

+ EMERALD EDITORIALS +

No Petitions

The Emerald recently received a petition—via the ASUO petition box in the Student Union—from a student interested in work on the campus daily. We are glad to have this new staff member aboard.

But, we would like to stress, petitions aren't necessary for securing a position on the Emerald. We always welcome new workers on an informal basis. We don't require formal petitions or written recommendations.

Right now, there is a great need for new sports writers, reporters, advertising salesmen, copydesk workers, office girls and proofreaders. With expanded news coverage, there is a place for everyone on the Emerald team.

If you are interested in working with us, drop by some afternoon between 3 and 5. We'll be glad to show you around and accept you as a new member of the staff.

Millrace Problem

The speculations, conjectures, facts and counter-facts surrounding the Millrace issue are so confused that it has been impossible for the city, the University or any other interested group to even be able to form a clear picture of the problem, let alone the solution.

Presently the mayor's Millrace committee is hard at work studying all aspects of this issue in an attempt to reach—once and for all—a true picture of the problem and a practical conclusion to the problem.

This committee has been meeting since last July and represents a cross section of the Eugene community. J. Orville Lindstrom and Jim Light from the University represent faculty and students, respectively.

The committee is trying to find out primarily what is desirable in the Millrace; what would be the problems if the 'Race were abandoned, and what are the possible alternate sources of water to the 'Race.

A survey of the committee findings at this point seems to indicate that the best case for the Millrace lies not in the positive recreational benefits it could provide, but rather in the negative complications that would arise if the 'Race is abandoned.

The city would have to provide storm sewers; the property owners would have to foot the bill of filling up the 'Race and the

University would have to find an alternate source of cooling water for its heating plant.

It is estimated that storm sewers alone would set the city back \$35,000, and the costs to property owners for filling up the 'Race would come to around \$62,000.

The other side of the coin—the cost of fixing the Millrace—has not yet been figured, but all agree it's not going to be cheap.

When the committee does conclude the study, probably next month, it will report to Mayor Johnson and the Eugene city council. Providing the conclusion favors a repaired Millrace and providing the city council goes along with the recommendations, then the issue almost certainly will go to the people in a special election.

It is at this point, if we ever get there, that student action can do some positive good. Then will be the time for an all-out effort to get out the Millrace vote.

In the meantime about all we can do is cross our fingers and hope that the problems of abandoning the Millrace will prove so great that those studying the issue will decide we'd better keep the old 'Race after all. (D.L.)

Footnotes

Couple dressed as rabbits Saturday night were attending Sigma Nu's "Comic Strip" house dance—not going to "suppressed desires" party as many thought.

* * *

Wonder why no one thought of "Singing in the Rain" for house dance theme this last weekend? It always seems to rain on such occasions, dampening girls' formals but not spirits of party-goers.

* * *

Still haven't been able to figure out why Friendly hall parking lot has only three parking spaces. Painters were a little too generous with yellow paint, we think.

* * *

What is new machine used in construction at Earl hall? It is said to make the most pleasing noise—something like gld-lup, gld-lup—each morning beginning at 7 a.m.

* * *

Who leaves empty Olympia beer case in approximately same place in front of Carson hall every Saturday night? Awakening residents Sunday morning don't find it the most attractive lawn ornament.

INTERPRETING THE NEWS

US Policy Toward Costa Rica Differs From Guatemala Stand

By J. M. ROBERTS
Associated Press News Analyst

The organization of American States, taking the stand in the Costa Rican case that no country should permit itself to be used as a base for revolution against another, is pursuing a strictly one-shot policy.

This time it fits into the policy of the United States, which obviously is hopeful that the Figueres government will remain in power.

Such a pronouncement, however, would have run violently contrary to American policy in the Guatemalan trouble some months ago. Then the United States favored invading rebels against a Communist government.

One of the disturbing things about international relations in times such as these is that principles and practicalities constantly are being tailored to fit the exigencies of given situations.

The United States has always denounced other countries for

intervening in the affairs of small nations. She even does it sometimes to the accompaniment of denials that she is doing so, as during the last general elections in Greece.

Since there seems to be no escape from this sort of thing when one set of great powers is struggling to protect itself from the expansionist policies of another, the question arises whether it might be better to be frank about the whole business.

It is very difficult to get the truth about such incidents as the Costa Rica business. Both sides may be telling a part of it.

Reports that a son of a former president is leading the rebels leads strength to the Nicaraguan President's claim that it is rebellion pure and simple, stemming from the known fact of unrest in Costa Rica, a perennial Central American symptom.

The long-standing enmity between Somoza and Figueres, however, supports the suspicion that Somoza would gladly take a hand in causing trouble for Figueres.

It can be argued though, that Somoza would not be truly interested in a friendly government at San Jose. Somoza has his own troubles at home. While known as at least a semi-benevolent dictator, any dictatorship usually needs a whipping boy abroad to divert public attention from itself. Figueres, who could not threaten Nicaragua militarily, would seem valuable to Somoza in that role.

Aside from the specific incident which will probably fade from the picture shortly, another facet of United States policy has been highlighted for reconsideration. That is the matter of arms for Latin America.

The use of United States-made planes in the shooting re-emphasizes the historical fact that the presence of arms in these volatile countries is an invitation to their use. It is her responsibility to see to it that arms provided by herself are kept in proper hands and restricted to proper use.



On Campus with Max Shulman

(Author of "Barefoot Boy With Cheek," etc.)

SCIENCE MADE SIMPLE: No. 1

In this day and age, as I like to call it, everybody should know something about science. Unfortunately, however, the great majority of us are majoring in elocution, and we do not get a chance to take any science. But we can at least learn the fundamentals.

Though this column is intended to be a source of innocent merriment for all sexes and not to concern itself with weighty matters, I have asked the makers of Philip Morris whether I might not from time to time use this space for a short lesson in science. "Makers," I said to them, "might I not from time to time use this space for a short lesson in science?"

"Bless you, lad!" cried the makers, chuckling. "You may certainly use this space from time to time for a short lesson in science."

They are very benign men, the makers, fond of children, small animals, community singing, and simple country food. Their benevolence is due in no small measure to the cigarettes they smoke, for Philip Morris is a cigarette to soothe the most savage of breasts. I refer not only to the quality of the tobacco—which, as everyone knows, is amiable, humane, and gracious—but also to the quality of the package. Here is no fiendishly contrived container to fray the fingernails and rasp the nerves. Here, instead, is the most simple of devices: you pull a tab, a snap is heard, and there, ready at hand, are your Philip Morris Cigarettes. Strike a match, take a puff, and have a delicious little rippling sigh of pure content.

So, with the cordial concurrence of the makers, I will from time to time devote this column to a brief lesson in science.

Let us start today with chemistry. It is fitting that chemistry should be the first of our series, for chemistry is the oldest of sciences, having been discovered by Ben Franklin in 123 B.C. when an apple fell on his head while he was shooting the breeze with Pythagoras one day outside the Acropolis. (The reason they were outside the Acropolis and not inside was that Pythagoras had been thrown out for drawing right triangles all over the walls. They had several meetings outside the Acropolis, but finally Franklin said, "Look, Pythagoras, this is nothing against you, see, but I'm no kid any more and if I keep laying around on this wet grass with you, I'm liable to get the break-bone fever. I'm going inside." Pythagoras, friendless now, moped around Athens for a while, then drifted off to Brussels where he married a girl named Harriet Sigafos and went into the linseed oil game. He would also certainly be forgotten today had not Shakespeare written "Othello.")

But I digress. We were beginning a discussion of chemistry, and the best way to begin is, of course, with fundamentals. Chemicals are divided into elements. There are four: air, earth, fire, and water. Any number of delightful combinations can be made from these elements, such as firewater, dacron, and chef's salad.

Chemicals can be further divided into the classes of explosive and non-explosive. A wise chemist always touches a match to his chemicals before he begins an experiment.

A great variety of containers of different sizes and shapes are used in a chemistry lab. There are tubes, vials, beakers, flasks, pipettes, and retorts. (A retort is also a snappy comeback, such as "Oh, yeah?" or "So's your old man!")

(Perhaps the most famous retort ever made was delivered by none other than Noah Webster himself. It seems that one day Mr. Webster's wife walked unexpectedly into Mr. Webster's office and found Mr. Webster's secretary sitting on Mr. Webster's knee. "Why Mr. Webster!" cried Mr. Webster's wife. "I am surprised!")

"No, my dear," he replied. "I am surprised. You are astonished." (Well, sir, it must be admitted that old Mr. Webster got off a good one, but still one can not help wishing he had spent less time trifling with his secretary, and more time working on his dictionary. Many of his definitions show an appalling want of scholarship. Take, for instance, what happened to me not long ago. I went to the dictionary to look up "houghband" which is a band that you pass around the leg and neck of an animal. At the time I was planning to pass bands around the legs and necks of some animals, and I wanted to be sure I ordered the right thing.)

(Well sir, thumbing through the H's in the dictionary, I happened to come across "horse." And this is how Mr. Webster defines "horse"—"a large, solid hoofed herbivorous mammal, used as a draft animal.")

(Now this, I submit, is just plain sloppiness. The most cursory investigation would have shown Mr. Webster that horses are not mammals. Mammals give milk. Horses do not give milk. It has to be taken from them under the most severe duress.)

(Nor is the horse a draft animal, as Mr. Webster says. Man is a draft animal. Mr. Webster obviously had the cavalry in mind, but even in the cavalry it is men who are drafted. Horses volunteer.)

But I digress. We were discussing chemistry. I have told you the most important aspects, but there are many more—far too many to cover in the space remaining here. However, I am sure that there is a fine chemistry lab at your very own college. Why don't you go up some afternoon and poke around? Make a kind of fun day out of it. Bring ukeleles. Wear funny hats. Toast frankfurters on the Bunsen burners. Be gay, be merry, be loose, for chemistry is your friend!

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