

CAMPUS COMMENT

Apathy, Inferiority Are Fellow Travelers

By Sam Frear
Emerald Columnist

Not long ago, a member of the august ASUO Senate remarked that the role of student government was to approximate (in order to give students practice) government as it really is. To be like the "real thing," say, in Washington, D. C.

For that reason, voters in the primary election had cardboard partitions to allow them to vote secretly. This is like the real thing.

But, let us face it. Student government's resemblance to the "real thing" is very superficial.

For example, in the national regime, the executive is responsible for billions of agencies and departments that do the government work, like taking censuses or delivering the mail. This is the government's "busy work." Our national legislature does a remarkable thing—it legislates only.

But in the U of O copy, the executive for the most part is a figurehead who does a lot of "gladhanding" and who makes alot of trite speeches to various groups during the school year. He actually does little controlling or supervising. The ASUO Senate is the "busy work" body. They legislate, and most often they legislate proposals for themselves, not the executive, to do.

And so the Senate moans about the student apathy when it, by its own actions, largely denies student participation in student government. The 27 senators have lots to do, but they don't legislate much responsibility to anyone else but themselves.

The Senate could have, but didn't, let an "executive committee" handle the Essay Contest and test files business. A committee composed of non-senators may even have been successful.

While the U.S. Senate and House are often straining at the bonds to wield more power than they possess our Senate sadly lacks the "egoism" of power hungry politicians.

The Senate, UO version, is a quiet little group that meets every other Thursday, fearfully underrating its influence, and totally sterile of any new ideas.

It might, if it wanted, get that massive big-business operation known as the Athletic Department to put away the ledgers long enough to give married students a break and to settle this athletic card business.

It might, if that is what students want, get pre-registration back.

While everyone laments about the over-crowded activity schedule, the Senate might do something about it.

The seeming Senatorial inferiority complex, (someone misnamed it "humiliation") is reflected in other student spheres.

It is a very sad commentary that only one person petitioned for Oregonator editor, only one for Figger's Guide editor, only one for Ore-Nter editor, and that only one person per party thought himself qualified for the ASUO presidency, and that only three people submitted petitions in a three-prized contest.

Was it Los? Sure, it's one hell of a lot of apathy, but it is also a hell of a lot of inferiority. There just don't seem to be enough people who have confidence in themselves. And neither do some Senators.

Finally, the Senate does resemble its real-life models in one way. There are too many people on it who are so only for the Gods Prestige and Publicity.

About one third of this year's Senate was dead-weight. Dead weight in both parties. They said nothing, did nothing, and one sincerely wonders why they bothered to attend meetings.

(Of course, some people wonder why they even bother to have meetings.)

Traffic Controls Lifted in Austria

VIENNA, Austria (AP)—Russia said Thursday night its control of freight traffic entering the Soviet-held zone of Austria will be ended immediately.

The announcement was made as Russian troops began to erase some visible signs of their occupation of Austria, apparently in expectation that this nation will regain independence soon.

Earlier Thursday, the Austrian Parliament approved unanimously a policy of neutrality for Austria after conclusion of an independence treaty.

Russia also announced two other concessions to Austria:

1. Austria immediately will be given the right to grant permission to French and German ships to navigate the Soviet-held stretches of the Danube river. The Soviets have held this right up to now.

2. Agreements Austria has made with almost all European states allowing citizens of those states to travel to Austria without visas will be recognized.

Primarily this means the Soviets no longer will expel West Germans who have had difficul-

ties entering the Russian zone. The Soviets have not hindered other Europeans.

Soviet High Commissioner I. I. Ilyichev notified Austrian Chancellor Julius Raab of the actions. He said he hoped the steps "will serve toward furthering the friendly relations between Austrian and the Soviet Union."

Meanwhile, a squad of Soviet soldiers pulled down a giant red star over the entrance to the Soviet officers club in the former castle of the Hapsburg emperors in Central Vienna.

They also removed a big painting of Lenin and Stalin which had been superimposed on the face of the red star. The star and picture had dominated a wide square in front for the palace for almost 10 years.

Elsewhere in the city, red stars were pulled down from the entrance to a Soviet army motor pool. Two barriers in front of the Imperial hotel, where the Russians have maintained their headquarters, were gone.

A red star remained over the Russian headquarters, however, and the hammer and sickle was still flying from Soviet-held hotels.

Campus Briefs

● Men interested in taking the Selective Service System College Qualification Test should register immediately with Spencer Carlson in admissions office in Emerald hall. Deadline for registration is May 9. This test will be given May 19.

● There will be a meeting of the Emerald advertising salesmen Friday at 3 p.m. in the Emerald office. This is to discuss the Junior Weekend edition and it is important that all salesmen be present.

● Petitions for members of the YWCA poster committee should be turned in to the YWCA office, Gerlinger hall, by 5 p.m. Tuesday, according to Mary Jo Williams, chairman.

Cabinet of YMCA Schedules Retreat

YMCA cabinet members and committee chairmen will leave on a five-hour retreat today at 7 p.m., Dave Roberts, Y president, has announced. All members going will meet before, 7 p.m. in room 317 Student Union.

Purpose of the retreat is to discuss and formulate the YMCA policy for fall term.

The group will return at 12 p.m.



SU Currents Hui O Sponsors SU Mixer Tonight

Hui O'Kamaaina, the University's Hawaiian club, will sponsor the fishbowl mixer tonight from 9 to 12 p.m. in the Student Union. The dance will be a part of their annual May Day Luau and will feature special decorations and entertainment. All University students are welcome, according to Frances Achee, publicity chairman of the organization.

Friday Coffee Hour Features Italy Talk

Tonight's Friday evening coffee hour in the Browsing room of the Student Union will feature Jessie Becker, graduate student in history, with a lecture on Italy. Slides will illustrate the talk which will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Can't Use It SELL IT THRU THE WANT ADS

English Play Director Speaks Here Tuesday

Robert Quentin, English play director and lecturer, will be the assembly speaker next Tuesday at 1 p.m. in the Student Union ballroom. The title of his speech will be announced later.

Quentin has directed plays in many cities across Europe, in South Africa and Australia. Educated at Lancing and Oxford, he returned to Oxford as director of its University Experimental Theater club.

After serving five years in the intelligence division of the Royal navy, he directed in Australia, and returned to England in 1947.

Quentin has served as stage director, staff producer, touring manager and manager of the Old Vic theatrical company of London. From 1947 until 1953 much of his time has been spent traveling with this troupe.

More recently Quentin was appointed director of the Shakes-

pearean Festival Theater School at Stratford-on-Avon.

Quentin has lectured at the Universities of Wisconsin, Utah, and Colorado, and at the American Academy of Dramatic Art in New York City.

Unusual Greeting Cards for All Occasions. Flowers Unlimited Phone 4-6244 193 East Bdwy.

Mother's Weekend WILL SOON BE HERE!
Make your reservations early for Mom at the **El Prado Motel**
1055 WEST 6th AVE. PHONE 4-0568

Seniors
It is time to place your orders for Caps and Gowns for Commencement.
Commencement Announcements are in stock and may be purchased at any time.
Orders may be placed at the stationery counter of the Co-op. Orders may also be placed here for calling cards.
The UNIVERSITY CO-OP
"THE STUDENTS OWN STORE"

A hint from Cupid—
Win Her Heart
with a Beautiful **CORSAGE**
for the house dance—
from **Eddie's of course!**
EDDIE'S FLOWERS
Phone 5-6120 1400 Willamette St.
Remember! There are lots of House Dances this week, so order your flowers early.