

Oregon Daily



EMERALD

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Straub Rebellion



As We Celebrate Our 57th Birthday ...

Your Oregon Daily Emerald today celebrates its 57th birthday. For it was on Feb. 1, 1900, that the ancestor of this newspaper made its first appearance on the campus.

It has a proud tradition. Its "alumni" include such big names as Richard L. Newberger, Palmer Hoyt, Arden Pangborn, Karl Onthank and Bob Frazier.

The Emerald has an unusual place among college daily newspapers. Many college papers do not endorse candidates for U. S. Senator or President; very few endorse candidates for student body president. Recent Emerald criticism of the administration for its handling of the dormitory damage issue would not have been tolerated on many campuses. One administration official has said that no other college newspaper in the nation has more freedom than The Emerald.

"The Emerald is not just an activity ... it's a way of life," is a phrase that summarizes the feelings of generations of Emeraldites. But this newspaper exists for much more than the memories of its staffers ... for much more than the experience and enjoyment they have gained. Its purpose is to serve the University community,

and it has been blessed by history with the freedom to do so well.

This editorial freedom, which is entirely in the hands of its editor and editorial board, carries great responsibility. If it fails to meet the needs of the community, students have only its student leadership to blame.

You may disagree with the editorial opinions expressed in The Emerald; many have, in letters-to-the-editor written in no uncertain terms. But we hope you will agree that it is in the best interests of all that it has the power to sound off at will. When it is wrong its weakness can usually be seen; when it is right it can be a strong force for worthy causes.

This is your newspaper. You pay for it, and you have a right to expect it to stand for something. You are fortunate that freedom of expression is a part of the climate of this University, and that your newspaper shares in this freedom.

Freedom of the press is not a right of newspapermen, but a right of the people. As we Emeraldites celebrate this 57th birthday, we hope to use this freedom for the betterment of the entire University community.

The Heritage of Lincoln

Nearly a hundred years have passed since the Civil War era. In that period man has progressed incredibly in social, economic and scientific efforts. Time has passed at a rapid rate. But no one can deny that the century has been an advancement.

Still, as we today honor the birthday of a great president and an equally great humanitarian, reflections on the trials of the 1860's compare roughly with observations on our own generation.

At a time of crisis between northern and southern elements in our land, the strong yet humble figure of Abraham Lincoln sat in the president's chair of heavy responsibility.

Today's conflict is no longer merely north and south, but east and west. And it is hardly on a localized scale within one country's boundaries. The responsibility accompanying such conflicts has increased greatly.

In 1860, human values were as much the prime issue as they are in 1957. Then the United States was half slave and half free. The world today compares "favorably," with half its population in a similar state of slavery.

Lincoln placed no small emphasis on this question of human rights. His epic emancipation proclamation illustrated that point vividly, though met with less than universal acceptance.

Nowdays, the Supreme Court of the land has laid down its verdict on the question of racial equality. It is currently riding out the wave of upheaval the decision, such as the recent school incidents in Tennessee.

President Eisenhower commented on the big problem confronting the world in his second inaugural address in January, saying "The divisive force is international communism and the power that it controls."

"A house divided against itself cannot stand," Lincoln spoke so dramatically. He may have prefaced the future in his foresight, though it applied most directly to his own situation.

This man met the test at a crossroads in history. His philosophy may have been re-expressed by Eisenhower (also in his inaugural message) when he defined America's "firm and fixed purpose" as "the building of a peace with justice in a world where moral law will prevail."

A parallel in history may be occurring as we celebrate Lincoln's birthday as a holiday. We face a divided world, we value human rights most highly and are up against a strong resisting force.

With the heritage of Lincoln and the benefit of his experiences and wise ways, our present leaders could well strive for peace on these principles as stated (in paraphrase) from the Gettysburg address.

"A world of the people, by the people and for the people." (A.J.)

Footnotes

What's in a name? Well, for what it's worth we'll toss in a couple. The head landscape gardener of the University physical plant is named Weed, and now up pops our northern country cousin - seems a man named Apple heads their horticulture department.

The Skeptic Tank

Scandal Tips Presented For Budding Muckrakers

By BRIAN BOOTH
Emerald Columnist

It's too bad that the student senate controversy of the past two weeks is already dying out.

The charges and denials of fraternal favoritism in campus politics lived up the usually conservative columns of the Emerald.

And whatever the whole affair accomplished it at least made people aware of student government. Most of the student body is so used to hearing about the Senate only at election time that it must have been a shock to many just to find out that the Senate holds regular meetings during the year.

If the budding muckrakers on campus could keep things stirred up by coming up with shady-looking incidents traceable to politics in student government we could have a red-hot spring election campaign in which candidates could talk about something besides restoring the millrace and improving school spirit.

Student campaigners could throw dirt just like the big boys do. We could have campaigners promising to clean up the mess in the SU and maybe a whole new régime of Senators would sweep into office instead of the old Senate just perpetuating itself.

Anyway here's a few things with scandal stamped all over them that our crew of special campus operatives have turned up.

First, why is it that Dave Beck, notorious president of the Teamsters union, left the United States soon after the charges about "political influence" in student government hit the Emerald? Is it just a coincidence that a former ASUO senator's father was business manager of a Teamsters local in 1942 and 1943?

Just how much does Beck and

his Teamsters have to say about what our Senate does? There's something wrong here, people are starting to whisper, especially when you consider that Oregon's enrollment and membership in the Teamsters have both had unprecedented gains in the past few years.

Secondly, what about the squirrels? What's happening to those frisky, furry fellows who once were so friendly. Not long ago you couldn't walk across campus without seeing at least half a dozen who were almost tame enough to take to class. But not now. It's a rare day when you can spot a squirrel, and when you do they are usually hiding behind a tree scowling or gritting their teeth.

Who's exploiting the squirrels? Is somebody getting rich by bumping them off and selling their fur? Is this why lights are on so late over in the labs at the science building. Why has the Senate remained mum about the whole thing? And why does the ASUO president call his office "The Squirrel Cage?" Something is wrong here and the lid is going to blow off exposing the whole nasty mess soon.

Finally, what's with the chimes in the SU? Nobody knows for sure just how much influence the Senate has in determining what the chimes play. But a growing rumor says that they have a lot to say about what songs are played.

So why were the chimes chiming out "Red Sails in the Sunset" the other day. Why "red" sails? Is there a hidden meaning here? We shudder to think that there is, but as ex-yell king and campus pundit Bob Loeffelbein has written, "funny business" has occurred during at least one Senate meeting. It looks like something "funny" is going on here, also.

Of course these are just a smattering of the things that lurk in the heart of the Senate. What will come of these and other unrevealed scandals only time will tell.