

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

(Continued from page 2)
There are two final games with OSC at which the ingenuity of our Rally Squar can be exercised. This is their chance to prove that they do possess originality.

**Steve Chandler,
Junior in East Asian
Studies.**

Emerald Editor:

I was somewhat surprised to read the article "Operation Abolition; Fleming: Reds Will Take Over" in the Emerald of Friday, Feb. 17, 1961. According to the article, Mr. Leslie Fleming, at a discussion panel of the film "Operation Abolition" Thursday in the Student Union, made the following statement: "Socialism and Communism are both the same. I see no difference in the terms. . . . Some Scandinavian nations are socialistic although they have the same identical tendencies as in Russia. In Finland a person who doesn't agree with the Russians can't be elected." The fact that people associating with the House Un-American Activities Committee are generally known to be fanatic black-and-white thinkers perhaps makes the statement understandable, but it certainly does not make it forgivable.

The first two of Mr. Fleming's assertions, "Socialism and Communism are both the same" and "some Scandinavian nations are socialistic although they have the same identical tendencies as in Russia," are pure nonsense, as anyone knows. Of course I would be interested in learning just exactly what Mr. Leslie Fleming means by the "same identical tendencies that some Scandinavian nations have with Russia," but I guess I really should not start waiting for his answer—it might take too long.

Being so obviously false, the mentioned two statements would not even justify this article, but, in his comment on Finland, Mr. Fleming goes a step too far. The assertion "in Finland a person who doesn't agree with the Russians can't be elected" is not only ridiculous, but a serious insult, serious to the extent that it deserves some attention. In the first place, Mr. Fleming's knowledge about Finland most likely—and certainly, if we are to judge on the basis of the quotation—seems to be limited to ideas like "Stockholm is the capital of Finland" and "Jean Sibelius was a famous long-distance runner." He is in no way qualified to make any comments on Finnish home politics, especially not from a platform and with an authoritative tone. It is to be deplored that Mr. Leslie Fleming does not realize the responsibility attached to publicity.

Being a citizen of Finland and having spent all my life there, except for the last five months, I think I am in a somewhat better position to answer the question of who can and who cannot "be elected" in Finland. The term "to be elected," of course, is most vague, but if we assume for a moment that Mr. Fleming happens to mean electing to the Parliament and public offices, we have some grounds for discussion. Finland is a democracy, a neutral country, which does not belong to any blocs and does not take orders from the Kremlin or from anywhere else, either. She has a president, a cabinet and a parliament, the same system of government as the United States has, except that Finland has several major parties, while the United States has two. Finland has a parliamentary system, with which the Finns do

elect, and will continue to elect, any person they want to, regardless of the person's agreeing with the Russians and regardless of what Mr. Leslie Fleming has to say about the matter. And, of the supposed "identical tendencies" Finland might have with Russia, I know none; but among not quite so identical tendencies I can very easily recall at least the World War II.

**Otso Appelqvist,
Sophomore in Liberal
Arts from Finland.**

Emerald Editor:

Your editorial of Feb. 20 includes the phrase "our having to develop the Harvard of the West." Does this mean the University of Oregon objectives include such a development? If so consider this:

One important Harvard feature is the no-sexual campus; girls get no closer than privileged enrollment at Radcliffe. Having seen numerous campuses during my undergraduate years, I can state that Oregon seems strongly coed-orientated. Many might protest if, to improve the academic life, authorities started a Harvard-Radcliffe arrangement (e.g. all the boys at Corvallis, all the girls in Eugene).

On the other hand, perhaps such a change would be noticed only on Saturday nights. During the week, UO students seem unmindful of the other sex if the local dressing habits are considered.

Boys shun ties, wear the popular rural "levis." Girls affect male dress (e.g. slacks). This results in a charming, relaxed and most un-Harvard informality.

Such informality seems symbolic of our unique culture which should probably not be altered to imitate Harvard, which symbolizes a cultural "other world" of New England. Incidentally, when I lived East of the Mississippi, the only Northwest school which most people seemed familiar with was Reed. And awhile back, Kiplinger published the educators' own evaluations which indicated that University of California (at Berkeley) was already in position to claim that "Harvard of the West" title.

Perhaps such a title is really no prize at all. Having seen both sides of the USA, I submit that the burning question is which school will attain that more prized goal: recognition as the "Oregon of the East."

**J. Fields,
Graduate student in
Journalism.**

Emerald Editor:

About your writeup of the panel discussion of "Operation Abolition," in the Emerald Friday, Feb. 17, may I ask space for three points?

1. You properly gave chief billing to Mr. Fleming, who was a guest on the campus. You might have added that he spoke with restraint and courtesy under trying conditions. No doubt many students agree with his position, but few of those who do took the trouble to show up.

2. The report of what I was supposed to have said misquoted half of my argument and credited me with one of Mr. Fleming's statements. But let us not waste space in what would be a boring attempt to straighten out those minor parts of an otherwise accurate account.

3. You omitted one of the highlights of the afternoon's discussion. That came after Mr. Fleming had tried to lump Communism and Socialism as pretty much the same thing. One of

the several Hungarian students then uttered three simple sentences which were like a beacon in a fog.

In Hungary a few years ago, Gyorgy Handlery recalled, people had fought against Communism. He was proud to have been one of the Freedom Fighters. Among the Freedom Fighters, many of the Socialists had died in that fight, and he owed it to their memory to make that statement to us.

Mr. Handlery's words not only moved the audience deeply, but also reminded us of some of the realities of the fight to save and to extend freedom in the world. Much of the discussion (including much of my own) had been far from those realities—in part, to be sure, because of the nature of the film we had to discuss.

**Val R. Lorwin,
Prof. of History.**

Dear Editor:

If it is Mr. Leslie Fleming's (of "Reds Will Take Over") wish to excite the people of this and other communities into such a clamor that they will read his name in the paper and remember it when the next election comes around, he is well on his way to success. As the Emerald said, "The film's purpose, according to Fleming, was 'to alarm' Americans out of their 'apathy' about communism," but Fleming, with his concentrated statements, may alarm Americans into submission.

How can any American who has lived through the post-World War II day and the Korean War so positively say that by 1965 (in four years) the Communists will take over the world, and that we will be "liquidated." All this is fine for publicity and etcetera, but such an absolute ascertation doesn't do much for the morale of the politically unaware American.

Mr. Fleming's defiance of the difference between Communism and socialism is also of potential danger. Communism, as set down by Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels is "the formation of the proletariat into a class, overthrow of bourgeois supremacy, (and) conquest of political power by the proletariat." Communism and socialism in definition are very much alike, but the communism practiced by the Soviets is only a distorted mutation of Marx's, although they claim it is the same. In comparing socialism and Soviet communism, you will find a chasm as wide and deep as the difference between President Kennedy's ideas of federal control over education and medicine, and the

Soviet exploitation of Cuba.

As emphatic as Mr. Fleming is, I hope that the students here at the University realize that we are not fighting a losing battle, and that they all have a deep interest of the problem at stake. I for one, truly believe that the only Red Star Mr. Fleming will encounter here in the United States is that of the manure he uses on his front yard.

**John K. Dolan,
Sophomore-Political
Science.**

Emerald Editor:

I would appreciate it if you would publish the following in your Letters to the Editor column.

I am a senior history major

at the University of Hawaii, and plan to leave Honolulu near the end of the summer on a year long trip to Europe by way of Asia and Africa. Since my funds are somewhat limited, and since I hope to see more than the conventional tourist fare and avoid "American tourist" type hotels, this might be called a Vagabond Tour rather than a Grand Tour. Nevertheless, I don't anticipate a slimmer measure of enjoyment or of educational dividends.

I would like to hear from someone who has similar inclinations who might be interested in accompanying me.

**Tom Peterson,
1315 Opua St.,
Honolulu, Hawaii.**



It occurs to me that I haven't written anything about the wonderful state of Oregon for quite a while, so here goes:

Two Eugeneans meet on the street. One says to the other, "I didn't see you last Sunday morning. Where were you?" "I was in church," the other one answers. "Oh really?" says the first. "Which tent do you go to?"

An Oregonian stops a stranger on the street. "Where are you from, stranger?" he asks. "New York," the stranger replies. "Oh?" says the Oregonian. "How far is that from Portland?"

A sad-looking young Oregonian runs into his friend on the street. "My dad's out of work," he says. "Oh?" his friend says. "I didn't know the mills were shut down."

Two little Eugeneans are peeping through a fence into a nudist colony. "Who's in there, men or women?" asks one. "I can't tell," the other one answers. "They don't have their overalls on."

One Eugene city councilman runs into another. "I got a new job," the first one says. "Oh yeah?" the other one says, "on the pumps or the lube rack?"

One Eugenean runs into another. "Hey, let's do the town tonight," he says. "Naw," answers his friend. "I don't want to break a dollar just for that."

And then I wrote the first three stanzas to a long epic poem:

Where the sawmills pimple the landscape,
Where whales drift ashore to rot,
I go me now to Willamette,
The land that God forgot.

Where the Doug fir grows parasitic
And the sky is a velvet grey;
Come with me, dear, to Willamette
Where it rains twenty inches a day.

You'll love, dear, being a Webfoot;
You'll love wading to and fro.
And together we'll get a two-point
And flunk out of the U of O.

And now a word from our sponsor: buy Dairy Queens; they're tasty and delicious. You'll notice I don't make fun of Dairy Queens. I'm not allowed to.

Students...

BUDGET BOOSTER

- SPECIAL -

**DQ. SHAKE
FRIES
BURGER**

ALL FOR
ONLY

69c

AT THE

**Dairy
Queen**

13 & HILYARD

ENDS TODAY!!!