

Oregon Daily EMERALD

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Lincoln's Birthday

A great man... and American... was born 143 years ago today. His name was Abraham "Abe" Lincoln.

And during his lifetime he had much to say: "... All men are created equal." (Gettysburg, Nov. 19, 1863).

When you picked up the Sunday Oregonian you saw, on page one, a story of racial prejudice toward Negroes in Eugene. Negroes here are housed in substandard buildings in an area devoid of plumbing. A woman has been threatened because she rented a home on Friendly st. to a Negro family.

Where is this realization of "equality"?

* * *

"With malice towards none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds... to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations." (Second inaugural address, Mar. 4, 1865).

Whom among us... or among our neighbors in Russia or China or Germany or France... bears "malice towards none"?

How many times since the Civil War have we bound up the nation's wounds? World War I... World War II... the Korean war... what next?

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"... While Man exists, it is his duty to improve not only his own conduct, but to assist in ameliorating mankind." (Address to Germans at Cincinnati, Feb. 12, 1861).

If only men... throughout the University and Eugene and Oregon and the United States and the world... would abide by this "duty" as defined by Lincoln, we would be living in the kind of prejudice-free, peaceful, prosperous world he must have envisioned.

We pray—on this, his birthday—that these spoken wisdoms of Abraham Lincoln will someday become reality.

Skip-to-my-Lou, My Darling

We're playing hopscotch again, as of last Thursday afternoon and the Alpha Tau Omega petition to rejoin AGS.

This move was nothing earthshaking... or even particularly unexpected.

The ATO's left the Greek fold a couple years back when they had a potential student body prexy candidate they knew didn't stand a chance of getting the AGS nomination. USA needed a man. So... the ATO's joined USA and Barry Mountain became student body president. (The whole story, which involves a secret political society called Theta Nu Epsilon, isn't quite that simple, but we'll let our short explanation suffice.)

Now the ATO's feel USA has outlived its usefulness to them so they're engineering another switch... back to AGS.

Some of the fellows in the house say they're just being politically honest: they're Greeks so they're going back to the Greek bloc. (USA is a coalition party of Greeks and independents.)

This sort of party jumping is nothing unusual. Happens every winter or spring term when houses see greener pastures on the other side of the party boundary.

Remember last spring? Phi Kappa Sigma leapt from USA to AGS; soon after, Sigma Alpha Mu jumped the other way. (They had a potential student body president too. He's Veep now.)

Of course, maybe the Greeks don't want the ATO's back. It's a pretty remote maybe. We'll wager a gallon of printer's ink there'll be little opposition in today's AGS meeting.

We wish we could give you another reason for the switch... perhaps a dislike for the USA platform for the coming election. But since the parties have no platforms, it's impossible. (Yes, we know, they do have a platform of sorts: (1) Better relations between Greeks and independents, (2) more school spirit, (3) more effective student government, and (4) better dance bands. The above have comprised the platform of both parties for as long as we can remember.)

Oh, we might give ATO a slap on the wrist for one thing. They neglected to inform USA they were pulling out. That party's acting chairman heard about the petition nearly five hours after it had been presented at the AGS meeting.

For the benefit of those who are wondering whom ATO might have this year as a potential candidate, we might explain that AGS has a policy of not giving any nominations to members of houses for a year after they rejoin the bloc. Wait and see who they have in line for '53.

Hop, skip and a jump... who's next? Spring term's a-coming fast.

-- Letters to the Editor --

More About Asia

Emerald Editor:

In a way, I have been astonished by the way the article on Asia was interpreted by some people on this campus. This article meant to deal only with the economic situation of Asia, and not the cultural or religious side as suggested in both letters to the Editor.

I appreciate (even if I do not thoroughly understand) the various cultures and religions of Asia. But, at the same time, I try to be realistic about the economic and human situation of the Far-East. From M. Islam's letter, you could think that Asia was a paradise before the coming of the West. It is not what our teachers have told us about the Far-East. Sure, we can only plead guilty when we are accused of having exploited the people of Asia; but I do not think however, this is the reason we should still like to be in Asia.

Civilization, as Europeans and Americans understand it, is a many-sided question: it is composed of technic, of culture, but also of this rare quality: the ability to administer. We have in no way the monopoly of culture: quite a few Asiatics are more cultured, more refined than we

are. Not even the monopoly of the technic for our machines can be bought or copied and others than us know how to use them. But to know how to run a business or a firm is something quite different.

To be able to administer in this "managerial age" which Burnham talks of, you must have the sense of the end in view and of the means you dispose of, to achieve this end, e.g., the sense of proportions. You must also have the notion of upkeep, not only under the accountant form of amortization, but also the elementary form of keeping the material in good shape. People who have been to Asia will tell you that nothing is perfectly looked after. What is really missing is the sense of the great administration, with a few exceptions for Indian groups such as Tata Birla or Dalmia. You do sometimes find the technic, the financial competence, the intelligence or the ability, but hardly ever do you find a rational organization, the notion of value of time, the capacity to defend your business against the temptation of bargaining.

"Dispatch is the soul of business" was what Lord Chesterfield used to say. But to come to an end is not in the habit of the

Oriental: he understands, he discusses, he makes conclusions... and then often nothing happens. What is insufficient and often lacking is the average worker, not only capable to carry out an order, but also to interpret it and if necessary to adapt it to unforeseen circumstances.

The West has passed a long time ago from the tool age to the machine age, and more recently to the managerial age. India, and we are speaking of the most favored country in Asia, has arrived to the machine age, but by the mass of its workers she is still predominantly artisanal and only a few of her leaders have reached the niveau of the managerial age, like the Parsis for instance.

And let us speak of the "development of Asia," M. Islam? Theoretically Asia might be able to industrialize by herself. But tell me how she is going to do it, when Europe, who has already a great industrial background, has to rely on foreign aid. To start up a big industry in Asia, you need capital and technical aid. Where are you going to find that, M. Islam, if not in the U.S.A. or the Soviet Union? And by the way, in what kind of world do you think we are living just now if not in a "sharply divided" world?

And speaking of "the thousands of people in the name of western civilization," how many millions were slaughtered recently in the name of "religion," M. Islam? A higher concept, is it not?

I know the Buddhist has a symbolic respect for life, be it the one of a mosquito or a grasshopper. But if they do not kill the cows, who nourishes them? Who in Asia seems to worry about the poor? Christian charity, this "milk of human kindness" mentioned in Shakespeare, seems to belong more to the West than to the Far-East.

Immensely developed, technical methods have been placed in the hands of states, a power that governments of earlier days could never have imagined. Solutions are no longer individual but collective and they have ceased to be national, because no state is large enough any longer to act alone. Under these circumstances, the horizon has widened, has become world wide.

It is on a world plan that politics, economics and military strategy compel us henceforth to reason and to live. To consider the problems of our time, whatever they may be, in another light is to run the risk of judging everything by false standards and form an outdated angle.

Marc Delemme
Foreign Student

The Atomic Age

Labor Leader Hits Taft-Hartley Act, State Politics and Money Troubles

By Phil Johnson

Organized labor's chief bone of contention with the Taft-Hartley act was explained Monday by Secretary George Brown of the C.I.O. state industrial union council when he talked to students of Professor P. L. Klein's Economics 426 class.

According to Brown, the framers of the act expected it to be used to destroy the effectiveness of labor unions when a depression arrived. The provision which would cause this reduction of union strength is the one allowing strikebreakers to vote in shop elections. Since the strikebreakers naturally would vote against unionism, and the union members would not be allowed to vote because they would be striking, the union would be voted out of that firm, according to Brown.

He also asserted that the framers of the Taft-Hartley act believed that a depression or recession was approaching at that time and that they realized that large numbers of potential strikebreakers (also known as "scabs") seek employment during periods of economic decline.

Although the nation does not appear to be immediately threatened by a depression, such a decline is possible, and the unions, Brown maintained, will then face a great loss of effectiveness.

The C.I.O. official also provided some interesting observations on national and state politics. He stated that on the 65 major issues coming to a vote in Congress in 1951, Southern Democrats united with Republicans to defeat the administration 33 times, including a vote which resulted in "the emasculation of the defense production act."

Furthermore, according to Brown, Oregon's Representative Harris Ellsworth voted with the Republican-Southern "unholy alliance" on 15 of the 17 most-important issues, was absent on one vote and, supported the administration on one.

Referring to Oregon politics, Brown asserted that Oregon's 1951 legislature will face a financial crisis because the 1951 legislature did not provide for sufficient taxation.

Usually the state has enough reserves to carry the financial load from one session to the next, but this time, the speaker remarked, the normal reserves will be exhausted by the time the legislature meets.

Brown maintains that the proponents of an Oregon sales tax delayed taxation proposals in the 1951 legislature because they felt that a 1953 financial crisis will reduce the difficulty of forcing a sales tax upon the people.

He hinted that organized labor will vigorously oppose any sales tax because the lower and middle-income groups suffer a heavier proportional load than others under such a tax scheme.

He also indicated that the 1953 legislature will discuss the proposed national amendment limiting income taxes to 25 per cent. He claimed that if this amendment is adopted, "the only alternative" will be a national sales tax.



Phil Johnson

Grades on the Curve



"It's nothing, really—I gave them 100 multiple-choice questions— but none of the answers are right."