

Oregon Daily



EMERALD

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KEN NIEHANS, Business Manager

It's the Principle of the Thing, Senators

It hurts to admit it, Senators, but you've made a mistake. No, it didn't seem like a bad mistake at the time, because you were sure that this much-needed election reform amendment had no opposition. But opposition or not, the ASUO Senate shouldn't wink at even minor regulations, no matter how "good" this reform would be.

It seems now of small importance that the context of the amendment was not published exactly according to the schedule specified by the ASUO constitution. After all, the election ran three days and everybody surely had time to get familiar with the issue because of the amount of news space devoted to it.

And that part about keeping the polls open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and keeping three polling places open throughout those hours — it seems minor now when you consider how you took the polls to the voters in the last hour in order to give everybody a chance to vote, doesn't it, Senators? And as for moving them discriminately, that doesn't seem too valid a criticism, does it? You were just trying to give everybody a chance to vote, whether they favored the amendment or not — is this coercion?

That's the way it looks now, Senators; seems rather trifling to contest it on points like those, doesn't it? But that's not the point here. Even if the ASUO constitution

committee decides today that these points were minor and would not have significantly affected the outcome of the election, you've still made a mistake.

You should have been careful about keeping those polls open properly, even though it was hard to get enough people to staff them. And you should have checked that publication more carefully. And maybe you should have gone around to the houses and brought people to the polls rather than taking polls to the people at the last minute.

And more than those grounds on which the election was contested, what about maintaining a poll book as the constitution stipulates? Or charges of letting people vote without stamping student body cards? Or letting people vote more than once? It was a worthy cause, Senators, but did it justify all this?

It may be that you'll get off this time—we hope that the committee will rule in your favor — but does this solve the problem? It's not a question of the motives behind the contesting of the election or who would stand to profit from the amendment's invalidation. As trite as it sounds now, Senators, it's the principle of the thing, and we hope that you'll think about that even if the constitution committee lets you go free. (C.H.M.)

Project with a Purpose

This weekend the annual World University Service fund drive will come to a close. But this drive isn't just another money-making venture to take away the students' coke money—it's a project with a purpose.

Oregon's WUS drive is keyed directly to the University's interests in Nepal, where faculty members from our University go to help the country improve its educational facilities. Educators from Nepal are studying at the University now to gain knowledge which they can take back to the people of their country.

Half of the money which Oregon students donate to the WUS drive will be used in the construction of a dormitory for students at the University in Katmandu, the capital city of Nepal. The rest of the money goes into the WUS general fund which helps Universities around the world.

Nepal is a country about the size of Iowa with a population of 8.5 million people. Lying between Tibet and India, the country contains some of the highest mountains in the Himalaya range including Mt. Everest. Agriculture is the primary industry, but many natural resources of the country have not been exploited. Transportation is difficult.

For a country such as this, education

must mean a great deal. We who take our education for granted seldom realize that many people don't have our advantages and opportunities. Nepal is relatively isolated from the outside world, and higher education on a reasonably large scale is, for them, a new undertaking. And they can't do it entirely by themselves. They need our help.

The rest of the money raised here will go to causes just as worthwhile, even though they are on a less personal basis. The funds provide aid in constructing student health centers, stocking libraries and laboratories, and providing scholarship and loan funds for universities in other parts of the world.

On campus this week, events will call attention to the drive for funds. The Money Mile will begin today to gain a ribbon of money between the Student Union and Commonwealth Hall. Friday afternoon campus celebrities will be sold to the highest bidder at the WUS auction. Friday evening the Vodvil show will be held, announcing the winner of the Ugly Man contest, and presenting skits by men's and women's living organizations.

University students are often asked for contributions to various causes, but none is more worthwhile than this one. (C.F.)

Same Old Grind



"The pencil sharpener seems harder to crank since Professor Snarf moved it up front."

From the Squirrel Cage

Amendment Failure May Well Worry Politicians

By DARRELL BRITTSAN
ASUO President

At last the amendment has passed—or has it?

This is a question which will be worrying political candidates until it is settled. As a matter of fact, it might very well worry most of the candidates afterwards, provided that the amendment is declared illegal.

Let's look at the consequences of an amendment failure. First, the ASUO presidential candidates will be on the same ballot as the senators-at-large candidates. This is significant in that it will determine the number of votes necessary to elect the student body president. To demonstrate the difference, I shall use an example. Let's assume that 1500 votes were cast.

If the amendment is declared valid, the ASUO president will need 751 votes to win, or one more than half. If the amendment is declared invalid, a presidential candidate will need 126 votes to be elected. This would result in minority election of the ASUO President.

Under the latter assumption many of these 1500 votes would go to senator-at-large candidates and not to presidential

candidates, lessening still further the possibilities of a majority election of the ASUO president. It would also be possible for certain candidates to compete themselves out of the winning position while a relatively weaker candidate could win with a relatively small number of votes.

Class elections are also subject to change. If the amendment election is invalid, presidential candidates will be free to be elected class representatives, and this happens in practice.

Thus we have an unfortunate situation. Candidates have petitioned for office anticipating one form of election, and now are faced with the possibility of a different form. The constitutional committee has promised swift action in order that we may know the status of the amendment before the general election on May 1.

I sincerely urge the candidates to examine the situation carefully so that they fully realize the results under each possible outcome. If I can be of assistance in these efforts, I shall be happy to do so.

A President Tells His Job

Goldenrod, newspaper of Nebraska State Teachers college, Wayne, Nebr., reprinted their student council president's views about his job.

These are the rules he's attempting to follow:

"He must know how to cooperate. He is concerned with so many and so many interests are at stake that cooperation is necessary if any progress is to be shown.

"He must be aggressive—aggressive to the point that he can talk to the students and get from them those things they think will make a better college.

"Our student body president must be an organizer and an administrator, thus he must have those qualities of a natural leader. He must, because of his administrative position, be able to move people to action.

"He must possess an air of confidence. He must have confi-

dence in himself and his associates and be confident that he and the student council are doing what is expected of them.

"In a position such as this he must be practical. Neither a radical nor conformist, but rather, he must be fact minded and at all times operate on facts and facts alone.

"He must have initiative and drive. The stick-to-it-iveness it requires; work as hard at the end as at the beginning and work even harder when the going gets tough.

"He must be dependable. He must be dependable in the sense that he will not forget or slight his duties to the students and faculty. Promises aren't a valid criteria in the selection of a student body president. It takes action from the students, the student council and the administration to get results, and not campaign promises."

— Letters to the Editor —

Emerald Editor:

This letter is in answer to the letters written by Mr. Oh and Mr. Webb. These two critics have misinterpreted my previously written letter. I would like to clarify, in simpler terms, the notion that I had intended to imply. Before I begin, an advice to you both: Many literatures are not written to be literally absorbed. I hope that this has been a lesson to you.

In the past few weeks, letters were written to the Editor

criticizing the fraternal system that exists on this campus. I do not think that their criticism (as you called it) was of any validity. In my opinion, fraternities are social organizations just as any other social groups, such as the Masons or the Sons of Norway.

They have constitutions and by-laws and set the standards for one to become a member of their brotherhoods. These constitutions and by-laws were or-

ganized by the originators of these fraternal groups and the present members of these groups have the opportunity to reform these acts.

They, I am sure, would eliminate the racial discrimination clause if they see fit; on recommendations from their own members rather than on suggestions from outsiders.

Mr. Oh, I am sure that you have similar fraternal organizations in your country. They will

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