The proportional representation system of choosing members for the executive committee is no stranger to campus voters, having been in effect since 1937, but it is nevertheless open to repeated explanation with the approach of each annual election, although the job should be simple this year with only four candidates for four spots.

The elemental part of the system is the theory of choices. Nominations are for positions on the executive committee, and nothing else. But when it comes to voting, the candidate who amasses the greater number of first choices will emerge head man.

Each voter will be given a ballot listing the names of all the candidates, with a blank square beside each one. In these squares the voter will place numbers indicating the order of his preference for the different candidates, putting down as many choices in 1-2-3-4 order as he wishes. This simply means he is not compelled to place all four.

The voting itself is simple, but the tabulation of results is anything but simple. Since 1939 every election tabulation has been presided over by Ed Robbins, who, however, left his position as graduate assistant in economics to work at Stanford this year. Robbins will probably be missed.

Tabulators sort all ballots into piles, according to first choices indicated. Then the ballots will be counted and the candidate credited with the number of first choices he has received.

The "quota" is figured out immediately upon

the closing of the polls. The quota is the least number of votes by which a candidate can be elected, and is achieved by dividing the total number of votes cast by a number one greater than the total number of offices to be filled and adding one to the resulting quotient. Thus if there are 1500 votes cast and there are four offices to fill, the vote will be obtained by dividing 1500 by five and adding one, giving 301.

After the ballots have been sorted, if the number of first choices received by any candidate exceeds or is equal to the quota, he will be declared elected.

Should the already-placed candidate receive votes in excess of the quota the surplus will not be wasted. From his pile a number of votes equivalent to the surplus will be drawn, and the second choice indicated on these ballots credited to the account of candidates not yet placed. If the addition of these votes to any candidate's total raises the figure to the quota, he will be declared placed, and so on.

The system, rating by first, second, third, and fourth choices, while it is extremely complicated, is about the fairest sampling of voting preference which could be devised, for first choices alone do not govern, but seconds and thirds and all the way down the line.

Preferential voting is required by the ASUO constitution, which specifies in Article III, section II, class 2: "Candidates shall be elected in accordance with the preferential system of election."

and Margery Williams, from sanovsky, Eugene; Lila Mae Portland. Furchner, Grants Pass; Aida Brun, Klamath Falls; Emile Chan, Marshfield; Avis Klemme, Monmouth; Richard Mathiot, Oswego; Merlin Nelson, Salem, and Keith Rinehart, The Dalles.

Ninety Students

(Continued from page one)

Charles Delzell, J. Alan King, Leone LaDuke, J. Benson Mates, Clinton E. Paine, Ray Schrick,

Behind the 8 BALL

With JACK BRYANT

Just three more weeks of spring term. Jupe is running out of news, and to top it all off, somebody ran out on the law school's queen. Never being a queen, most of us wouldn't know what to do, but leave it to Kroopnick, he got somebody else's girl. Come to think of it, Annette Turn could have literally run out on the queen, except for the little detail that she was supposed to have turned her ankle in the afternoon.

Along with everyone else, the mob has been wondering just why Matt Pavalunas has always been so happy. Now it can be told. Matt went to Raymond (not far from Clatskanie) last weekend to see his girl who has been his girl all along. Her name? Carolyn Taylor. Jim Fisher, another Beta, went along to see how his pin looks on Betty Minkler.

Alpha Chi O's tiny, but dominating Billie Christianson, has a dream boy who bought a dream car for a dreamy girl. To break up this dream, Billie promises a nightmare to the fellow who reveals her coming marriage in June.

THAT'S NO DREAM! Prom

Oregon's biggest time is Junior Weekend. For the students the Prom takes the foremost position in the weekend. This year a bigger and better prom is planned with Bob Mitchell and his orchestra. A realistic Blue Danube will form the center of the decorations. Bring your swim suits, the last one has a dirty neck. (This space has been bought by the "Better Junior Weekend" committee. The editors neither affirm

nor deny any of the statements.) The reader the editors prize more than any other is a very good friend, Bill Hayward. Just how far this friendship extends as mutual is up to Bill. Down on the track the other day he threatened in no backward manner that if his name appeared in this column, to watch out, because there was nothing that he liked better than "to hear the sound of warm gurgling blood."

WELL, BILL, IT'S YOUR FUNERAL!

One of the year's bestus pin planting took place over the weekend. Johnny Leovitch hung his Phi Delt pin on Janet Goresky. John slipped when he picked the schools to attend, (OAC) but he has lots of friends here. . . . AIRCONSCIOUS Thomas Fishburne, Delt, has his pin planted in Portland's Martha Washington while he escapades in the DG house. TAKE YOUR PLANE, TOM. . . Gordy Olcott got poison oak, and of all places to get it, in his room. . . Glamor Burns, (Beverly) now sports a car, which she parks, jaywalks, and dammed near gets run over. . . Didya notice the ad staff on the women's edition? There are things that even a woman can't do. . . It looks as if we are going to get stuck on our campus luncheon again this year. . . While Gerry Young, Beta at Washington, was visiting Pat Heastand here, they had a wreck, and Pat ended up in the infirmary with a pair of black eyes. . . P. S. Gerry left his pin. . . MORE PINS get planted as Walt Wood pins Frances Sowell to make her a Phi
(Please turn to page seven)



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