

+ EMERALD EDITORIALS +

'They Did It'

President Eisenhower's veto of the farm bill at first glance appears to be made to order as a campaign issue for the Democratic party. The farmers supposedly will rise in revolt against this kind of disregard for their welfare. Thus all that the Demos will have to do is point to the White House and say, "He did it."

But the president isn't quite as vulnerable as some would like to believe. This is so because with the veto he offered his own counter proposal—a soil bank plan, which, if passed soon, would still benefit the farmers during this growing season. And if the lawmakers fail to approve it, they will be subject to the same charge that many are wont to level at the chief executive.

Ike should have the support of his farm-belt Republicans—many of whom deserted him in the farm bill showdown—for his soil bank plan. This means that if the measure is defeated, the Republicans will be able to point to their adversaries and say, "They did it."

The soil bank really is no more of an ultimate solution to the farm problem than are high price supports, however. Many contend that the farmers will merely take their poorer land out of production and increase their yield on the good acreage. So it is questionable that our huge stockpile of surpluses will be decreased appreciably. But it is a stop-gap to help lessen the alarming sag in farm incomes, and it's much cheaper than the high parity payments. It's generally conceded that rigid supports are not the answer, and the sooner we can discard them the better. They are the root cause of our surpluses, the ruination of a free market, and a drain on the national treasury.

President Eisenhower took a bold step when he vetoed the mess they called the farm bill. The question is, will the farmers now give the Demos the rigid support that the Demos tried to give the farmers? In other words, how free is the vote market? One thing is certain—if the farmer's ballot goes to the highest bidder, then the Democrats should get it.—(J.C.R.)

Academic Curiosity: Hiss

From the Stanford Daily:

A new spark touched off an old controversy last week when Princeton university's debate society invited Alger Hiss to speak before its group on "The Meaning of Geneva."

Firmly declaring that the invitation did not imply tacit approval of Hiss' past actions, spokesmen for the group explained that its aim is to "present speakers whose

views may contribute to the understanding of public issues."

"We feel," they said, "that Hiss is in a position to further this aim."

Princeton's student newspaper, the Princetonian, has also joined the fight and last Thursday sent a telegram to several New Jersey congressmen further defining the issue.

"Whether or not we approve of the act of perjury," it concluded, "as we most certainly do not—is not the question, the question is will you allow us to be curious or will you insist upon telling us what to be curious about?"

The howl of protest did not take long in coming.

Last Saturday a columnist in the San Francisco Call-Bulletin first condemned the group's action as "morally revolting" and then dismissed it as a publicity stunt.

In its editorial columns the same day, the San Francisco Examiner castigated the group as committing an "adolescent goof" and said the incident shapes up as one of those rebellious gestures of the young that has no reason to support it."

Even the halls of Congress did not escape the storm. Representative James Tumulty (D.-N.J.) somewhat facetiously suggested "there's a little poison ivy creeping into the Ivy League."

It seems to us that these critics are blinded by that intangible, evasive "columnist threat" which so often throws a wet blanket on the intellectual pursuits and healthy curiosity of "rebellious" youth.

But this damper imposed on student curiosity is more than just frustrating to those who try to understand the why's of history—those who rather question than accept.

It is symptomatic of a nation's nervousness, somewhat quieted now, over a threat blown out of all proportions to its worth.

It is an effort to suppress free inquiry, although it is crouched in the appealing and fair-sounding phrases of patriotism and Americanism.

If the individuals who brand free inquiry of this type as anti-American would make a closer examination of the meaning of American history, they would find that Americanism in the real sense has never stood for fear, cowardice, or protectionism.

Academic curiosity is one of the students' most cherished prerogatives. We hope it will not be buried under a barrage of pseudo-patriotic attacks detrimental to mature thinking.

These critics are paying no compliment to the political maturity of students in one of the nation's greatest universities when they infer that "left-wing" comments made by a convicted perjurer may influence their thoughts and political philosophy.

Re-soled



"Looks like an interesting news item, Professor Snarf. Would you mind removing your shoe?"

GULLIVER'S TRIFLES

Sulfur and Brimstones Across the River Styx

By Ken Kesey
Emerald Columnist

Sadie, of fine and noble stock, sat in the office of her sorority house and typed her column for the school paper. It was a netting, stinging article ranking the fraternities to the quick and suggesting sulfur and brimstone for all who are fool enough to cross the river Styx of rush week into the hazeful hell of pledgery. "... the pledge was," she typed, "then plumed by his barbaric brethren! Where else but in a fraternal hazing can we find such premeditated cruelty?" The office door opened and a girl, deliciously hefty as well as fine and noble, walked in.

"Sadie, that girl is here again—that rushee. Don't you think we've carried her long enough?" "You're right. Send her in and I'll tactfully bring her down from the clouds."

The member ushered in a small, sweet-spectied girl. "You may see our president now, rushee."

"Oh, thank you ever so," said the rushee. She looked up at Sadie with a puppy-glow of adoration. "I appreciate this ever so, Miss President. You see, my mother always wanted me to pledge a house when I came to college—especially the Tri-Kaps. She always said there was something fine and noble about a Tri-Kap, so she saved up just enough money before she had to quit work."

"That's right," Sadie retched. "Your mother did work, didn't she?"

"Oh yes, daddy was killed in a

brewery riot when I was ever so young."

"A brewery?" Sadie looked distastefully at the girl. "My little girl, of course you know what a brewery is?"

"Oh yes, it's a place where beer is made."

Terrible, thought Sadie. She had nothing against the beer itself, but she thought it distasteful to speak of the fount from which the beer sprung. A brewery worker, she grimaced, doesn't the stupid child realize a sorority is a fine and noble institution? Nothing like a fraternity which will accept almost anyone, utterly disregarding his social background. Sadie became more steeped in this pet thought.

At the peak of Sadie's mental rage the rushee interrupted. "Tonight is preference night and I should know something definite—I mean, after I've devoted the whole rush week to the Tri-Kaps—and let all the other houses drop—I mean..."

"Something definite?" Sadie laughed in the girl's face. "I'll give you something definite! You're plain, you're common, you come from a common family! We don't want you."

"But... but, why couldn't you have told me sooner? When I still could have..."

"Because we don't like to drop a girl until the last minute—we might need a fill-in to make our quota so we keep the cruds coming back. Is that definite enough?" That's how to let them tactfully down from the clouds, Sadie thought. She could still hear the girl sobbing hysterically down the street.

INTERPRETING THE NEWS

U.S. Moves Toward Greater Co-operation with Baghdad Pact

By J. M. Roberts
AP News Analyst

The United States is moving toward greater cooperation with the Baghdad Pact.

The object is to contain Russia.

In addition to mentioning more economic aid, in an amount undetermined as yet, the United States has sought to emphasize its interest in the pact by assigning Loy Henderson, deputy undersecretary of state, and Adm. John Cassady, commander of American Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean forces, as observers at the meeting.

These actions, however, are still disappointing to the members, who had understood originally that once they had worked out the pact, the

United States would join as Britain did.

Turkey did the spadework with Iraq and Pakistan, then Britain and Iran came in. But in the meantime Egypt had taken great umbrage against the pact which was seen in Cairo as weakening Egypt's efforts to arouse all Arab states against Israel.

The Egyptian attitude has assumed significant anti-Western proportions which the United States has no desire to appear as a divisive influence.

Britain considers this nonsense. She considers Arab hatred of the West well-established except in Iraq, and that the United States might as well follow through now with firm commitments to the Baghdad members as well as to defense of

Western oil interests and prevention of an Arab-Israeli war.

At any rate, the United States is holding back on all of these things, as well as on shipment of arms to Israel. The arming of the Baghdad states goes ahead, but with caution. The United States has military base deals pending with Saudi Arabia, where there is no love for Iraq. Iraq says her Baghdad pact associations will not prevent her from reacting if Israel attacks another Arab state.

That means Western arms in Iraq might possibly find use against Western arms in Israel.

The United States is avoiding commitments while some of these situations shake down a little, but in the meantime becomes more and more involved.

oregon daily EMERALD

The Oregon Daily Emerald is published five days a week during the school year and during 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 per term. Opinions expressed on the editorial page 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.
GORDON RICE, Editor
SALLY RYAN, Editorial Page Editor
SAM VAHEY, Managing Editor
JOAN RAINVILLE, Business Manager
JIM CARTER, LAURA MORRIS, Co-Advertising Managers
BOB ROBINSON, ANNE HILL, JOE RIGERT, Associate Editors