

Political Dilemma

(The following editorial is reprinted from the Louisiana State Daily Reveille).

The Little Rock affair has placed the South in a precarious political dilemma. Northern Democrats have divorced themselves from the southern wing, and, as one Republican congressman has stated, "The GOP can write the South off politically for the next 50 years." The Solid South finds itself in the undesirable position of an unwanted child.

Little Rock forced the Northern Democrats to take a definite stand on integration or commit political suicide, and this stand has isolated the Southern Democrats. Southern congressmen, on the other hand, must now emphatically favor segregation or lose their seats in the next congressional elections to rabid segregationists. And President Eisenhower has completely alienated the Republican Party from the southern voters in the 1960 presidential election by virtue of his decisions in the Little Rock dispute.

As a result of Little Rock, Republicans stand to gain the large Negro vote in the North but have lost what inroads it had made in the South. The Democrats, however, have been badly split and the gulf may not be breached by 1960. And if a unified front is not sealed in time for the next presidential election, a repeat of the 1948 three-party campaign may well occur. One political observer has stated that the Deep South's influence in the 1960 national election has already been eliminated.

The South has to decide the path it shall choose in 1960 in order to make itself felt in national politics. At the moment, there are only two possibilities open: To stay in the Democratic Party and continue to work to achieve legislation that will be acceptable to their states; or to establish a third party. But the third party idea is not as yet a strong one. Many Southerners still remember the ill-fated 1948 States Rights campaign and realize that it would be close to an impossibility to elect a regional president. The most logical and realistic step would be for the South to stay in the Democratic camp.

Little Rock has indeed placed the South in a peculiar political situation. And events in the next few years could very well decide which way southern politics will go in the 1960 election.

Now it's 'Feelies'

So now it's "feelies." First came sound. Then technicolor, then 3-D, then wide screen. Now Hollywood is no longer content with blasting our conscious minds with visual and aural stimulations. The plan now is to make you feel everything the movie hero feels.

No science-fiction of hooking up your nerve cells to the projector or plugging a machine into your brain here. It's just a simple little fact of psychology (discovered, we're sure, by a mad scientist) that words flashed on a screen for a brief enough period of time will register on the subconscious, while going unobserved by the conscious mind.

The effect of such subconscious impressions is, apparently, something like that of hypnosis. The subject begins to respond to

the suggestion of the words, and the result is "feelies"—the viewer is emotionally tied to the movie.

We don't like to appear old-fashioned, but we're wondering where all this is going to end. We'd hate to see vicarious excitement perfected to such an extent that it ended the desire for any activity but hooking up to your "feelie" set.

Besides changing us into a nation of anemics, think what it would do to football gate receipts!

Worth the Rain

We've never felt especially called to defend the Willamette Valley's climate and natural beauties against the onslaught of those outgoing California personalities who only have eyes for smog-bound scenes. After all, they don't have to be plagued with a Eugene existence if they feel so strongly about it.

But at times when the glory of autumn gilds our campus maples and brings to blaze the most inconspicuous of spring trees—now is the time when we care not what our visiting nature critics have to say about the state of the campus sunshine situation.

And we worry even less about the southern fried comments when that nip of a wind whips out of the graying skies and bothers the leaves that die so spectacularly on the campus walks. We prefer to say nothing, knowing our own preference for real autumnal enjoyment.

But when the chilly sunshine breaks through to still that busy breeze and turn to riot the yet-living yellows and browns and oranges, we cannot help but burst a bit and hold this truth beauty over our sun-tanned colleagues.

For us the sudden glory of a Willamette Valley autumn is worth uninspiring soggy winter afternoons, the dull and drippy spring mornings, the tedious summer heat waves.

Special Session

Governor Holmes is optimistic about the special session of the legislature which convenes this morning in Salem. The governor hopes to see the legislators finished with their business and ready to close up shop by the end of the week, but we're just afraid that the thing will drag on for quite a bit longer.

This is the first special session that has been called in the state in 22 years, and there will be too much political hay to be made for an early closing date to be possible. The subject is money, something dear to every tax-payers heart, and it'll be an ideal time for both parties to get in a few thousand well-chosen words about how much they want to cut taxes and build better schools.

Basically, the Democrats want only a moderate income tax cut and a \$5 million addition to the basic school support fund. Republicans, probably for political reasons, want quite a larger reduction of personal income and property taxes.

The Democrats should experience no trouble in getting their program through the house—they have a 36-24 majority there; but in the evenly-split Senate, it'll be a different story.

Even if no other legislative items are introduced, the battle could drag on for weeks.

Dave Cass

OSC's Admission Practices Shouldn't Affect Oregon's

Two Sundays ago, Dick Strite in the traditional manner of the paternalistic Register-Guard, involved himself in the heated

ruckus over University entrance requirements for out-of-state students. His position, and the one generally supported by the athletic-minded in the state, is that Oregon is being hurt at present by her "high" out-of-state admission requirements.

The further contention of this group is that OSC is not in the same way hampered, and that they are therefore admitting top athletic prospects that we can't. This, in turn, hinders our recruiting program, as well as affecting our teams' showings, now and in the future.

The main difference between the two schools is in the use of entrance tests as a control of the accuracy of high school performance. Both institutions roughly require out-of-state students to be in the top half of their graduating class.

This statistical methods difference is small, but very, very important to certain people, as many athletes are in this narrow borderline gap.

Mr. Strite makes his point that there is a discrepancy between the two schools. This isn't refuted by the statement of the man from Oregon State who said, in effect, that they stick to their requirements, missing the point completely. But I'm certainly not convinced that this should affect our admission requirements, or, to be more succinct, that we should lower the present standards of the University on this account.

Oregon State has historically had lower admission requirements; they have also had a higher flunk-out rate than Oregon, not entirely attributable to the difficult scientific fields stressed up there.

To argue that because our sister institution is poorer in this respect than we are and that therefore we must also be poorer, if only for the benefit of a few athletes of questionable college caliber, is pure nonsense.

Mr. Strite argues from the position that entrance requirements have the sinister purpose and effect of repelling prospective varsity heroes. The main point, then, is the purpose and desired effect of entrance requirements. What is to dictate these? The Athletic Department, interested alumni, or considerations of what will make this into a higher caliber institution of higher learning?

It's asinine to think that responsible University officials, including Dr. Wilson, are or should be motivated by considerations of the Athletic Department in setting up entrance requirements.

Pressure on enrollments is creating two problems: which high school graduates can best benefit from the college experience; and should in-state students be given preferential treatment at state schools? The former is being answered by

coming overall higher standards, the latter by stricter standards governing out-of-state students.

In the total picture, problems of borderline athletes cannot and should not receive more attention than any similar problems of admissions.

Something also should be said regarding Mr. Strite's irresponsible claims about arbitrariness in applying our standards. The group of administrators whose job it is to determine college work capabilities is extremely competent. The "complex set of statistics, difficult for the layman, let alone an educator to understand" used as the basis for recommendation of admission is no more difficult to understand or arbitrary than Mr. Strite's batting averages, except to those who don't understand.

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Letters to the Editor

Emerald Editor:

As long as one is forced to drive for four hours to see a "home" game, I suggest the athletic department hold their next "home" game at Bend, Oregon. Bend is 10 miles nearer than Portland, the traffic congestion is no problem, and the McKenzie Pass is a hell of a lot more scenic than the Salem Freeway.

Jack Geobel
Graduate in Math

Emerald Editor:

I was surprised in reading Thursday's editorial on the Homecoming theme that there are some who feel that the theme was not a wise choice. I, for one, would like to congratulate the "Homecoming bosses" on their excellent choice.

This year I feel that they have come up with a theme that is unique and original in thought. It shows more spirit than the old standbys such as "Remember When" or "Welcome Back, Grads." For the alumni returning, I feel that it presents a more cheerful connotation than the old melancholy ones of the past.

Contrary to Thursday's editorial, I find nothing in the theme that would make me feel anyone (particularly the team) is retreating.

I again congratulate the Homecoming committee on their wise and well-stated theme.

Len DeVito
Junior in Psych

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