

+ EMERALD EDITORIALS +

Too Much Trouble?

Saturday night's group of men's house dances—the last ones scheduled for the year—will give some members of the University community another occasion to display their somewhat juvenile qualities so much in the limelight lately.

If Saturday night is no different from other house dance nights this year, host organizations of these dances can expect from house-hoppers the usual disrespect for the time, effort and funds spent in decorating; they can expect everything from slight damage to outright vandalism, which too often before has involved valuable and/or borrowed property.

Complaints concerning equally destructive activity at the Mock Political convention recently shows that the problem is not one concerning the living organizations alone. Still, the problem facing living organizations has reached a critical enough point in the minds of many persons to demand a change in house dance policy.

House-hopping is a tradition which reflects the friendliness of our relatively small campus community, however, to many organizations it has proved to be more trouble than it is worth.

Should one or both of each organization's two scheduled house dances each year be closed to house-hopping? What happens at the dances this weekend may bring us to a real decision.—(M.M.)

18-Year-Olds Go Elvis

Elvis Aaron Presley probably is running out front, but President Eisenhower is coming up through the pack. That's how the field looks now in the teen-agers' popularity race.

Wesleyan university recently announced that the President received 59.8 per cent of the total vote in a nation-wide poll of 450,000 teen-age students. He also held a majority in every state but Minnesota, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi and South Carolina.

No one has bothered to ask the teeners how they feel about Presley, but that's hardly necessary. The 21-year-old singer sends thousands of his admirers into a hopeless state of insensibility every time he opens his mouth to warble a note or two of "Heartbreak Hotel."

Whereas President Eisenhower is weakest in the South, this is where Elvis has found his greatest support. Time magazine informs us that 16-year-olds in Fort Worth carved his name into their forearms with clasp knives. Ike evidently has not been honored in this fashion as yet.

The popularity of Eisenhower with the teen-agers is not too surprising. The political leanings of youth usually give a fairly accurate reflection of the beliefs of their parents. And Ike has enjoyed about the same percentage of favor among the adults in recent polls.

The comparison of Ike and Elvis in the realm of teendom may appear somewhat ridiculous, but at least this conclusion can be drawn. If 18-year-olds are going to be given the vote, Ike might do well to hire Elvis as his campaign manager.—(J.C.R.)

Military Screen

Two committees of the House of Representatives have taken a crack at the defense department and the military for trying to suppress legitimate information under the guise of national security.

The action of the committees comes as a welcome breath of fresh air in the stagnation of expanding suppression of news by the federal government.

The unusual action came to light Sunday in an exchange of letters between Rep. Moss of California, chairman of the House freedom of information committee, and Rep. Mahon of Texas, chairman of the defense

appropriations committee.

Moss said the defense establishment had attempted to use a committee report accompanying last year's appropriation bill as a convenient screen to hide behind when withholding information. The report said "too much information has been released which is of no benefit to the American public, but which is of tremendous value to our opponents."

When investigators checked with Mahon, he told them it was "unpardonable that government agencies are seeking to hide behind that part of the report to suppress legitimate information."

The offshoot of this was a bristling directive to the defense establishment which repeats the concern over premature leaks of military secrets, and then adds pointedly "The committee trusts that the language of this paragraph will not be used by the department of defense or other government agencies as a reason for withholding legitimate information from the press and the public, nor should this paragraph be used as a coverup for inefficiencies and weaknesses of the administration."

Governmental agencies are all too ready to grab any convenient screen to hide behind when someone goes looking for information. It's about time Congress, the press and the public started tearing down some of the camouflage.

Missing the Boat

From the Minnesota Daily:

An article comparing European and American universities by Howard Mumford Jones, former English professor at Munich, reprinted in recent dailies from the Harvard alumni bulletin, has been subjected to considerable campus discussion and speculation about our educational system.

Boiled down to its essentials, Professor Jones' article concentrates on European education as being that in which the individual student is on his own and does not have to contend with many of the frills found in American universities.

Recently a special University retreat was held for particularly gifted freshmen at which this subject of intellectualism was discussed.

Other campus groups, e.g., All-University Congress, recently have become interested in what may feel is lack of intellectual spirit here.

Some professors and students alike say that the period of instruction on this campus ends with the closing bell, that students adjourn for coffee where they talk about how drunk Joe was at the last party or who Susie is engaged to and why instead of discussing the thinking behind the professor's lecture.

Other students rush off to a committee meeting, plan for Homecoming or write a story for the Daily.

The question both Professor Jones and University persons pose is: is all this extra-curricular activity really contributing anything to education or, is it at all possible to attend a large university and at the same time get an education?

Says Professor Jones: "This system means that the normal student... continues to get his lessons... celebrates the virtues of football victories... loves the anonymity of college spirit."

At least one University professor says that large classes have nothing to do with the process of intellectualism. An administrator thinks it is the job of the faculty instructors to stimulate thought.

At the same time a student doubts that the University faculty is fulfilling this role, that the lectures are dull and repetitious, stimulating the student to nothing more than letting his mind wander.

Is American undergraduate education missing the boat entirely?

Two-Sport Man



"Ok, ok, you guys! Let's quit clownin' aroun' with that shot put!"

INTERPRETING THE NEWS

Economic Experts Propose Compromise

By J. M. Roberts
AP News Analyst

Two economic experts have come up with a proposal for an international program of aid to underdeveloped countries which might serve to comprise some of the major difference between Congress and the administration.

The current administration program, admittedly subject to change after panel studies which are expected to begin soon, calls for presidential authority to make long-term commitments for large construction projects.

There is strong opposition to this in Congress. At the same time there is increasing pressure for eliminating the grant system and putting practically the entire program on a loan basis.

Max Millikan and W. W. Rostow, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the Center for International Studies and experienced government consultants, have combined the two ideas.

They suggest that the United States take the lead in organizing a pool composed of the industrialized nations to set up a system of loans to continue for 5 or 10 years, until industrialization begins to generate its own capital in the countries to be aided.

Banking practice would apply, through a set of international standards under which countries seeking loans would have to qualify on such

points as usefulness of projects, public support, and concrete planning for repayment.

The international code could be applied even if individual nations made the loans.

The authors deliberately move away from the idea that such a system would win friends in the cold war, or try deliberately to establish free enterprise. They say its fundamental purpose would be to supply a "sense of direction" for the underdeveloped peoples, demonstrating to them that economic improvement can be accomplished without resort to radical theories.

Chester Bowles, former ambassador to India, has been advocating a non-political, non-coercive aid program in his writing and speeches ever since his return. Many others have adopted the theory that only a truly international effort, conducted through the United Nations, will do the job. Secretary Dulles has suggested at least part of it might be done through NATO.

Congress has clung consistently to a program labeled "American" in big letters.

Neither Congress nor the administration is satisfied with the results, and changes are going to be made. There is a strong feeling that, while Russia copies what the United States already has been doing, this country must move on to something more straightforward and less self-seeking.



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