

OREGON Daily EMERALD

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When The Chips Are Down

Selection of Oregon's "Senior Six" to Phi Beta Kappa this week coincides with publication of the biennial report of the Oregon state system of higher education in which a need for study and scholarship of the type recognized by the scholastic honorary is stressed so strongly.

The biennial report views with some alarm the tendency of today's students, particularly veterans, to get a high grade grade-school education instead of a good university education. It points to the atomic bomb as an achievement of science and to our inability to cope with its moral implications as a failure of our generation to study the "humanities."

A world peopled entirely by Phi Betas would be a pretty poor place to live, we fear, but without them, or persons of their ilk, it would be equally poor. There is a place for the humanities, for men with the good liberal education. Unfortunately, we are losing sight of it in our passion for building better mousetraps, bigger battleships, and faster flying machines. Maybe these six new Phi Betes, these newly elected "brains," don't know how to handle the atomic bomb either, but chances are they have a better idea than the average artisan who helped put it together. If we ever know how to handle it, our knowledge will come not from physicists and engineers, who are physicists and engineers only, but from men who have studied the moral and ethical history of man's struggle to better himself and to blow himself to bits.

The little gold key these six may soon be wearing is not the badge of the oracle; it is not an open sesame to the worldly oyster. Any sourpuss can point to a dozen examples of the Phi Bete who doesn't know enough to come in out of the rain, of the Phi Beta Kappa keys in hock shops, or he can call our attention to the sage who never went to high school, or who graduated from college with a scant two point. All this is very well, but somehow we aren't convinced. We'll bet that when the chips are down, these people have it; that by and large their grade point averages, one of them an astronomical 3.8, are pretty good indications of what they got out of their university experience—and of how much work went into it.

As You Like It

Finally the students who approve of the Emerald's policy as well as the chronic knockers will have an opportunity to express their opinions in an orderly and valuable manner. The scientifically conducted survey of campus student and faculty opinion of the Emerald will begin next week—a project which Emerald staff members have backed from its inception.

The entire staff is anxious to publish a newspaper which will be of interest to all students. We know that it is impossible to please everyone at all times, but we can attempt to please the majority most of the time. The editor has on file dozens of letters from readers which must be considered individual expressions, not as representing any number of students. Only a poll of approximately 94 percent accuracy can give us a workable knowledge of what is expected of the Emerald.

The Emerald assures the student body that the preferences as tabulated by the poll-takers will be acted upon. Content of the newspaper is what the staff is most interested in. That is why the opinion question, "What suggestions can you make concerning changes in the Emerald which will make it more readable to you?" will be most carefully considered by the Emerald staff.

We want to know whether you like the gossip column, the

political comments columns, the women's pages, the sports pages, the news features, the publication of letters to the editor, et cetera. And most of all we want to know WHY you feel the way you do.

This term's Emerald has been based mostly on precedence. We want the 1947 Emerald to be what the 1947 student body requires. The only way we can find out is to ask you—600 of you. The 5000 students who will not be officially polled are invited to send their opinions directly to the editor whose job it is to publish the Emerald as you like it.

OREGON DAILY EMERALD Opinion Survey

CHECK:

- Male..... Female..... Married..... Single..... Class..... Major.....
- I. Do you read the Emerald?
 1. Daily..... 2. 1 to 4 times a week..... Never.....
 - If 2 or 3 is answered—why not daily?
 - a. Lack of time.....
 - b. Lack of interest.....
 - c. Never get it.....
 - If "c," where do you live?.....
 - II. What, in order of preference, do you read in the Emerald?
 1. Editorials.....
 2. Features.....
 3. General news.....
 4. Regular signed columns.....
 5. Sports page.....
 - III. Would you like to see the Emerald run news of national or international interest covered by Associated Press?.....
 - IV. What kind of advertisements do you read?
 - V. What suggestions do you have to make concerning changes in the Emerald which would make it more readable to you? Please answer in detail; make criticism constructive).

(Clip, fill in, and send to Emerald editor, Journalism building, campus)

AS WE SEE IT

By DALE HARLAN
One Party Rule in Oregon

There has long been prima facie evidence of a situation in Oregon in which all advocates of good citizenship should be interested. Oregon has become a one-party state. The Republican party now dominates Oregon more completely than any other state, even if we include Maine and Vermont. It rules the government of this state as one-sidedly as the Democratic party rules the South, which is certainly a condition deplored by exponents of wholesome sovereignty.

There are fewer Democrats in the Oregon legislature than in the legislatures of such strictly republican states as Iowa, Maine, and Kansas. The new Maine legislature, for example, has fourteen Democrats, that of Oregon only seven. In the South the legislature of Tennessee contains thirty Republicans, which is more than four times as many Democrats as sit at Salem.

Old Trend

This trend in Oregon is an old one. Our state has not elected a Democrat to the United States senate since 1914. The last Democrat elected secretary of state was G. W. Webb in 1886, considerably more than half a century ago! A handful of Democrats have held public office in Oregon in recent years, yet this has merely been the exception which proved the rule.

A few observers have expressed regret at the quality of the Democratic candidates. The fact remains, however, that the Democrats have not even been able to elect so illustrious a candidate as George Bernard Noble of Keed college, one of America's eminent educators. Of the men elected to state-wide executive and legislative office in Oregon since the turn of the century, 35 have been Republicans and 7 Democrats. This futility on the part of the Democrats approximates the Republican plight south of the Mason and Dixon line.

Vigilant Check

What is the result of this to Ore-

gon and its weifare? After the third Democratic sweep nationally under President Roosevelt, The Oregonian declared in an editorial, "It's the responsibility of the minority party to exercise a vigilant check on acts of the majority, to expose corruption, to prevent excesses, and to see that the views of the minority are forcefully presented." It is evident that this wisdom would be just as true locally as nationally.

But in Oregon there is no real vociferous minority. Even during the most overwhelming Democratic

victories scored by Mr. Roosevelt, the Republicans had in Washington such distinguished spokesmen—McNary of Oregon, Taft of Ohio, Johnson of California, and Vandenberg of Michigan. They exercised the "vigilant check" to which The Oregonian referred. No such minority representation exists in Oregon. The Republican party governs this state without effective opposition.

Postmaster's Party

The answer is not readily apparent. Some Democrats have proposed that their party cease operation entirely, and become a "postmasters' party," as are the Republicans in the South. Others have suggested that all Democrats in the state should enter the Republican party, thus making the primaries the sole contest. Even this suggestion has merit. It would make for more of a spirited contest in the primaries and thus help get out the vote.

In sections of the country where, for all practical purposes, a one-party system prevails, progress tends to stagnate under single political machines. We need the stimulation of contest between two parties, not only from the standpoint of political and civil liberties, but because it encourages attempts to solve the social and economic problems of the area.

It should be of grave concern to us all that our state, in which we take just pride, is now left without a political opposition worthy of the name.

COUPLE would like ride to Medford Nov. 27—call 3792-M.

WILL CARE for children, my home, for Ore.-OSC game. 245 1/2 Pearl St.

ATTENTION VETERAN STUDENTS

Part time work with your own route of coin operated radios for hotels and motels in this area. Less than \$2000 will return limited profits to you. G. I. loans acceptable.

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