

# + EMERALD EDITORIALS +

## Man With a Message

Today's assembly speaker, Methodist Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, has a message which informed Americans should not want to miss.

We haven't received the usual advance publicity material on Bishop Oxnam, so we cannot offer a preview of his view of "The Nature of the Contemporary Crisis," his topic for the assembly. But we can offer some significant background information.

Oxnam was a central figure in the 1953 Congressional investigations of Communism in the clergy of America. California Representative Donald Jackson charged Oxnam with "serving God on Sunday and the Communist front the rest of the week."

Fellow Investigator Harold Velde, chairman of the House Un-American Activities committee, after Oxnam had testified before the committee at his own request, then said that the Bishop had been associated with several red front groups knowingly or unknowingly.

That was in November, 1953. The committee had already admitted that there was no record of Communist Party membership or affiliation on Oxnam's record.

Then early in 1954, Oxnam told the Methodist National Convocation on Urban Life that Communism had never reached the clergy of the United States and that the accusers of the clergy were now admitting libel.

But even more important, Oxnam pointed to the fact that American cities are becoming fear-ridden because of the activities of "vigilantes."

Oxnam's name became familiar to the general public when he had the courage to stand up to the vigilantes and cry out for the truth—but his skirmishes with the Investigators are not the only points on his record which make him well worth listening to.

He was president of the world council of churches from 1948 to 1954. He has served as a mediator in labor disputes, and was a member of the President's Committee on Higher Education.

He is the author of a book, "I Protest." He has received citations from the governments of Greece and the United States.

We don't know what the Bishop's analysis of the contemporary crisis will be, but we do know that today's assembly should be a "must" on the list of those who would be well-informed about the affairs of the world in which they live.

## ... Before You Leap

Rumor has it that the Emerald will not be the only newspaper represented at the meeting of the original campus veterans' committee this afternoon.

This makes it almost imperative that the committee consider immediately the question of whose opinions represent the official thinking of the committee and who is speaking solely for himself.

Broad statements of policy and charges of affronts to veterans should be weighed, and the Committee should make certain that the views of individual members are not represented as the thinking of the committee as a whole.

Before charges are made such as those against the Veterans' Administration last week, the accuser should be ready to prove them. Since apparently they did not represent the thinking of the entire committee, the committee should have acted to prevent their release.

The Committee should be watchful for such utterances, especially since a major

question remains unanswered: Is there a real need for such a committee?

The Committee was not the outgrowth of a mass meeting of veterans demanding that their situation be improved. Rather, it is a "hard core" group, seeking to gain support as it calls attention to situations to which it objects.

The appearance of the "Veterans' Committee of More Than Ten" shows that there are some veterans on campus who do not feel that they are the victims of unfair treatment by the University and by agencies of the federal government.

The name of the second committee, that fact that the "veterans' sergeant major" rather than the "veterans' commander" is the group's spokesman, and the initial statement of the committee's policies show an excellent sense of satire.

But the "Veterans' Committee of More Than Ten" shows more than superficial cleverness.

The Committee is, in effect, saying, "Wait a minute, let's look this situation over before ploughing ahead and demanding sweeping changes."

By making the whole situation appear ludicrous, the second committee is calling attention to the use of the word "veteran" as an emotional appeal.

It is asking that credit be given where credit is due, and it is asking if there is really a need for such a group on campus.

It has not denied the value of a more adequate information service for veterans, nor has it denied that some problems of special interest to veterans warrant investigation.

It has, however, taken a positive stand through the medium of satire, on the use of the title of veteran as an instrument for personal and political gain.

The "Veterans' Committee of More Than Ten" has pointed to the fact that it's usually wise to look before you leap.

## Good Job, Oregon

It's all over except for the last remains of a few pulverized egg shells in McArthur court—the shells and a wealth of good feeling between the University and the people of Eugene.

Some 2000 youngsters and 400 University students took part in Saturday's Operation Easter Egg. True, the children did have to wait in line in the rain, they did have an Easter egg handout instead of a hunt, and they could just barely hear the voices of the actors portraying the story of the three bears.

But somehow all of this was lost in the spirit of the occasion—the sight of portly senior men carrying little boys on their shoulders, of rain-drenched women calling parents to come after their children and of one of the officials providing prize money out of his own pocket for the disappointed possessor of a prize egg.

It was gratifying, Oregon. And we're sure the parents of 2000 happy youngsters were appreciative, too. — (S.R.)

## Footnotes

A rumor has been going around that three veterans downtown have gotten together over one kind of a beverage or another and formed a "Veterans' Committee of Less Than Five."

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Still another rumor is that the "Veterans' Committee of More Than Ten," originated in Barrister Inn, will soon become "Post Number One, Veterans' Committee of More Than Ten." Other posts might be in Alpha and Gamma halls, according to the rumor.

## ADLAI SAYS:

# Ike's Policies Got US in Bad Spot

CHICAGO (AP)—Adlai Stevenson said Monday night the Eisenhower administration's Far Eastern policy has gotten the United States into a position where it faces "either another damaging and humiliating retreat, or else the hazard of war."

He said he has "the greatest misgivings about risking a third world war in defense of Quemoy and Matsu Islands, Chiang Kai-Shek's Nationalist outposts off the Red China coast."

Stevenson said in a broadcast on two nationwide radio networks that the Eisenhower administration is "pursuing a dead-end policy in Asia," which he said was dictated by political expediency at home.

He said the United States should enlist other nations in "an open declaration condemning the

use of force in Formosa Strait."

He said Soviet Russia should be invited "to declare its position," to indicate whether it prefers the possibility of ultimate settlement by agreement to an unpredictable, perhaps limitless conflict.

He said the United Nations general assembly also should seek a solution to the Formosa conflict.

"With the assurance provided by such a common position concurred in by the nations whose weight and prestige are essential to the ultimate success of any Formosan policy," Stevenson said, "neither we nor Chiang Kai-Shek should any longer need to rely upon a military precarious position in these little offshore islands to resist the aggressive ambitions of the Chinese Communists toward Formosa."

Stevenson said in a nationwide broadcast carried by networks of CBS and NBC the Eisenhower administration's "policy of extravagant words" in the Far Eastern situation "has alarmed our friends a good deal more than it has deterred the aggressors."

## Scientific Selection



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