

OREGON DAILY EMERALD

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No Politics Here

WHILE less provincial people debate the ever-threatening increase of federal power, local undergraduates imbued with universal suffrage and the body politic bicker about faculty domination of student affairs. The securing of Lincolnian democracy "of, by and for the people" has been preached by activity men periodically. Sadly enough those preaching often are not the ones who would accept responsibility if delegated.

Convinced until recently that a transition should take place, it is now our desire to recant. Why? Recently several big wigs have begun tying in The Emerald and Oregon editor and business managerships with bloc politics. They have spread and even convinced some more gullible souls that the dictates of bloc bosses would determine the successful candidates for these very important positions.

Sheer hokum have the politicians been prating. If they understood student affairs as well as they understood tawdry horse trading, they would say less and think more. And here is the explanation:

EDITORS and business managers of The Emerald and Oregon are picked by the educational activities board. This board is composed of ten faculty members (with Dr. Erb present) and four students. Two of the faculty members are "ex officio" and do not vote. One of the students also serves by virtue of office and casts no ballot. The horse-traders have not accused the eight voting faculty members of selling out their votes for a pot of message.

It is quite evident that some of the student officials could be so influenced yet there might be a split in their individual opinions. At the ultimate there would be but three biased votes cast out of a total of eleven. Draw your own conclusions just how much strength the spring-term politicians might have in determining these positions.

From the effect of this example alone we are frequently inspired to exclaim: "Thank God! Faculty control exists on the board to curb those who are afflicted with this annual spring term political insanity."—R.N.V.

Oregon Recalls Tragedy

IT was just two years ago today—April 9, 1939—that Oregon's sleepy, willow-shaded millrace took its last death toll from the Webfoot campus. Popular Bob Bailey, president of Oregon's senior class that year, was drowned one warm Sunday afternoon while canoeing.

As thoughtful undergraduates who remember that last spring term fatality look back, it comes to mind that it is now springtime again, and soon the millrace will become the gathering place of romantic students bent on "trying the rapids."

Death left its calling card of warning back in 1939, and it is wise to give due consideration to the risk entailed in canoeing in the millrace before the season actually begins. Last spring the interfraternity council caused a warning sign to be placed in the race just below the rapids which are deemed by authorities too dangerous to pass. Undergraduates will do well to follow those warnings . . . only in that way can fatalities be avoided during the coming term.

Those who canoe keep in mind three rules: Dress appropriately for a sudden upset. Know how to swim. Stay out of the dangerous section of rapids.

This can be another record year like 1940 if undergraduates will remember Bob Bailey and the many others before him when they plan their millrace expeditions.—H.A.

Parade of Opinion

By Associated Collegiate Press

PROPAGANDA

Perhaps as never before, America's collegians are conscious of the propaganda about them. If proof of this consciousness were necessary, we might quote briefly, almost at random, from the college press:

"The British Library of Information and the German Library of Information both favor this office with free copies of their publications. On the whole the British do the better job, although their propaganda seems a little staid and colorless to eyes conditioned by the American press. . . ."—The Minnesota Daily.

"Out of Europe come rumors and lies—and little of anything else. The papers print what they can get and what they believe is the most truthful. They are performing the service of making their readers doubt what they hear. . . ."—The Akron Buchtelite.

"Powerful short wave broadcasting stations, located in Berlin, London, Rome, Paris, Moscow, and Tokyo are blasting their ways through to the Pacific coast with the volume of local stations. The flood of propaganda reaching this country by way of these stations is enormous. War travels fast via radio. . . ."—The Oregon Emerald.

Concerned over the effect of foreign and domestic propaganda, the Duke Chronicle believes "it is time that our generation of college students asked the writers and teachers of the preceding generation one very serious question. In its simplest form, the question is this: What are we to believe?"

"To a large proportion of his professors and to most of the leading American journalists, a member of the class of 1941 might reasonably address himself thus: 'After the last great war, you told us how unreasonable and unprofitable was this business of killing our fellow men. Today, before our very eyes, you have changed your tune. You tell us that war has become glorious and necessary and manly again. You apologize for your former teachings of skepticism by telling us you were caught in a popular trend. Is that not what accounts for your present attitude also?'"

"At any rate, we reserve to ourselves the right to do our own thinking from now on. If youth is ever to decide with clarity and certainty about such vital things as war and democracy and tolerance and the worthiness of human life, the decision must be made by youth itself, for our present 'leaders of thought' have failed dismally as a consistent formative influence."

The Denver Clarion raises the point that "our problem now is not to criticize and evaluate the propaganda of other countries. Our problem is to build a propaganda at home strong enough to keep us from getting an inferiority complex—should we start reading Germany's claims to righteousness."

In this belief the Clarion agrees with a recent utterance of Dr. Harwood L. Childs, associate professor of politics at Princeton university, who, incidentally, has urged that the United States conduct a vigorous war, either formal or informal, against the axis powers. "We need, in this present emergency," said Dr. Childs, "a propaganda ministry to defend the people of this country from the propaganda attacks which are now being directed at us from abroad. In view of the effectiveness of propaganda as a weapon, why should democracies cringe at the thought of establishing such a ministry to defend their ideals, when they do not hesitate to appropriate billions for armaments of other types?"

International Side Show

By RIDGELY CUMMINGS

Things looked dark for Greece last night as word came over the wires that the Greek high command had abandoned Salonika and was withdrawing Greek forces to a new defense line west of the strategic Greek port.

The blame for the Greek retreat was placed upon collapse of the Serbian army along the Vardar river in southern Yugoslavia.

Western Trace was abandoned to the Germans Monday, cutting off Greece's connection by land with her potential Turkish ally.

Division Encircled
Details of what looks like a disaster were not available last night, but at least one Serbian army division was said to have been encircled by the swift German sweep.

Salonika has been recently mentioned in news dispatches as the port of entry for the British expeditionary force transferred from Africa to strengthen the Greeks. If General Wavell has not already moved his Australians and New Zealanders farther west he is in danger of facing another Dunkerque.

It is probable that the British army of perhaps 150,000 is dug

in along a new line west of Salonika. The Greeks' main hope seems to lie in Wavell's army and their own, for they have already lost considerable strategic territory.

If all the above is true—and I have no guarantee that it is because all European news these days is very apt to be tainted with propaganda—then one can expect to hear some interesting explanations for the misfortune. After the dust settles we will probably hear stories about a divided command, perhaps even a lack of cooperation between the Greeks, Yugoslavs, and British.

The Fate of Axis Ships
On the home front, President Roosevelt prepared to take over 28 Italian and two German ships which were seized ten days ago. Roosevelt didn't reveal details of his plan to take over the Axis vessels, but he told reporters he has authority to take them over under the existing limited national emergency.

In an effort to take the strain off of Britain's shipping crisis, Roosevelt also announced he is planning to ask congress to give him money enough to purchase the 39 Danish ships which were seized at the same time.

There is a lot more news tonight, but I am carry on a little war of my own, with a bug, so I'll call it a day.

From All Sides

By MILDRED WILSON

Jim Sherman, from Delta Chi house at the University of Kansas, phoned Adolf Hitler the other night.

The boys were sitting around bulling about who had made the longest distance phone call. Let's phone Hitler and tell him he's a so-and-so, said one of the boys to Sherman.

"OK," said Sherman. They looked up the cost of a person-to-person call to Berlin, found it to be \$19, and agreed to split the cost three ways. Came the big moment.

The operator made connections first to New York and then to Berlin, where a Nazi secretary told him that his conversation would have to go through an interpreter-censor. Sherman was still ready to air his views to the Fuehrer when another secretary told him the Great Man refused to accept the call.

Report charges were \$2.50.

—The Daily Kansan.

* * *

A club of young women students in Cleveland desired to invite Franklin P. Adams, newspaper columnist and "Information Please" radio star, to address them at a meeting. In the true spirit of femininity they felt that the invitation should be flawless in every detail. After two weeks of work by the club's best literary artist, the letter was perfectly typed on the club's best stationery and mailed to Adams.

A few days later they received the reply, scrawled on a torn memo sheet.

"I don't never speak and I don't never leave town.—Adams.
—Daily Trojan.

* * *

An associate professor in psychology at the University of Illinois was explaining that sitting on a tack was a drive. From the back row a student said that it was not an external drive, which had been under discussion.

"That's a good point," quipped the professor. Sounds like a psychologist, doesn't it?

—Indiana Daily Student.

OREGON DAILY EMERALD

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Movies Shown

Paul Bolton, business administration student, showed moving pictures taken on his trip on a Norwegian freighter to the South Sea islands last summer, at the Condon club meeting Monday night in Condon.

A group of Eugene townspeople who are interested in forming a geological society were guests of the club at the meeting.