

# Oregon Daily EMERALD

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## The Atomic Age Hydrogen Bomb May Hold Disaster For Entire Nations or Continents

By Phil Johnson

The presidency of the United States is a position of greater responsibility than it ever was during the past history of the nation. President Truman must study alternatives and select pathways of action which may increase or decrease the planet's chances of avoiding universal slavery.



Phil Johnson

It would take just one unfortunate move by the president to plunge the world into a terrible World War III. Some idea of the extent of such a conflict has been given by Harrison Brown, former assistant director for chemistry at the Oak Ridge project:

"Hydrogen bomb explosions could be set off on a north-south line in the Pacific approximately 1000 miles west of California.

"The radioactivity dust would reach California in about a day, and New York in four or five days, killing most life as it traversed the continent."

Brown also asserted that hydrogen bombs exploded on a north-south line about the longitude of the Prague would destroy all life within a strip 1500 miles wide, extending from Leningrad to Odessa, and 300 miles deep, from Prague to the Ural mountains.

The National Association of Manufacture's has decided that the businessmen of America should shoulder a larger share of

the financial responsibility for educating future American generations.

Its 160-member board of directors unanimously passed a resolution which declared, "Business enterprises must find a way to support the whole educational program — effectively, regularly and now."

The resolution recommended that NAM members (who produce approximately 85 per cent of the nation's manufactured goods) attempt "to secure adequate local, state and private support for a sound program of elementary and secondary education for all American youth." The private support would be the NAM's share.

The Congress of American Industry issued similar views in December of 1948. The stated aim of the financial support was "to reverse the trend of the last 17 years toward centralized government, and to bring local responsibilities with the necessary tax revenues to support them, back home where they belong."

It is possible that the program would lead to domination of the schools by the NAM. Another problem involved is the objection of union leaders. If the manufacturers contribute lavishly to the support of public education the union leaders would probably demand higher wages, pointing to the education funds as evidence of the "excess profits" which they have been complaining about for years.

However, the program would be worthwhile if those difficulties could be avoided. The public school system needs funds more than businessmen's wives need fur coats or extra maids.

## Letters to the Editor

(Letters for this column must be 400 words or less in length and signed by the author or authors. Requests that names be withheld will be given careful consideration. Letters may be mailed to the Emerald editor or left in the Emerald quonset adjacent to the Journalism building.)

### "Great Books" Issue

Emerald Editor:  
Mike Callahan thinks "Great Books" are worth reading. I agree.

He thinks they ought to be read in the language they are written in if possible. I very much agree.

He wants to establish a "Great Books major." I absolutely disagree.

Has not one of the greatest books of all, the Bible, taught us not to throw pearls to the swine?

Great books are meant to be read voluntarily, and not taught, or assigned "for a little extra credit," under compulsion.

To be a little constructive, I suggest that some high schools start a schedule of four years of French, German, Latin and Spanish, English composition and literature, Western civilization, American history and introduction to science.

This is possible, because I did it, and necessary because the U.S. is a powerful country and has accordingly much responsibility. This way some students will read "Great Books" on their own, besides fulfilling requirements for a major.

The scheme suggested by Mike has, I am afraid, two immediate results: It would cram two four-hour courses in foreign languages into the already overcrowded first two years, and it would give a lot of girls another few years a chance on a husband.

Dirk Schepers

## Man of the Year?

Sincerity. Honesty. Integrity. Loyalty.

You've seen these simple words used hundreds of times in the past months to describe a man from Ohio—Sen. Robert A. Taft.

"Mr. Republican" (that's what many call him) spoke in Portland Thursday night before an overflow banquet audience, an audience that clapped and cheered when he attacked the "corrupt" Truman administration... and when he insisted a change was essential to the preservation of American liberty.



Only a blind deaf-mute could disagree wholly with the attack on the present administration. Or perhaps a hermit who knew nothing of the five percenters, many of whom are reported still in business; the influence peddlers; the department of revenue scandals.

When Taft says we've lost 20 per cent of our freedom through taxation, it hits home to we Americans now filling out our income tax forms... and seeing one-fifth of our 1951 earnings going to the federal government.

These arguments—on domestic affairs—sound convincing to many tax-burdened, scandal-shocked Americans.

But when Senator Taft starts talking about foreign affairs, we begin to worry.

He's not consistent. He says there's no excuse for wrecking our economy at home. He says foreign policy shouldn't dominate domestic policy.

These words bear a tinge of isolationism, we would say.

Then, in practically the next breath, he says we should use the Chinese Nationalist troops, now on Formosa, for an invasion of Communist South China. He even goes so far to say the use of Chiang Kai-shek's men—600,000—would "probably" have defeated China... with its 400 million people.

How does he believe arming the Chinese Nationalists and ferrying them to the mainland (and most likely right back again) would save us money at home? How can he risk total war in China... and say we shouldn't let foreign policy control domestic policy?

Does he believe—as he appears to—in isolationism toward the West and active participation in the East? We don't quite understand.

He has even, to some extent, contradicted his policy toward arming Western Europe (his refusal to vote for the North Atlantic treaty) by publicly assuring General Eisenhower of six U.S. divisions a short time ago.

Even though we disagree with his foreign policy, we admire the man with his forthright statements. When he speaks, he has something to say. He is telling the people what they will get if they elect him president.

We do believe he is sincere and honest. And these are welcome attributes in a day of so many suspect government officials.

But we still say his otherwise sound campaign is marred by a contradictory and perhaps disastrous foreign policy.

## From the Morgue...

15 YEARS AGO

Feb. 19, 1937—Law school students study the hardest of all students on the University campus, says Orlando Hollis, acting dean of the law school.

"The average student on campus does no work at all compared with our students," said Hollis. "Only the medical school in Portland offers harder courses."

5 YEARS AGO

Feb. 19, 1948—In a recent campus poll, Harold Stassen was selected by the students as their choice for the next president of the United States. Stassen speaks here Feb. 21.

## The Philippines Are Making Progress

By Martin Meadows

"The Republic of the Philippines is a charming country with a fascination quite different from other countries of the Far East. It is a picturesque land endowed with an agreeable climate, enchanting landscape and rich natural resources."

This description of the Philippines may be picked up gratis in any travel folder or encyclopedia. However, this writer is going to attempt a closer kind of inspection, one which has at least a partial basis in actual experience.

Unlike many so-called experts who produce authoritative works on countries after a two week visit, my qualifications include over 14 years spent in the Philippines, most of them in Manila.

These 14 years include three eras in the history of the Islands: pre-war, the Japanese occupation and post-war. To be truthful, however, most of the facts gathered for these articles were gleaned on a two-week trip, when I visited Manila during the Christmas vacation.

It is always difficult to begin such an article, and the temptation is strong to analyze the political situation, as every reader expects, but that is always a risky undertaking. To start with, a few pertinent facts of Philippine history might be best.

The Philippines is composed of 7,083 islands occupying a total of 115,600 square miles. This area, slightly larger than that of Arizona, supports a population of about 20 million people, which math majors can figure to be approximately 167 persons per square mile (a condition roughly comparable to that in the Vets Dorms in 1948).

After being discovered by Magellan in 1521, the Islands were ruled by Spain for more than 370 years. They were ceded to the United States in 1899 after the Spanish-American War. From 1904 until 1935 the ranking executive in the Islands was the Governor-General, appointed by the President of the United

States with Senate confirmation.

In 1916 Congress passed the Jones Law providing, in effect, a constitutional basis for the Philippine government. Then, in 1935, a Commonwealth Government was established, with Manuel Quezon as the first President.

Fulfilling its pre-war promise made to the Filipino people, the United States granted full independence to the Islands on July 4, 1946. The Philippines thus emerged as the world's first democratic republic to be established after World War II.

Since that time the Philippines has been engaged mainly with its domestic affairs, which present many imposing problems not the least of which is its struggle against the rebel Huk balahaps. A less dramatic struggle is the one being waged to restore the nation's war-shattered economy. After viewing the laborious reconstruction now taking place in the Philippines, it seems quite plain that, barring outside interference, the government is fighting a winning battle, slow though it may be.

## The Humanitarians



"You remember, Thyroid Greenbacks—poor grades, non-athletic, sickly, no talent, UNLIMITED checking account—Men, it's th' purpose and duty of our fraternity to pledge this boy!"