

Little Man on Campus

Death of a Good Thing

Oregon Union Wasn't Killed,
It Was Just Permitted to Die

The Oregon Union, after a year's attempt to provide the University with debates of questions of significance, seems destined to failure. Conceived as a means of drawing together divergent views on crucial questions for open debate and cross-questioning, the Oregon Union would have been a definite asset to the University by providing a platform for such discussion. But the Oregon Union is failing.

ONE MIGHT be tempted to look upon the demise of the Oregon Union as the happy elimination of another surplus activity. But this would be a mistake. The value of the Oregon Union is, or was, that it would provide a rare chance to allow those of different opinions to present their respective arguments on a public platform and to be put to the test of questions, both from the public and from the opposition. That an endeavor which gives expression to the basic principles of the free exchange of ideas and opinions in a university must perish is a sad comment on the intellectual vitality of the school. At almost the same time the campus enthusiastically supports a new activity like Angel Flight, which seems vestigial at birth.

THE BASIC REASON for the failure of the Oregon Union is the refusal of individuals to commit themselves to speak for and defend one side or the other of a controversial question. The faculty gave unanimous approval to allowing Gus Hall to

speaking on campus. Yet, members of the same faculty refuse to defend in an Oregon Union debate a position which they will state in a classroom or promulgate in a public lecture.

POSSIBLY THIS reluctance to defend publicly what might be an unpopular position is symptomatic of our time. Admittedly, someone who defends a view unacceptable to some group which sets its self up as the arbiter of what others may think will be subject to much criticism. Yes, if this hesitation is carried to an extreme, there would be no new ideas—no one would dare propose them. It is to be hoped that this fear does not exist on our campus.

YET TO WHAT other cause can this reluctance to publicly speak out on a question be attributed? Surely a reluctance to defend one's ideas against a knowledgeable opponent is beneath the intellectual level of the university, especially the faculty. This is intellectual cowardice.

STILL, THESE TWO reasons seem to be the cause of the death of the Oregon Union. Evidently people are either afraid that they will be condemned for the views that they express, or they are fearful that their opinions will be shown to be logically indefensible.

The loss of an institution such as the Oregon Union will not be the loss of merely another activity; it will be a loss of a part of the University itself.



"AND, UNLESS YOU MAINTAIN A MORE SCHOLARLY ATTITUDE, I WILL SEE TO IT THAT YOU ARE EXPELLED FROM CLASS."

Barrie Learmont

Oregon Should Encourage New Industry—Starting Now

Editor's Note: This is the third and last article on the subject of Planning by Barrie Learmont, a fifth-year Architecture student.

The end of the Second World War saw the beginning of what has come to be known as the technological era—an era with a technology based on the most advanced concepts of science, and an era exemplified by such new industries as electronics, nuclear power and space-age research.

SO FAR this new technology has tended to concentrate in two main areas of the country—New England and Southern California. In both these areas it is literally booming. For example more than 400 plants, related to the electronics industry, have located in the Boston area since the war. Their combined factory sales in 1959 totalled \$¾ billion and in ten years time they are expected to pass the \$2 billion mark. These figures are fantastic for such a young industry, yet the growth has been just as spectacular in Southern California, especially in the San Diego area.

Now, one might ask, why has such rapid technological growth taken place in these two particular areas of the country rather than elsewhere? The answer lies in a special dual-combination of resources which these two areas have in rather ample supply.

THE FIRST of these is brainpower. The most critical need of the new industries is for skilled scientists, technicians and business executives—in short, for university graduates. Werner von Braun has expressed it this way:

"It's not water or real estate, or labor or power, or cheap taxes which brings industry—it's brainpower. What do you thing attracted the aircraft industry to the Los Angeles area? The desert and smog? No, it was UCLA and other great universities there."

If then UCLA provided the brainpower which partly induced the new industries to Southern California, then likewise Harvard, M.I.T. and other great universities did the same for

New England.

THE SECOND inducement to these new industries is that of a suitable living environment. A vague term, but the fact is that these industries have learned that no amount of salary incentives will attract the skilled intellectual worker unless the environment has much to offer physically and culturally. Such an environment does not consist of billboards, Neon signs and the usual "honky-tonk" highway architecture we are so accustomed to nowadays. This type of worker prefers to live in clean, well planned suburban areas with an abundance of greenery and open space for recreation. In addition, he expects his environment to offer cultural and intellectual facilities in the form of "theatres, art galleries, libraries and the academic atmosphere of large universities" for, where these facilities exist, he can mix with people of similar backgrounds and cultivate his own, somewhat refined, interests.

THUS, the deal-combination of resources is really an abundant supply of brainpower and an "ideal" living environment.

Now, if we think of these requirements in terms of our own area, we find that Oregon, a relatively un-industrialized state could have a fantastic future in the technological space-age—provided we exploit the potential.

Consider our resources with reference to the second requirement, namely, a site suitable for industry and a site affording a pleasant living environment. The relatively unpopulated areas along the upper Columbia River above The Dalles to the Washington State border are ideal for industry. The land is there and it has ready access to transportation in the

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OREGON DAILY EMERALD

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KETH POWELL, Editor
LEE TURNBULL, Business Manager

Letters to the Editor

Freud, Not Football

Emerald Editor:

In Monday's Emerald it was noted that the president is going to speak at a Coos Bay alumni meeting, and that he is taking along the athletic director and football coach. It causes no surprise that the president, who likes to be able to do what other faculty do and have been known to do, to take off Fridays and fly to football games in the Fall, when we play football. That he is being accompanied by men of the athletic department should cause no surprise either, as it is his position to do so and his business, concerning who shall accompany him to the Alumni dinner in Coos Bay this weekend. His recent statement regarding his position on mediocrity in athletics, compared with his statement that academic "c" students be admitted is quite consistent with the modern view on the accessibility of educational facilities to everybody who wants an education in higher institutions of learning, and does not seem to emphasize one aspect of education.

IF SOMEONE wants to play football, I say that he should be allowed to if he has the ability. If someone wants to go to college, I say he should be allowed to if he has the ability. Or are we to restrict the field of curriculum to Freud only? I think that if we did, we would be in a bad way. Everybody would be analyzing everyone else and it would therefore be very bad. Of course, if one

takes a narrow view, a political view concerning issues of the moment, i.e.: it is always nice to avoid the issue by not referring to it directly, but by smearing or attempting to smear the character of people connected with these issues. Over-emphasis is something hard to measure, indeed, statistics can be twisted any way one wishes to twist them. But being practical and objective, this is hard to do. Get out into the fresh air, Mr. Fischer [sic] and look around and tell us what you see. You may be more amazed than we.

John B. Bergeson,
Senior majoring in history.

Not Unique

Emerald Editor:

It's unique. "Neath the dismal slate-gray mist," the United States, indeed, the free world, awaits the return of Friendship Seven. (Carson Two girls do the Twist.) It has given us a kind of unity and a feeling that we are sharing a common cause. We're pretty serious about it."

Especially on this day, such front-page items seem to indicate an immature public. In a world so full of chance, each change effecting (sic) our children and theirs, it is strange that anyone should want to be remembered for perpetuating such nonsense. It would be more fitting if five hundred consecutive hours of volunteer work were donated to the Red Cross, a hospital, or visiting shut-ins.

Dr. Albert Schweitzer is unique; Books for Asia is

unique; a blood donor is unique; Carson Two doing the Twist is not unique.

George Holdorf,
AA

Another Rebuttal

Emerald Editor:

Since Mr. Monger (sic) has levied (sic) his first barrage against athletics only to follow it with another . . . rebuttal, I have waited for someone to expose his mistakes with examples. Mr. Monger (sic) apparently does not read beyond the letters column (sic), for if he had read the Jan. 4 Emerald, he never would have issued his first statement.

THE ALL-ATHLETE grades have consistently (sic) been above the all-men's and all-campus average. The baseball team, which practiced during much of fall term, managed to place five men above a 3.0. The track team which has run two hours a day, seven days a week since September, had over ten men above a 3.0. A notable baseball player, All-Northern Division catcher, Ray Haroldson, pulled a 3.28. Some outstanding track men were Vic Reeves (3.2), Ted Abram (3.3), Jerry Larson (3.4), and Clayton Steinke (3.27). It might also be a horrible shock to Mr. Monger (sic) to learn that Varsity football player Dennis Maloney made the honor roll with a 3.6. He wasn't alone as trackman Dan Tonn got on it with a 3.82. But there is more. A transfer distance runner from Texas named Paul Levering just hap-

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