

Emerald Editorials

BLUE MONDAY

Call for Decision

Supporters of the plan to abolish the University's two-party political system are charging that opponents of the plan are using delaying tactics in an attempt to kill it. The opposition insists that more time is needed for study.

Whatever the motivation, further delay in either approving or rejecting the plan may very well hurt both sides. Exactly a month remains until the date for the all-campus primary, if one is to be held.

If the plan is to be approved, and we think it should be, prospective candidates are going to need plenty of time to line up slates, as well as financial and voting support. They will no longer have established party treasuries and organizations to fall back on.

On the other hand, delay could very well be fatal to AGS, since the two leading Greek presidential candidates have already declared themselves in favor of the new plan. If AGS decides to fight the plan, they may have to start looking for a new presidential candidate. That search will undoubtedly prove time-consuming.

Prospective political candidates at all levels should be vitally interested in seeing that a quick decision is reached, or they may find themselves frantically trying to form an organization only a few days before the elections.

Footnotes

It is most difficult to have confidence in the ability of a teacher to impart some measure of learning when he can pronounce only one name in five correctly while calling roll.

The Invasion's End, Voting, And Inflation at the Co-op

By Scott McArthur
Emerald Columnist

They've left. We mean the high-spirited horde of high school students that knocked Eugene off its foundations during the state basketball tourney.

And with them go many memories—near-collisions—that bright young lad with the bugle atop the SU railing—flying beer bottles—and the heckling they gave the poor cop who was trying to keep the traffic flowing.

With it goes the tale of one enterprising high school youth who will probably end up on top of the heap—or in court. He's the j.g. lothario who bought an Oregon jacket, and told the awe-struck high school gals he was a genuine University sophomore.

A couple of our friends tried to vote last Tuesday. And when we drove over to the polls, it just about floored us.

A combination of legislative fumbling and civic shortsightedness left the entire city of Eugene, Ore., trying to vote in four polling places via an antique voting method that has been

put out to pasture in most urban areas.

Election officials in one precinct, almost slap-happy with fatigue, worked until 4 o'clock in the morning to count the ballots—a full eight hours after the polls were supposed to close.

We understand that election officials in Marion county are trying to peddle four "new-fangled" voting machines that they are fearful of putting into use.

We also hear rumors that Lane county may try some of the mechanical vote registrars in the future. Not a bad idea.

In any case, we wonder how proud the city fathers are of the mess they handed the voters last Tuesday.

LAUGH OF THE WEEK:

Oregon's "non-profit" Co-op has done it again.

Members of a state history class are buying as a supplementary textbook the "Oregon Blue Book." This 371-page booklet looks a great deal like a college catalog, and contains information about the state and the way it's run. It is published annually by the Secretary of State's office.

Students are buying the Blue Book at the Co-op's price of \$1.25. But the Secretary of State will send you one from Salem, post-paid, for only a buck.

Not bad for a "non-profit" co-operative.

As one of our friends recently commented: "The Co-op's the only place in town where you can buy a Register-Guard for seven cents."

THIS WEEK'S HEADLINE:

For animal lovers, from the headline chart of the Oregon Daily Emerald:

"NATURE BACKFIRES;
HYDRANT SQUIRTS DOG."

One of the crew-cut-and-bow-tie boys over at the GM fandango this weekend was explaining its route of travel to a couple of round eyed Oregon coeds: "We travel through the south during the winter, through the north during the summer and through Eugene during the monsoon season."

Any similarity between Howe field and a South Korean rice paddy was more than a little apparent.

Next time we wear snowshoes.

Letters to the Editor

Emerald Editor:

Once upon a time there was a great Brick Forest. In this forest lived many animals. Some of the animals lived in dens which were piled one above the other. These animals were known as Ununiteds. Other animals lived in dens which were widely scattered. These animals were known as Athenians.

It was very difficult to distinguish the Ununiteds from the Athenians. They all looked alike, talked alike and behaved in the same manner. During most of the year, there was no reason for distinguishing them. However, once each year, Choosing-time came around. At this time, all the animals scratched numbers on pieces of bark, so that they might decide who their leaders were to be.

Leaders were selected in several different classifications. One animal was chosen as the Number One leader. Other animals were chosen as the Senate. Still other animals were chosen as leaders of certain groups in the Forest, depending on how long they had lived in the Forest. These groups were known as classes.

For many years, the animals who were candidates for these various positions were selected according to the type of den in which they lived. The animals who lived in the dens which were piled one above the other were nominated from one party, while those who lived in the scattered dens were chosen from the other party.

However, there came onto the scene a group of animals which shall be known as ogres. These animals met and met and met some more, and decided that it was foolish to have candidates for the various offices nominated according to the type of den in which they lived. Therefore, they proposed a PLAN under which the animals who were candidates for any office could run for office as they wished, and would not be bound to abide by the decision of the other animals who lived in the same kind of den.

Among these ogres were the

Number One leader of the animals, whose name was Son of Hink, the leader of the oldest class of animals, called Frankenfels, and another animal, who is writing this story. He shall be nameless. Another one of the proponents of the plan was an Otter known as Sam.

Two other animals who went on record as being in favor of the PLAN were the horses who were expected to pull the Athenian chariot. Their names were Son of Britt and Smashem. All of these animals except one lived in dens which were scattered, and so were known as Athenians. Sam was an Ununited.

However, not all the animals were in favor of the PLAN. One Mac Raccoon first expressed dissatisfaction with it, and then decided to take no position. A certain stork, one Windor whose first name was similar to that of a cigarette, and who was leader of the male Athenians, expressed dissatisfaction with the plan. Also, the animal who had been chosen to lead the Athenians in political matters, one Bon Ami Rabbit, expressed violent opposition to it, and hopped about the forest muttering that it was not a "panacea of all ills."

This statement by Bon Ami Rabbit showed remarkable insight, since at the time he made the statement, he did not even know what the plan was. All the ogres were very surprised when Bon Ami Rabbit pointed out that the plan was not a "panacea of all ills," since they themselves did not feel that it was a cure-all. However, they did believe that it was better than the existing artificial line drawn according to the type of den in which the animals lived.

In order that all the animals might be informed as to the outline of their PLAN, the ogres wrote a letter to the editor of the Brick Forest Jewel, a newspaper, explaining the plan. The Ununited seemed willing to go along with it. However, because

of the differences of opinion expressed by various Athenians, it was not known how the Athenians felt about the idea.

Therefore, the ogres began beseeching Bon Ami Rabbit to call a meeting of the Athenians, in order that the Athenians might have a chance to consider the plan, and vote upon it. However, Bon Ami replied that it was too late in the season for a meeting, because Final Determinations were coming up. At the end of each season, Final Determinations were held to decide which animals were to have the privilege of living in the Brick Forest during the next season.

However, Bon Ami Rabbit promised that at the beginning of the next season, he would call a meeting of the Athenians, and with this statement, he hopped down a trail in the Brick Forest muttering to himself "not a panacea of all ills, not a panacea of all ills," over and over again.

The next season arrived, and the ogres began calling upon Bon Ami, trying to get him to call a meeting. Bon Ami replied that he was working on it. Apparently it was quite a difficult job to call a meeting, however, since a full week passed, and no meeting was called.

Then Bon Ami Rabbit finally announced that a meeting was to be held. But it was not to be a meeting of all the Athenians. The meeting was to be among only certain selected Athenians, known as the POLICYCOMMITTEE. When they heard this, the ogres were quite at a loss. They were unable to decide what purpose would be served by a meeting of the POLICYCOMMITTEE. They could not see why they should not be given a chance to present their PLAN before a meeting of all the Athenians. However, they knew that Bon Ami was a very clever rabbit, and so they supposed that there must be a reason which they, being mere simple ogres, could not understand.

One of the ogres suggested that purpose of the POLICY-

COMMITTEEMEETING was for delay, while another ogre thought that Bon Ami was trying to organize a Railroad against the plan, without giving all the Athenians a chance to consider it. The other ogres prevailed upon them to banish these thoughts from their minds, and pointed out that they were all mere simple ogres, and not able to understand the actions of any animal so clever as a rabbit.

Therefore, the ogres all sat back on their haunches and waited. It is in this position that we find them now, all collected around a path in the Great Brick Forest. Soon they see Bon Ami Rabbit skipping gaily down the path in his usual way, without a thing on his mind. Bon Ami is humming a little tune, which consists of the words "not a panacea of all ills" sung monotonously over and over again.

As Bon Ami approaches, one of the ogres calls out, "Bon Ami, please tell us what is a panacea, for we are mere simple ogres and do not know." Bon Ami stops skipping. He stops humming his little tune. He thinks. He thinks some more. He suddenly realizes that he does not know. Bon Ami turns around and starts to walk away. He walks faster and faster, and

soon he is running. The last thing the ogres see is Bon Ami's fuzzy little tail as he disappears over the hill back toward his den, so that he can get out his dictionary and find out just what a panacea is.

As Bon Ami's tail disappeared over the hill, the ogres began talking among themselves. One of them stated that he had heard a rumor that Bon Ami and Windor were meeting together in secret, and were planning to organize opposition to the plan by contacting the Big Animal in each Athenian den. The other ogres pooh-poohed this suggestion, however. One of them pointed out that Bon Ami and Windor would not do such a thing, because everyone knew that they were honorable animals.

Still another ogre pointed out that it was unlikely that these two opponents of the plan would try to organize opposition in this way, since they were very clever animals, and would know that they could not fool the Big Animals in the Athenian dens by presenting only one side of the picture. Thus assured, the ogres got up off their haunches and each wandered home to his den.

Third Year Law Student
John Whitty



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