

OREGON DAILY EMERALD

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You Owe It to Yourself to Vote

YOU owe it to yourself to vote today.

There is a tendency in all elections, campus or otherwise, for the individual to minimize the importance of his own vote. "Oh well, my vote won't make much difference," is not an uncommon expression.

Such an attitude is not conducive to good government. In a democracy every vote counts as much as any other—every vote is as important as another. It goes without saying that every citizen, or student, should exercise the right to vote.

THIS year every student has been granted suffrage. Critics of the plan said it wouldn't work—that if everyone were given the right to vote, only a few would exercise the right. The election, we hope, should disprove their contention.

Different student groups are backing different candidates. The administration or any outsiders are not backing any of the candidates. Student votes and student initiative will decide the campaign.

You owe it to yourself to vote, or as a California editor recently said, you'll make a good subject for a fascist ruler.

A La Boston Red Sox

"OREGON has the heaviest-hitting baseball club that the northern division has ever seen," quoted Coach Buck Bailey of the Washington State team.

The sixteen players who have seen at least one time at bat this season have averaged a terrific .346 for the eight games played to date. Never has the northern division seen a whole team which could whack out such an average. Think of it. The Ducks average about 12 hits per game which they generate into 10.5 runs per game.

Those hits are collected off good pitchers, too. Henry Bushman of Washington State is probably the best chucker in the league. Dick Snyder, Idaho; Bill Sewell, WSC; Glenn Elliott and Clayt Shaw, Oregon State; and Warren Sierer, Washington, are no mean pitchers. Yet the hard-hitting Oregon club continues to smack out hit on hit.

IT'LL be the hitting that will carry Oregon to the divisional pennant, if and when it happens. Oregon State's pitching might upset the apple cart, but at present the Ducks are riding high.

The acid test of their season will come next Tuesday when the Webfoots begin a road trip comprising six games in seven days—the toughest grind on the pitching staff. The one great saving factor for Oregon will be that the hitters can and will carry the pitchers through the trip.

Game on game tends to sharpen a hitter's batting eye, while the road trip saps a pitcher's strength. For this reason Oregon should come out of the road trip with its shoulders above water, while second-place Oregon State might sink—without the hitting.—K.C.

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Campus Calendar

Amphibians will hold their initiation tonight at 7:30 in Gerlinger. Members should be dressed in white.

The YMCA speakers' committee will call other campus religious group representatives to the "Y" hut at 4 o'clock today to make plans for the campus appearance May 18 and 19 of Arthur Cushman McGifford, president of the Pacific School of Religion, Berkeley, California.

Jurors for the moot trial tonight are asked to report for duty at 7:15 at the county court house.

In the Editor's Mail

(Two letters, presenting opposite sides, are printed below. From these the student can draw his own conclusions.)

(Editor's note: Mr. Luoma forgets, or overlooks, two very important facts. (1) Mr. Luoma forgets that if the Emerald editor desired merely to promote Greek candidates there were several others already nominated that he could easily have promoted. (2) Mr. Luoma makes it very clear to Greeks and independents alike that the independent party, as well as the Greek party, rests its campaign not upon the basis of the respective merits of the candidates, but upon procuring a large share of the gravy for an adopted bloc.)

To the Editor:

The Greek candidate shot by Greek Emerald Editor Nelson (who has acquired a humanitarian reputation for his sincere devotion of time, genius and Emerald space during the past hectic nine months to the cause of the independent students) two days prior to spring term elections has perplexed many a campus independent with his stand.

This letter, collected from campus independents, conveys some of the reasons for the questions that have arisen.

Subsequent campaigning, which includes the argument that the new Greek candidate is both pro-Greek and pro-independent, and will bring the two parties together harmoniously, sounds like the Communist candidate who said, vote for me, I am pro-Republican and pro-Democrat, and will bring these two evil, bickering factions together.

Others feel that this Greek bombshell is more appropriately referred to as a "tool" for ultimate Greek success. They reason that the proper type of campaigning, which has been conducted, will influence some independents to leave the real independent candidate; but they know that the highly-organized and sheep-like Greek vote will not deviate from the original Greek candidate.

Therefore, what result? Just this, say our friends: the "tool" will break the independent vote and place the other Greek candidate on top.

But the independent students are also well organized. Through proper political procedure their representatives have selected candidates who will best represent their interests. Naturally, the results independents desire will be best achieved by their own candidates—duly selected to represent them by the democratic independent pre-election procedure.

This year, with a vote - for - all - and - no - charge ASUO election, is the opportunity to obtain a long-awaited independent victory. The independents have followed through with their pre-election organization. They have selected their best candidates. And there is only one independent candidate for each position.

Who will best represent the interests of the independents? An independent! Who will best represent the interests of the Greeks? A Greek! This fact stands high above any last-minute political maneuvering that takes place annually in our elections. This fact has been well argued, discussed and reasoned.

This is a potential independent victory year. Only with a proper manifestation of the election privilege, that we all now have, can this latter statement be made a fact.

Marvin Gorrie
Gerald Huestis
George Luoma

This letter is submitted not as an argument or reflection of personal beliefs, but it is submitted

To the Editor:

Today approximately 1800 assorted saps, yours truly among them, go to the polls trying to kid themselves into thinking they are deciding who shall hold the student body governmental positions. The funny thing about it is that we suckers should know better.

We should know better because most of us will be forced to vote for one bloc or another; most of us have been bamboozled by either the "Greek" politicians or the "purity" hypocrites; most of us will not be voting for the candidate most worthy of the office, not by a long shot, because we would be double-crossing that which has been arranged for years.

The suckers, among other minor details concerning the executive committee and representative "gravy" posts, will make sure that one Buck Buchwach, a

midget screwball, is not elected to the senior position on the executive council.

Why? Well, yours truly does not belong to a fraternity and therefore (God forbid) must not get onto the council or most assuredly he would do everything in his power to kill any Greek measure. And yours truly does not belong to the independent political "purity" party" either, and (horrors) does not and must not get their vote because if he gets onto the council he might vote for a Greek measure, instead of lining up solidly with the handsome hypocrites.

Which leaves nobody to vote for yours truly except one roommate (who must be provided transportation to the polls).

The moral to the story? If you think you are the best man, the best qualified for the position, for God sakes don't run. The revolutionary attempt would only meet in dismal failure, trampled by the Greek bloc and smeared by the Puritan independents.

Pardon me while I find that automobile to get my roommate to the polls. My initial attempt at politics, no matter how naive, must not be blanked altogether.

By Buck Buchwach.

International Side Show

By RIDGELY CUMMINGS

One step at a time the clique of interventionists that surround Roosevelt are preparing us for war. Tuesday night Secretary of War Stimson called for convoys,

a step that everyone is agreed will lead to a violent clash with the German blockade around the British Isles. That will, of course, mean war.

It's a disgusting game which the state department and the Roosevelt administration has been playing with the American public. They know just as you and I know that a national vote on the simple question: Should the United States enter the European war? would result in an overwhelming chorus of "no's."

But they also know, our democratic representatives, that although the American people have been opposed all along to an outright and blind jump into the conflict they are lethargic and trusting enough to allow themselves to be pushed slowly closer to the brink. So that has been the technique. In the name of peace the neutrality legislation was scrapped. It was even argued that the lend-lease bill was a "peace measure."

On the Brink

Now we are on the brink of the precipice (many declare we are already over the edge) and the stimsos, et al are pushing with all their no small might and main.

It is shrewd psychology to repeat over and over that the cause for peace is lost and that willy-nilly we are already in the war. This engenders a spirit of defeatism in the isolationists. Many feel they are fighting a lost battle and their protests are already turning into weak cries of re-creation.

But the cause for peace is not yet lost. No American boys have yet fallen on European soil. No ships flying the American flag have yet been sunk. The lend-lease bill was dangerously close to a declaration of industrial participation in the war but it wasn't an outright declaration and the interventionists are worried. They

are afraid they have moved too fast for public opinion.

Still Hope

If the nation balks on the brink there is still hope. Just because we have taken several large strides toward madness, there is no inescapable law which says we must make the final lunge.

To change the subject slightly—that staunch militarist but otherwise admirable chap, Bruce Hammond, yesterday wrote a poem about ostriches, copperheads, and isolationists. I am answering him today in doggerel less polished than his own, but since I couldn't find a good rhyme for "copperhead" I'd like to say that I'm not one, for one of the first tenets of an isolationist is that the U.S. can't be successfully invaded, while a "copperhead" is one who thinks his nation is doomed to defeat.

Answer to Hammond

Now Bruce is not an ostrich,
For the ostrich fights alone,
And Bruce wants lots of company
When he offers blood and bone.

He says war is no foreign thing
To any man or breed;
But if peace is just a whim to him,
To others it's a creed.

Thou shalt not kill
Is mandate still
For many good and true,
And the man with the gun
Has a long way to run
And many misfortunes to rue.

So Bruce you may jump
To the drums' thump thump,
And follow the bellowing herd—
But those ostriches all
Who for hatred won't fall
Will be happier, having demurred.

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