

# + EMERALD EDITORIALS +

## "V-P" Day May End Dread Polio Threat

### An Opportunity

When it comes to actually taking the lead and trying to manage their own affairs, a majority of Oregon's students like to sit back, make cynical remarks, and think of themselves as "sophisticated."

But now the time seems to have arrived when the great majority no longer even cares.

Generally, we refer to the realm of student government.

Specifically, we refer to the ASUO senate-sponsored essay contest, which as yet has no entries.

Student government has the large problem of having only a limited number of people working in it. The same people who generally take the lead in house activities and in scholastic endeavors also migrate toward student government.

From time to time student government should be refreshed with new blood. This is the perfect opportunity for critics of student government to take a positive stand.

This is a time for the cynics as well as those who take the more optimistic view to make themselves heard. Outside of student apathy, overwhelming student ignorance is one of the main reasons why student government isn't always what it should be.

Student government can be more than a game—quite a bit more.

Oregon students are given ample opportunity to run their own affairs. If they would take the trouble, cast off some of their adolescent skepticism, and do a little work, they would probably be amazed at what they could accomplish.

This is an opportunity to do some thinking about it and let your ideas be known.

### WRA Carnival

We noted with interest the decision of the student affairs committee not to ban all fund raising drives not campus-wide or for charity. We presume this means the WRA Carnival.

Basis for the action evidently was the feeling that such a step should come from the organization itself or from the living groups. We agree.

This last term the living organizations were drawn into the annual carnival without having anything to say about it. They should not be forced to participate in something

which will raise money for a separate group at a both monetary and a personal cost to the living organization. Any such participation should be optional.

The work involved in the preparation for the WRA Carnival seems out of proportion to its net worth to the average University student—especially the men, who do most of the booth construction.

Yet, the WRA is largely dependent upon income from the carnival to support its program. With a participation of less than 300 (based on attendance at 50 per cent or more of one of the WRA activities) out of a total female population of over 1500, the role of the WRA on campus seems rather limited. This would imply that possibly its budget could be cut.

We would like to see the WRA take action itself. If not, the action may have to come from without—from the IFC and Heads of Houses, for there is little apparent desire for the inclusion of the Carnival on winter term's crowded social calendar. — (S.R.)

### Yearly Oregana

A recurrent idea of Oregon students and more particularly Oregana editors, has been shelved again this year by the publications board. Off and on for years requests have been made for a yearly Oregana—one which would include the whole year's activities.

A yearly Oregana would mean that spring term activities would be included along with the fall and winter. It would also mean a delayed publication schedule. It was on this latter ground that the pub board turned down the request. Under the proposed plans, the Oregana would be distributed at the beginning of fall term. Copies would be mailed to all students who did not return to school.

In addition to having the whole year's activities under one cover a yearly Oregana would make it easier for the yearbook staff, since work could be spread out over a longer period of time. One or two staff members would be needed after school was out to complete the book. By having the work done in the summer, lithography costs could be cut approximately 5 to 10 per cent, a figure which would nearly take care of the added costs of mailing the book.

The idea of a yearly Oregana certainly has merit. Somehow, though, we like getting our yearbook before we've forgotten all about the year's events, before we're involved in the activities of another year. — (S.R.)

By J. M. ROBERTS  
Associated Press News Analyst

It was V-P Day.

The results of the year-long tests of the new anti-polio vaccine were coming out, and everyone knew the announcement would contain news of a great victory. The question was, just how great.

The press room at the University of Michigan was jammed. When copies of the report were brought in there was a wild scramble as though the reporters were about able to announce the end of a war.

And indeed it was much the same, though not quite the final surrender of the dread disease which has stricken the heart of the world because it strikes so brutally at its children.

There was a polio epidemic in my old home town of Asheville, N.C., in the summer of 1916. In those days almost nothing was known of the causes, or of proper treatment.

That year, too, the virus was particularly violent. Then came a flood which cut off many vital services for a brief time. That year many of the children did not even escape with paralysis.

They died at widely scattered and dissimilar spots over the nation, as they had been dying for years and as they would continue to die for many more years.

Nothing except the fight

against tuberculosis and cancer ever engaged the attention of so many doctors and scientists.

A man who was to be president got it, and his painful struggle back to useful life dramatized the battle.

A national foundation was formed to finance research, the people contributed dimes and dollars, and now the fight seems largely won, although it may be years before it is ended against all forms.

As was fitting, the victory is that of a young scientist, Dr. Jonas E. Salk, for it was against youth that the disease struck most often.

There is always heartbreak when such an event comes so late for so many, but in some respects this one comes just in time for vast areas of the world where polio has been less of a problem than in America.

There was speculation, during the long study when even the cause was unknown, that people in congested areas, lacking sanitation and proper health measures, developed early immunities to polio.

Now they, as well as the fathers and mothers of the United States, can know that help is coming. There won't be enough serum for all right away. But it will be coming, along with relief from that most terrible fear of all, a threat to your children.

### Test Results



"Is it true that you recently gave your Western Civ class a test made up of unassigned and inconsequential material?"

### INTERPRETING THE NEWS

## Russia Pressures Austria In Attempt to Ruin WEU Plan

By J. M. Roberts  
Associated Press News Analyst

By going to work first on Austria's Chancellor Raab the Russians have handed out a good tip on the nature of the last desperate tactics they will use in an effort to prevent rearmament of Western Germany.

If their current efforts were directed basically at an Austrian settlement they would bypass Raab as ineffectual and go directly to the three Western powers with whom they will have to settle in the long run.

They propose to do this, however, only after they have wrapped Raab up in some fine-sounding proposals which he will be politically required to urge upon the Allies.

One such thing is the proposal for all foreign troops to withdraw from the former German satellite in return for a guarantee from the Vienna government that it will not join any alliance directed against any country which fought Hitler.

The Russians would like to make neutralization of Austria a

major plank in the treaty. The West, with Austrian acquiescence, clings to the contention that Austrian independence must be complete, as promised long ago, and that it cannot be so unless she has the right to make up her own mind about such things.

The Russians obviously think, however, that if they can get a neutralized Austria they can then create quite a stir against rearmament in Germany by proposing a similar status in return for reunification there.

Some Western observers believe that in order to create such a situation with regard to the larger problem, the Russians might come up with Austrian proposals which could be accepted. Nearly all of the issues have been settled for a long time.

One place where the Western powers can and must hammer the Russians, however, is at an extremely tender spot. When the Russians talk about withdrawing troops from Austria they must also talk about withdrawing from the Balkans, where their military forces are technically posted to

guard the supply lines to Austrian occupation forces, but where they are actually the backbone of Communist political control.

On their side, the Russians are likely to counter this by demanding an agreement that after Austria, negotiations will move on to consideration of the foreign armies in Germany. They already have suggested that withdrawal must be the basis of a settlement there too.

This would be almost as delicate a topic for the Allies as withdrawal from the Balkans is for Russia. The whole pattern of Western European defense has been built around Anglo-American guarantees to keep their troops in Europe, which means in Germany, to soothe the French fears of a revived Germany.

Theoretically, a neutralized Germany would seem to take care of these fears automatically. Actually, nobody believes that a nation such as Germany will remain a military vacuum very long, no matter what agreements may be put on paper.



The Oregon Daily Emerald is published five days a week during the school year except examination and vacation periods, by the Student Publications Board of the University of Oregon. Entered as second class matter at the post office, Eugene, Oregon. Subscription rates: \$5 per school year; \$2 a term.

Opinions expressed on the editorial pages are those of the writer and do not pretend to represent the opinions of the ASUO or the University. Unsigned editorials are written by the editor; initialed editorials by members of the editorial board.

JERRY HARRELL, Editor DONNA RUNBERG, Business Manager

DICK LEWIS, SALLY RYAN, Associate Editors

PAUL KEEFE, Managing Editor BILL MAINWARING, Advertising Manager

GORDON RICE, News Editor NANCY SHAW, Office Manager

JERRY CLAUSSEN, CHUCK MITCHELMORE, Co-Sports Editors

EDITORIAL BOARD: Jerry Harrell, Paul Keefe, Dick Lewis, Gordon Rice, Jackie Wardell Rice, Sally Ryan.

Chief Makeup Editor: Sam Vahey

Ass't Managing Editors: Valerie Hersh, Dorothy Her.

Ass't News Editors: Mary Alice Allen, Carol Craig, Anne Hill, Anne Ritchey, Bob Robinson

Feature Editor: Dave Sherman

Morgue Editor: Kathy Morrison

Women's Page Co-Editors: Sally Jo Greig, Marcia Manney

Ass't Sports Editor: Buzz Nelson

Nat'l. Adv. Mgr.: Laura Morris

Circulation Mgr.: Rick Hayden

Ass't. Office Mgr.: Ann Baakkonen

Classified Adv.: Patricia Donovan

Co-Layout Mgrs.: Jon Wright and Dick Koe

Executive Secretary: Beverly Landon

Ass't. Adv. Mgr.: Evelyn Nelson

Photography Editor: Dale Turner

Managing Assistant: Sanford Milkes