

+ EMERALD EDITORIALS +

Ignored Limitations

The memorandum submitted to the ASUO Millrace committee Tuesday afternoon by Student Union director Si Ellingson undoubtedly contains one of the most complete lists of recreation facilities we've ever seen.

The list contains the suggestions of Ellingson and the SU Board executive committee as to what should be included in the proposed Millrace anchorage. The ASUO committee will meet next week to add or remove any items, but it's difficult to imagine many more things being added.

The committee is ignoring both the financial and space limitations in deciding what ideally should be in the new anchorage. When these harsh realities are faced, some of the plans may have to be abandoned, but for now it's a beautiful dream.

Marmot's Day

Today is the day a furry little animal burdened with the name *Marmota monax* takes on a sudden significance in this strange way of life that we call modern civilization. For 365 days out of the year this cat-sized marmot is the victim of Department of Agriculture gas extermination plots, finds itself the target of 22 bullets in most firearm advertisements showing how to "get that blasted rodent that's been ruinin' the garden," and is further embarrassed in its place as the butt of an old-tongue-twister.

But today is different. It's now Ground-Hog day and the government ceases executions, the rifle manufacturers lay down their 22's and there is a universal ban on the "How much wood could a woodchuck chuck" act. In fact everybody goes out of his way to appease the poor animal. Newspapermen try to bleed the day into awkward metaphors in the top news of the day (Bill Borchers will probably end up on some sports page, walking hand-in-hand with the ground hog, looking to see if Oregon's losing streak has ended). Elsewhere there will be lengthy arguments regarding the official definition of a shadow.

Meanwhile, back at the burrow, the ground hog is probably sleeping through the whole thing, unless some anxious feature photographer has dragged him out to pose for the annual "one in a million" shot of Father Ground Hog spotting his shadow and, raising a prophetic finger, predicting

six more weeks of winter.

Tomorrow it will be all over and the ground hog can go back to his sleep, while the Agriculture boys and firearms manufacturers take up their weapons. Conclusion? None. We just learned that *Marmota monax* tastes bad, too.—(C.H.M.)

Partisan, But Some Good

Our Senator Richard Neuberger released another chapter in his blast-a-day routine the other day which had some good advice squeezed in with all of the partisan statements. In summary, Oregon's junior Senator called upon his fellow Congressmen to stop "investigating" newspapermen, particularly those from the New York Times.

Neuberger was referring to recent episodes in which a Senate subcommittee headed by Senator Eastland of Mississippi probed into supposed Communist affiliations of some Times staff members. Most observers felt the Southern Democrat and his gang went a little far in the hearings.

Oregon's senator launched his attack after the subcommittee wanted to subpoena columnist Drew Pearson for criticizing President Eisenhower in a recent syndicated piece. Neuberger said that was going too far in attempting to regulate verbal attacks on the government.

Never have we more thoroughly agreed with a Neuberger statement than when he expressed fear "that some members of Congress feel they and their political philosophy are above and beyond criticism and attack." He also charged that these officials "regard as subversive or dangerous" anyone critical of them.

This criticism of public office-holders and their policies, however, is one of the fundamental functions of newspapers. The press provides the only daily link between John Taxpayer and J. J. Bureaucrat, the latter the spender of the former's money.

Neuberger, being the partisan politician that he is, got in a plug about the press being irresponsible in favor of the Republicans and retold the old story about 80 per cent of the press being anti-Democrat. As partisan as he is, however, he has not lost his sense of democracy and freedom which seems to have eluded a few of his fellow officials.

Neuberger is ready to defend the freedom of the press against the power of government. For that, both Republicans and Democrats in the state can be thankful.—(J.C.)

Optional Quiz



"PAPER & PENCIL EVERYONE—REMEMBER I SAID WE'D HAVE A TEST TODAY!"

College Capers . . .

From Coast to Coast

By Bobbye Harris
Emerald Columnist

WORDS OF WISDOM come from the Southern Methodist university campus newspaper: If you are looking for a helping hand, you will find none better than the one at the end of your arm.

A PROFESSOR AT THE University of Texas says he has no need to gauge his lectures by the clock over his head.

He explains: "At 15 after, there are only a few; at 30 minutes, there is one-half, but at a quarter until, there is a solid line of white eyeballs with little dots at the top watching that clock."

FRIDAY NIGHT A "Bibler Bounce" will be held on the campus of Brigham Young university. During the week the students will be going to the polls to choose Worthal, the "Little Man on Campus," Lillian Lush, and bloodthirsty Professor Snarf.

The results of a similar contest on this campus might be very interesting.

ANOTHER ONE ABOUT those professors with a quick comeback: A professor in New Mexico commented in class one day that he was in the last war.

A student cracked, "Oh, are you that young?"

"I'm pretty young," the professor replied breezily, "and I'm younger now than I will be next year when you are taking this course over."

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF Colorado, campus police set up a roadblock to catch wayward freshmen. Between 35 and 40 violators of the freshman car ban were caught in the crackdown. Colorado adopted the ban on freshman cars last fall because of the parking situation. Similar bans are in effect at Indiana, Purdue, Texas, Illinois, Michigan, and Michigan State.

"OLYMPIC OVERTURE" IS the theme of the 1956 ice pageant at Syracuse university. The pageant is dedicated to the winter Olympic games, with an Olympic theme complete with torchlight parade and figure skating demonstrations.

THE STUDENT ACTIVITIES at the University of Minnesota is receiving opposition to its "conduct control policy" from the staff of the Gopher. The bureau asked non-residence groups to write a letter to the student activities adviser stating that the provisions of the policy had been read, discussed and accepted by the organizations, and that the group had appointed a committee to prevent misconduct by members while participating in group activities. Shades of social pro!

INTERPRETING THE NEWS

Red China's New Threat to Assault Formosa Cannot Be Ignored

By J. M. Roberts
AP News Analyst

Although Red China's new threat to assault Formosa may be taken with a grain of salt, it cannot be ignored completely.

Once before, when the United States ignored Peiping's threat to intervene in the Korean War, the cost was high.

That time the question of an American military push into North Korea was involved. This time there is no decision to be made on immediate action. The decision that the United States will help defend Formosa already has been firmly made.

As has been pointed out twice recently in this column, it would appear foolish for the Reds to make a break now in the face of American defensive naval power in the Formosa strait and of offensive air power based on Okinawa, which will not again be held in check as it was in the case of Korea.

It appears, then, that Chou En-Lai's latest threat is a political move, designed to put some urgency behind his demands for a break in the Sino-American deadlock at Geneva and for implementation of the Vietnam armistice agreement for an all-Vietnam election this year.

The Western allies have secretly welcomed the stand of the South Vietnam government that it will not permit elections in which the North Vietnam government would dictate the results in its area.

It has always been recognized there is sufficient Communist strength in South Vietnam to couple with a forced vote in the north and turn the whole country over to the Reds.

France, especially, would have tried some way to avoid the vote if the southern government, whose establishment was originally opposed in Paris, had not stepped in to carry the load.

As the southern government becomes more firmly established, and as foreign-aided rehabilitation continues, the Communist chances of winning by vote are diminished. So Chou wants to get things moving. You can expect the Western reaction to be extremely dilatory.

When Chou says Red China is "actively preparing" to attack Formosa, however, you have confirmation of what American and Chinese Nationalist intelligence have been saying. Only recently there has been a flurry of new reports of a Red offensive build-up near the Matsu Islands.

Chou, in addition to his political pushing, may be willing to make a test at that, or some similar point, of American policy regarding the offshore islands, which has never been specifically outlined as it has been with regard to Formosa itself.



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