

Food for Thought

It's about time. It's about time living groups began to take a look at what makes them tick, what makes for unity, or lack of it, what is the value of activities within their respective groups.

The survey by the Student Activities subcommittee on living groups, inaccurate and incomplete as it was, is a beginning. The survey was incomplete because only about half of the forms sent out were returned, and the fact that it was incomplete made it inaccurate.

But it was a good beginning, for those in the houses, down to the most inactive member, had something to say in the report. While the report was only halfway completed, those that did reply were in general agreement.

We fully agree that there is a need for less activities on this campus. But more important than the de-emphasis of activities is the careful consideration of which activities are to be abolished and which ones are to remain. Those that consider doing away with the Canoe Fete might well consider this fact: the University campus is one of the most beautiful on the Pacific Coast, and one of the few in the nation that has ready access to a Millrace. Let us take full advantage of this asset to promote our campus.

It might well be argued from the standpoint of those that participate directly in the Fete: just what do they get out of it? Each house puts as much as \$70 or more in for the construction of a float to participate in the Fete. What is their return? Glory? Who benefits more from the Fete, the University or those that put in the most work and hard-to-come-by-money?

Track Hopes: Bright

The Webfoot track squad leaves for Seattle and the 1959 Pacific Coast Conference Championships this morning, and with them goes the University's hopes for its first PCC team title.

The chances of an upset of perennial kingpin Southern California is bright, too, for the Duck cindermen lost by a scant margin to the Trojans in a dual meet earlier this year and might have won with some improved performances.

They hope to get these performances tomorrow and Saturday.

In actuality, the Webfoots could win the crown even by finishing second to USC, since the latter, currently under NCAA penalties, is ineligible to participate in any nation-wide tournament, and thus will send no representatives to the NCAA meet which will be held in a few weeks hence.

Other gripes came from living organizations. One was that indiscriminate activities hurt scholastic standings. Perhaps we might take a little closer look at this bald statement. It is rather apparent, without citing names, that most of the top individuals in activities also have high grades. Don't blame the activities, blame the individual. If the individual doesn't have the brains to make grades and activities both, or the courage to step beyond the social pressure applied by activity people in order to concentrate on studies, then that individual had better sit down in closed conference with his or her own conscience and ask why.

One more point brought out in the evaluation of living groups that we feel needs commenting on, and that is the complaint placed against compulsory attendance of house functions. This involves many things that are far from the idea of brotherhood and democracy that is purported to be part of living groups, in this case, namely Greek living organizations. Some of these range from required attendance at house meetings, to social dances to voting before being allowed to eat dinner. It is well known but rarely applied in practice, that forcing any individual to perform some duty against his will only creates resentment in him.

So the survey is opening doors of thought and careful self evaluation among the living groups. The University could well pay heed to this survey, too, for what the living groups decide could indirectly affect the University, from housing to football attendance, from the Canoe Fete to World Affairs Week.

Coach Bill Bowerman and his forces have done the school proud for many, many years and finally have emerged to the point of becoming a challenger for the national title in track, an achievement that might possibly be realized in the not too distant future. Perhaps few people realize that the Ducks have not lost a Northern Division meet in over six years and have captured ND team honors every time during that time as well. For a school that, next to Idaho, is the smallest in enrollment, this is quite a feat.

Preliminaries will get underway Friday afternoon and finals will be conducted Saturday.

The University will be well represented at the PCC meet, with an array of outstanding talent, but a defeat should not be regarded as a disappointment. The future is very bright, indeed.

The Emerald wishes good luck to every member of the team.

Definitely not Ersted Material



Sam Dawson

Big Inflationary Boom Coming? Opinion Divided

NEW YORK—Belief that creeping inflation is inevitable—that it may even step up its pace soon—still seems to command the most followers in and out of the stock market. And they are busily seeking shields or counterweapons.

But a sizable group now believes that this prospect is exaggerated and that inflationary pressure is losing much of its force. They think the inflationary mood may soon wane, too.

Those who count on more price inflation ahead cite these reasons:

1. The cumulative effects on the money supply of this year's 13-billion-dollar Treasury deficit—and the belief that more, if smaller, deficits are likely to lie ahead.
2. The wage-price spiral—which loses little of its momentum in bad times, and picks up urgency in good times.
3. The complacent belief of a large part of the public—and many congressmen that a little inflation isn't harmful.

Those who challenge the inevitability of a big inflationary boom just over the horizon counter such reasoning with arguments like these: The effect of this year's deficit has been softened because the Treasury was able to place much of its new debt in the hands of corporations instead of the commercial banks.

The new debt has now been placed and the Treasury counts on returning to its seasonal pattern of borrowing in the second half of the year and repaying in the first half of the following year.

This is based on the hope that congressional spending will be kept within reasonable limits, and the prospect that Treasury receipts will rise even more than thought when the budget was drawn.

Corporate and personal incomes have been rising. Business profits seem sure to climb well above last year's. Individual incomes are at record highs and expected to continue to rise. Tax collections on these two items—the biggest in the budget—may set records, too.

If the Treasury is out of the new money market, it will stop competing with others seeking

funds. And it will make the task of the Federal Reserve Board in policing the money markets that much easier.

Easy money isn't a current worry as in times of galloping inflation. Money is tightening at present and interest rates rising. For one thing the demand for loans is picking up as business picks up. For another, the supply of funds to lend—which grows as the rate of savings grows—hasn't been increasing as fast as formerly.

Some say that this is because so many have been putting their idle money into the stock market instead of savings institutions—or have stepped up their spending for consumer goods at the expense of saving.

The wage-price spiral continues, but at a slower pace. The cost-of-living index has been fairly steady now for months—thanks largely to the price of foodstuffs.

Labor seeks higher wages. But the effects are in dispute. Labor says that increased output per man hour has let management swell profits, when it could have been cutting prices, and that this will continue even if wage scales go higher.

Management says that the productivity rise has only helped offset higher labor costs and stave off higher prices, but that the turning point has been reached, and prices will have to go up if costs do.

All this is yet to be proved. One thing for sure: The argument over the inevitability of inflation will get louder before it is resolved.

OREGON DAILY EMERALD

The Oregon Daily Emerald is published four times in September and five days a week during the school year, except during examination and vacation periods, by the Student Publications Board of the University of Oregon. Entered as second class matter at the post office, Eugene, Oregon. Subscription rates: \$5 per year, \$2 per term.

Opinions expressed on the editorial page are those of The Emerald and do not pretend to represent the opinion of the ASUO or the University.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Emerald Editor:

It seems too bad that some people holding responsible positions on the Oregon feel that they can use fiction instead of fact for second-guessing the secrecy policy of the FIJs on this campus. In the interest of ethical journalism, we regret to inform the Oregon staff that they do not have the power to arbitrarily name the president of our Fraternity.

Although he represented our Fraternity on IFC and handled all its outside campus affairs, Brother Dick Easton was not president of the house.

In as much as your incompetency is already in printed form, we must allow this Hearst-type sensationalism to pass. We deeply regret, however, that the inspiration and guiding light in

the darkness that surrounds our secret Brotherhood, Ralph (help stamp out boxers) Cramden, was deliberately passed over in our request to have his picture published as president.

His reaction, as ours was one of complete disillusionment towards fostering campus institutions, but fortunately, neither the applause of men nor the world's recognition is of necessity his insignia. It won't be a necessity of the president either, as he walks down on campus with only an Oregon on. Viva La Secrecy!

The Fraternity of Phi Gamma Delta

Emerald Editor:

After attending a meeting Tuesday evening whose purpose was to discuss AWS rules

and to suggest changes that might be made concerning these rules, I am left with the impression that the main source of conflict between the students of the University and its governing body is not the rules themselves but the underlying philosophy behind these rules. The general consensus seems to be that the students must first come into immediate contact with the administration itself before any changes pertaining to rules may be accomplished.

The executive board that presided over this meeting seemed to feel that the University and its administration are under a great deal of pressure from society, and that because of that pressure they are confined to follow a very limited standard

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