

OREGON DAILY EMERALD

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Entered as second class matter at the postoffice, Eugene, Oregon.

Beavers Dam Clique Politics

The simultaneous campaigns conducted by the Emerald and the Oregon State Barometer on behalf of better student government and campus politics have succeeded on the Corvallis campus to a much greater extent than here. The recent news from the north is most encouraging—the fact that OSC students have elevated their student politics from a grab-bag, faction level to a platform level at least indicates that progress is possible.

Disregarding the Barometer-instigated feud between Corvallis and Eugene sportswriters, we congratulate the OSC students for their forward-looking step toward democratic government and we are proud of the conspicuous part played by the Barometer in pushing that move.

The Beavers last week voted into effect an amendment to the ASOSC constitution which changes election procedure. The amendment parallels attempts of the Emerald to clarify the "platforms" of Oregon political parties—an effort which has resulted only in promises from the political leaders that platforms would be drawn up and publicized.

Platform Investigations

The Proppe amendment, authored by ASOSC's third vice president, Bill Proppe, provides for a political survey committee which will investigate the platforms of Beaver political parties, and the petitions required to substantiate the platforms and party members.

To be recognized as a political party on the OSC campus, interested groups must present a constructive, practical platform for registration, examination, and publication to the political survey committee. The committee is composed of six students and three faculty members elected by the executive council. The groups who submitted platforms are also required to submit a petition with at least 300 signatures of students who back their particular platform and party.

The section of the amendment governing party nominations for student officers constitutes a block to clique party control by providing that nominations must be held one week prior to general nominations. All party nominations are made from the floor, the meetings being scheduled and open to the public and covered by a Barometer reporter.

If, after nominations are held, need is felt for a coalition party the procedure will follow the pattern of the original platform and petition presentation.

No Cure-all

Clearly, the Proppe amendment was not offered as a cure-all for student politics ills. It will have little or no favorable results without student cooperation. The fact that only about one-seventh of the entire student body voted on the amendment would indicate that in Corvallis, as in Eugene, student interest in their own government is apathetic. However, of the votes cast, 834 favored the amendment as against 207 negative tallies. We would assume from those figures that the students who are concerned about student politics, are very much in favor of the progressive amendment.

It should be noted that an amendment of this type would be almost impossible to pass on the Oregon campus because the ASUO constitution provides that one-half the student body cast ballots and that two thirds of the ballots cast must favor the amendment.

It is interesting to note that shortly after the Proppe amendment was passed, a new political party named "Free Staters" was founded. One of the founders of the group explained that "The fundamental principle is that the party is made up of individual Oregon Staters rather than any social organizations."

Liberal Principles

The published principles of the "Free Staters" are a direct attack on "selfish pressure groups within social organizations"

such as the Theta Nu Epsilon group on this campus which the Emerald has long opposed.

Included are these principles:

1. This party asks for endorsement of its policies and projects by individuals only. It does not seek or encourage endorsement by social group names.
2. This party strongly advocates platform politics because such politics bring constructive programs.
3. This party believes in true representative government and no other kind.
4. This party believes in maximum student participation in their government.
5. This party believes that student authority and responsibility must be developed to the greatest extent possible.

We shall continue to follow Oregon State's political progress with great interest, and we extend to the Beaver advocates of liberal and progressive student government our warmest wishes for success.

We hope that our own politicians take as seriously their responsibilities in bettering student government on our campus. We hope that the leadership evidenced by these "Free Staters" will find a following at Oregon.

OF ALL THINGS!

By LeJEUNE GRIFFITH

Senatorial propwash — Senators Lynch and Wallace became involved in a verbal battle in Salem over a bill to limit the practice of chiropractics. Words turned into something with a little more weight, and Senator Wallace found himself on the floor. Senator Lynch is quoted as saying: "I was simply admonishing Senator Wallace against unstatesmanlike language — pointing my finger—and he ran into it."

Windy day in Wyoming—Washington, D. C., does not have a corner on windbags. In an effort to strike back against a so-called "unnecessary number of traffic regulations, port of entry rules, many fines and penalties" in California, a Wyoming state representative introduced a bill which would force cars from California to carry two red flags three feet square "both fore and aft," and two bells not less than six inches in diameter to warn of their coming when entering Wyoming.

Corneas for sale — The offers to sell their corneas by people wishing to get food and clothing for their "poor starving family" seems to be breaking out like a rash all over the country. The sincerity of their offers could easily be checked by someone actually offering to buy a cornea. If the offers are legitimate, then it is a sad state of affairs which leads people to offer such a prized

possession to obtain the necessities of life. If the offers are not legitimate, then it's still a sad state of affairs when people have to be victimized by publicity seekers who prefer scheming to get money and food rather than working for this end.

Backwoods blues — A local department store has taken all the fun out of the prospect of going to the country and hewing a home out of the wilderness. They are offer-

Telling the Editor

ABOUT CHURCHILL

I was pleased to note that The Emerald was not taken in by all the specious arguments of Randolph Churchill. However, a few things may be said in Mr. Churchill's behalf.

He was perfectly correct in exposing American hypocrisy regarding imperialism and in criticizing our still-prevalent disposition to oversimplify the problems of the British Empire. By the same token it was unfair for us to hold the speaker responsible for British policy of the past or for the policy of the present Laborite government.

Moreover, it must be remembered that the Egyptian students did ask "loaded" questions.

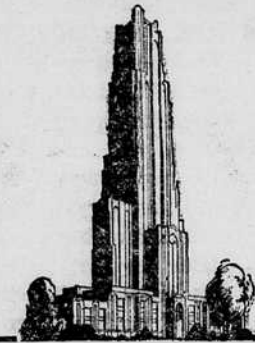
We should not allow our bias in Churchill to combine with our own prepossessions in prejudicing us against every worthwhile thing he said. This is particularly true with regard to the problem of 300,000 Jews and 700,000 other displaced persons now languishing in European detention camps because no country in the civilized world will take them in. (This was not mentioned in the Emerald's otherwise thorough coverage of the speech.)

Al English

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