

Oregon Daily



EMERALD

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To Improve Our Election System...

While most of the campus yawns in indifference, a group of graduate students in political science has raised the write-in voting issue. The lack of a write-in provision in the ASUO Constitution has been defended by some, but has justifiably been attacked by others with much more vigor.

Because the Constitution makes no mention of write-in voting a good case can be made either for its legality or illegality. The decision will be made by the ASUO Constitution committee and announced Thursday night at the Senate meeting.

The Emerald feels that the lack of write-in voting is due only to the fact that it has never been considered necessary. Because we can see that at times it would be very desirable and because we can see no good reason for not allowing it, the Emerald believes write-in voting should become a part of our election system.

This can be accomplished either by such

an interpretation from the Constitution committee or an amendment. One or the other is very much in order.

Although we support write-in voting in principle, we do not believe such votes in the recent graduate representative election should be counted.

Gordon McLeod, as the only recognized candidate, had every right to consider himself unopposed and therefore made no attempt to obtain votes. If he had asked ASUO officers he would have been told as much. Write-in votes have never been counted here, nor is there a place on the ballot for such voting. Much as we hate to see one man "races," we do not think his election should be denied.

But to prevent such happenings in the future and to improve our election system, we support whatever steps seem best to provide for write-in voting.

Try Laughing, Aggies — It's More Fun

Rumors from Corvallis hint that the next big event on the Aggie social calendar will be the effigy hanging of Emerald columnist Brian Booth.

It seems the Barometer, OSC daily, has reprinted some of Booth's choice comments on their beloved institution. And the Aggies don't like it. In fact they hate it.

Booth and the Emerald, the rag that prints his comments, are co-villains.

Apparently the Aggies have no appreciation of what we consider good humor. Oregon freshmen soon learn to laugh at Silo Tech; we'd always supposed that Aggies likewise laughed at the Country Club down here, but apparently to them this is a very serious matter. Some of the Staters appar-

ently want to formally debate the proposition, "Resolved: That OSC Rah-Rah Balloons Are Really Neat."

To avoid any misunderstanding, the Emerald wants to formally acknowledge that Oregon State is a great educational institution. It serves its purpose well, and indeed has no serious rivals throughout the length and breadth of Benton County. But let's not get carried away with seriousness; it's more fun to laugh at Aggies than to seriously evaluate them.

And we enthusiastically grant the Barometer the same privilege. It could undoubtedly find aspects of this institution and its miscellaneous variety of students to ridicule, much to the delight of its readers.

— Letters to the Editor —

Emerald Editor:

In order to elucidate certain misconceptions arising from a misguided amateurish attempt of certain students of the bar to grasp the subtleties of pure mathematics, we submit the following rigorous defense of the preferential voting system, having faith in the analytical powers of the modern scientifically-inclined university students to grasp the simple truths herein presented.

Using Lobachewsky's notations on transfinite concepts in the domain of closed sets, we let

K = the number of offices to be filled.

T = the total number of voters.

We then represent the well-ordered sequence:

$S(n) = (1, 2, 3, \dots, K, \dots, N-1, N) (K!/1-N!)$.

Thus candidate #1 receives T/K = "&" votes.

$\&(1) = A*B(K*1), \dots, N-1, N)x$ votes.

#2 receives: $\&(2) = 2A-B (N!/x!) - x(N-Zi)$ votes.

Hence, as any math 100 student can verify,

$\&(K) = 2(A*B* \dots *K-1) - K(N-K) !/(x-\&*1) ! - x(K-Zi) !$

Now if K is even, $(K-1)$ can be written in the form $AK - (K*1, K*2, \dots, N) (N!/N-K)$. It is thus obvious that exactly $P(N, K)$ distinct political units will be equitably represented.

Furthermore, it must follow that $P(N, K)/C(N, K)$ always gives us a number of the form $2K-1$. Using the classical "Principle of Pythagoras," it must follow that exactly $C(N, K)$ senators will be females. Therefore the number of male senators is given by the reciprocal of the real conjugate of this number. Since in a closed finite set all elements K must evolve from the domain T , we are assured that the government will remain in the hands of the students.

Historical Note: In 1947, Ambrose Preferential, while on a lecture tour for the Technocrats, made the acquaintance of the then unknown Alfred Tucker. Tucker instantly grasped the

wide applications of the "Preferential Principle" and thus was led to replace the traditional differential with a preferential by locating the motor in the rear of his revolutionary car.

APPENDIX For more advanced students, we set down the precise explanation for not having write-in candidates.

$P(N, K)/C(N, N-Zi)$ = the limit (as $N-Zi$ approaches K) of $(K*1) !/(N-Zi*1) ! =$ "infinity" / 0.

The numerator of this indeterminate nth degree expansion implies that only one political group will be represented, and the denominator states that this group will be the law students (which is obviously detrimental to all thinking students).

It was for this reason, not for personal fame, that the versatile genius, Ambrose Preferential, developed the flexible system that our campus so sorely needed that dark day in 1931.

Lowell Hinrichs
 David Sylwester
 Juniors in Mathematics

'Otherwise, It's OK!'



From the Squirrel Cage

Clarification Presented Of Contested Election

By **DARREL BRITTSAN**
 ASUO President

There seems to be some confusion over the recently contested student election. Perhaps I can say a few things which might shed some light on the situation.

First I would like to free the administration from an undue criticism. They have absolutely no power to keep anyone from petitioning for an ASUO Senatorial position. The student affairs stamp on a petition is simply certification that the candidate is scholastically eligible. Furthermore, this eligibility requirement is set forth in the ASUO Constitution and is not a ruling of our administration.

Another point I would like to mention is that those who are contesting the election are not doing so because of malice toward anyone. However, they sincerely believe that write-in votes are valid under our Constitution and they intend to obtain a ruling from the Constitution committee.

Likewise there is no ill feeling in the Constitution committee. Some individuals feel that write-in votes are valid regardless of the constitution. The Constitution committee is specifically designed to settle problems of this nature, and their decision will ascertain the validity of write-in votes.

Most of the arguing has centered around whether a petition is merely a device to get a name on the ballot or a device to make a candidate eligible for election. Without entering into the arguments pro and con concerning write-in votes, however, I would like to stress that presently we are not considering the merits of write-in votes, but the legality of such voting under our constitution.

I am sincerely happy that certain students have taken enough interest in student government to fill out a petition contesting the election, and that many others have written letters expressing the opinions. Now we must await the ruling by the

constitution committee. If we disagree with their ruling, a Constitutional amendment will be necessary to alter the Constitution.

Hungarians Aided By Texas 'Tribute'

Funds for Hungary were raised in Texas last week through the Texas Tribute to Freedom drive. The Daily Texan of the University of Texas printed the following "tribute" signed by student contributors to the fund.

In the last century, while Texas was fighting for her independence, a hundred men in a fortified mission called the Alamo chose death by the sword of foreign tyranny that freedom might live forever in the hearts of Texans. Today, a hundred thousand Hungarians have chosen a similar death, that freedom might live throughout the world.

To us, Budapest is the Alamo of all Mankind. For you have set for us a new standard of Man's dedication to Freedom. Your fight, in its very defeat, has focused the eyes of all man on the universal threat to our freedom, and made that freedom dearer to us. You have given us an unparalleled faith in Man's willingness to fight and die for his freedom.

To that faith we send this food and medicine, and this scroll, as an expression of the feeling of every Texan that you have not died in vain. In addition, we have urged the United Nations:

1. To immediately assure by all possible means that this aid reaches the heroic people of Hungary.

2. To prevent the threatened Siberian slavery of Hungarian males from the ages of fifteen through twenty-five by a United Nations Convention manifesting that ideocide, like genocide, is an international crime against all humanity.

When all hope is crushed and the bravest die for all mankind, we know that no man is an island and that part of us has died with you.

To this faith in freedom the people of Texas send this tribute.