

+ EMERALD EDITORIALS +

Weekend Homework

OSC System Impractical

The recent visit of the Oregon State student body leaders to the ASUO Senate meeting proved one thing—the impracticability of adopting their system on this campus.

This does not mean that our system is greatly superior—in all ways, but it certainly fits the needs of the University better. We can think of at least eight ways in which our present system is preferable here.

This is our list:

1. Voter apathy. Voter turnout at Oregon elections has averaged slightly more than 50 per cent for the past three years. The OSC leaders said theirs brought out about 40 per cent for their all-campus elections and from 20 to 25 per cent for the elections of senators from the various professional schools.

2. All the ASUO senators are elected, with the exception of the faculty members, while at OSC only 16 of 30 are elected. The rest are delegates from other groups and hold posts the qualifications for which are entirely different from those for participation in student government. For example, the Barometer editor and the AWS president sit on the OSC senate.

3. Utilization of available leadership. The losing candidates for ASUO president and class presidencies in the general election sit on the Senate and their talents are available. At OSC only the winning candidates can be used.

4. Frequent elections make it more difficult to get a large voter turnout. Oregon has only one primary and one general election. OSC has a number of elections at different times.

5. At Oregon the University as a whole fills 11 positions. At OSC only three are elected by campus-wide vote. The Oregon system might tend to unify the electorate.

6. Our system assures minority representation, if the minority votes. At OSC minority representation comes about only through chance.

7. Oregon freshmen have a chance to get to know each other before the frosh election. At OSC the freshman election is held at the end of freshman week.

8. Under the Oregon system, party and individual candidacies can be based on issues, and voters can choose all but two faculty members on the basis of issues. At OSC, if issues are a factor, only 16 are likely to be elected on that basis.

This is not to say that the Oregon State system is not the best for them, but we fail to see how it could work here.

The investigation of student politics seems to have wandered from its original purpose, which was to look into means of improving the party system, not changing the entire form of student government.

Repercussions of Hell Week

The Emerald does not necessarily agree with some of the sentiments expressed in the following editorial. We are reprinting it to illustrate the repercussion of the recent Hell Week incidents.

The University community is stirred up over the vandalism and boorishness of a couple of "pledge classes" which in their devotion to their fraternities, stole some property and wrecked some street signs. It was all part of "hell week," a nice, clean college custom which sends unwashed underclassmen out to prove themselves worthy of membership in dear old Tappa Keg.

The Oregon Daily Emerald, taking note of the situation, says editorially that "Hell week must go." That sounds reasonable. If the fraternity system is to survive—and we can't think of any very good reasons why it should—then the fraternities should prove themselves worthy of survival. And the twin goals of sending freshmen out to pillage the community and of whacking their tails off are of doubtful educational value.

Already, it occurs to us, freshmen are put to enough pain and indignity as they are required to learn all sorts of voofoo and mumbo jumbo, pages of meaningless "history" of the tong, songs they'd be ashamed to sing in front of their mothers, and to acquire a set of social values that became obsolete in 1776.

If the fraternity pledges have a lot of free time and if their grades are so good that they are looking for something to bring glory to "the house," they can, as has been suggested, turn hell week into a "help week" by doing something they can be proud of. In any case the Emerald is on solid ground in its editorial suggestion that the old style "hell week" has got to go.—Eugene Register-Guard.

Footnotes

Seems like our early surprise popularity spot, the library, has lost some drawing power. The challenger? Taylor's new baby billiard table.



"I HELPED HIM WITH HIS HOMEWORK—DIDN'T KNOW HE WAS A DENTAL STUDENT"

Letters to the Editor

Emerald Editor:

I have good reason to recall that day when the general hit town to review his troops on 15th ave. E. The dignitaries were all in their places, the band played bravely, and yet there were some someones who were missing. It was they who had endured the most and paid the most to be there. I know. I was one. My tickets cost me \$6 for this show, but like a fool I was in class.

Why did I not appear? I knew that the general was coming, the Emerald said so. That veritable New York Times of the campus said all that, but it did not say that I was an obstacle to progress, an unpatriotic stumbling block to our military might. Had I but known that my "legally parked" jalopy would be outlawed as an Affront to the Dignity of both the general and the noble military establishment in our midst, ahhh, had I but known. Any person, I mean just any person is usually given 24 hours notice to "get out of town," "drop dead" or anything of like moment. It is not unreasonable to ask for 24 hours to prevent a \$6 Affront to their august Dignities.

There are morals aplenty in this personal lesson: believe the things you read in the Emerald, well almost, for they may affect you in unseen ways; divine what is not printed, my

desperate error; take constant inventory of your belongings, or find out from the police which tow company was used; and, park your cars on University property, for remember that the student treasury is a far more worthy cause.

To my fellow Affronters to Dignity I can offer no solace, no hope in misery. Just suffer, for sirs, this sirs this sirs is an indomitable force. Yes, this sirs is the Army! They have demanded unconditional surrender. I give it.

Donald H. Feldman
Graduate Student
in Chemistry

Emerald Editor:

C-3 ain't what it used to be. During the last four months I have spent 30 cents trying to get "Laura" out of the Student Union juke box.

Upon returning this term—an amazing feat—I thought, perchance, that "Laura" would be "Laura" and not "April in Portugal." I have had a bitter awakening. "Laura" just won't come out.

Now, for 30 cents I should get Laura, herself, and not just three minutes of canned Kenton.

It's not that I don't like "April in Portugal" but had that money been invested more wisely I could have seen Portugal.

Sophomore in Architecture
Walt Mackin

INTERPRETING THE NEWS

Outbursts Suggest That Red China May Intend to Attack Quemoy

By J. M. Roberts
AP News Analyst

Various straws in the wind have been suggesting for some time that Red China either intends to attack Quemoy and Matsu islands this spring, or else deliberately create a new period of tension in the Formosa situation as she did last spring.

The sudden outburst of disruptive propaganda by Peiping's representative at the Geneva discussion with the United States adds to the prospect that the stage is being set for some change in the virtual truce which has existed in the Formosa Strait for some time.

Adm. Arthur Radford, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, just back from a world inspection tour, ranks Formosa right up with the Middle East among the chief danger points today. Formosa was one of the points where Secre-

tary Dulles said the United States had been brought to the brink of war only to escape through firm action.

That statement still stands, and is a part of the American attitude which brought Wang Ping-nan's outburst at Geneva. The United States, he complained in a maze of double-talk, won't concede Red China's right to attack Formosa.

This recognition is the chief assurance that whatever Peiping may be planning for the spring, it is much more likely to be political and for propaganda purposes than for war. As long as the American fleet is present and America's determination undiminished, a direct Red attack would appear to be most foolish.

The United States, in the Geneva talks, has been trying to get the Reds to eschew the use of force in the dispute. Since no immediate political

settlement is in view, this would mean leaving the matter of sovereignty on the list of East-West issues which seem likely to remain unsettled. This was the method used to stop the Korean War after the United Nations had demonstrated that aggression would be resisted.

Under other circumstances, the Chinese statement at Geneva would be taken as the signal for the end of the talks. But the United States does not intend to break them off, and Peiping still has its objective of getting American diplomatic recognition and a seat in the United Nations.

The bluster over Formosa may be directed primarily in that direction, rather than toward a settlement of the island's fate, for which the Reds can have little hope. They'd like to be paid for not doing something they can't do.



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