

Financial Crossroads

Legislature Must Give Adequate Attention To Problems of Higher Education

The State of Oregon is at a financial crossroads..

So the Legislature considers levying appropriation reductions upon higher education out of all proportion to those sustained by other departments. Ruthlessly and methodically, the Ways and Means Committee deliberates as to whether the cultural foundation of the commonwealth shall suffer a cut of \$350,000, \$500,000 or the impossible sum of \$1,000,000.

Ever since the current legislative session began, higher education has been the target at which all reduction ammunition has been aimed. Evidently those representing the commonwealth at Salem either do not realize or completely ignore the fact that higher learning is the very cultural and educational roots of the commonwealth. It more vitally concerns the youth of the state than any other measure confronting the legislature.

Perhaps such drastic economics as the Ways and Means Committee contemplates are imperative to keep the state solvent. But higher education should not be forced to accept these unreasonable reductions if other state departments do not have to do the same. There are asylums, the prisons, the state police, the high schools, the state administration, the highway commission and a multitude of other departments. They have not had to sustain the economies being forced on higher learning. The sort of legislation that is taking place at Salem is unfair. All other branches of the state should absorb equal reductions. Let the

national guardsmen curtail their summer seashore rest at Camp Clatsop this summer to the extent that the state board has had to curtail the educational curriculum.

There is also this to consider. The faculty should not be forced to bear the brunt of every budget cut. If the higher education appropriation has to be reduced, why automatically construe that such action necessarily means faculty wage cuts? Far better it is to eliminate the buildings, drop outside activities and curtail administration costs than to impose tremendous salary reductions upon the entire faculty.

A college is only as good as its personnel, and the wage cuts which the legislature contemplates are going to drive competent men away from Oregon. Rather than bear such humiliating reductions, the outstanding instructors will seek employment elsewhere. We don't want any of our noteworthy professors to follow the trail blazed by others who have left. Further faculty salary cuts must be opposed if we are to maintain a representative faculty.

Higher education faces a more perplexing crossroads than state finances. Let the legislature and the state consider carefully before irreparable damage is inflicted upon higher learning in Oregon. It has taken years of struggling and planning to get the system upon its present high plane. Once shattered, it will be decades in recovering. Our children might not even realize the benefits of that recovery. Sound familiar... Emerald Editor Richard L. Neuberger wrote this on February 2, 1933.



Patricia Holt

Campsite Project Had Academic Aspects Too

Patricia Holt is a member of the Emerald Editorial Board.

One of the difficulties which doomed the Development Fund Drive for a recreational and academic campsite came in a lack of emphasis on the academic advantages of the camp. It was left unexplained that the psychology, education and sociology departments could use the camp in their work with maladjusted, retarded, or normal school children.

In working with these children in a new environment without limitations as to space and time, these departments could well have benefited from the camp.

SCIENCE MAJORS could have completed their practicum requirement with greater facility and practical experience along educational lines. The Music School could have used it for a two-day rather than one-afternoon band or orchestra workout without the limitations existing here of space and time. The athletic department could have used it for its summer coaching camp and/or workout center in its various programs. The academic retreat program would have found less difficulties in both practical and financial problems.

NONE OF these aspects were explained, since the Senate and SU Board were the original instigators behind the drive and it was felt that these students were only responsible for the social and recreational aspects of the Camp.

But whatever the reason, it seems to me that the recreational reasons, coupled with the academic necessity for the camp, present an impregnable justification for the project.

A few questions were left unanswered: for instance, some felt that an hour's drive from campus would limit the camp to weekend use. Perhaps this is true, but although such places as Fern Ridge, Albert's Lodge, Village Green, and Armitage Park are more accessible, which of these offer the camp's potential facilities at a more inexpensive cost, available only to the University family?

SOME FEEL the money acquired from the drive should be spent in scholarships. Say we had \$10,000; this would be enough to give approximately 34 students scholarships of \$300 each.

The actual working mechanics used in presenting the drive constituted a perfect program on paper. Let's consider for a moment one living organization, from which a member was chosen to represent his peers for the drive. This member heard a one-hour talk on the camp, and was expected to walk out of that meeting as well informed, enthusiastic, and involved in the drive as people who had spent two years in investigating the possibilities of the Camp. Obviously few representatives were capable of presenting the drive effectively.

IF THE drive had been effectively conducted so that every student knew the full value of the camp, then and only then could we judge student interest on the money received. But since mechanical problems and errors in judgment prevented a total understanding for each student, I feel that the SU Board is justifiably compelled in attempting to proceed with the camp program, using money from other areas to supplement student expenditure.

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Walt Evans

'College Side Building Must Go To Provide Room for New Co-op

Walt Evans is a member of the University Co-operative Store Board and a senior in political science. In this column he explains why he believes the College Side Inn structure must be razed to make way for the proposed new bookstore. The views expressed in this column are not necessarily those of the Emerald Editorial Board or the Emerald editors.

There has been a great deal of discussion in the last week concerning the Co-op Board's decision to raze the Willcox building and erect a new building housing a new Co-op bookstore in its place. Vic Sabin has circulated a petition calling upon us to reconsider our ear-

lier decision. The Emerald has called on us to investigate the possibility of utilizing the present structure for our store. The ASUO Senate has also discussed the matter.

I hope the students realize that we of the Co-op Board did not rush blindly into this decision to build our new store. Neither are we hard-hearted villains who delight in destroying campus traditions.

We bought the property in 1955 with the ultimate goal of erecting a new Co-op building on this site. Five years ago the board discontinued the option to renew the leases given the lessors which expire next month. When the present lessee of the College Side Inn bought it, he

knew his business would have a short life there.

When we built our new bookstore section in 1961 we planned the building so that it and the future new building on the corner could connect. This building was built with a minimum of funds and a maximum of space utilization. I understand one of the reasons that some people wish the Willcox building preserved is that they fear another building similar to the present bookstore will be built on the corner. Let me put those fears at rest. We want our new building to be one of architectural beauty, one that will be a compliment both to the University and to the business community.

I am sure that not many of the University students realize that we are behind other schools on the coast in our building program for the future.

Oregon State has a new store adequate to care for its needs for many years. Washington State is enlarging to twice their present size. Portland State is planning a new building. Idaho is also building a new store. UCLA, Stanford, and California all have new stores. With the rapid rise in enrollment, we see the need for a larger store. Our space in Chapman Hall is limited, and this space is rented from the University. They may declare they need the space and ask us to vacate Chapman Hall.

What we want to give the students is a well-run, efficient store than can provide the services that the students desire. As you know, we cash over two million dollars worth of checks

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Letters to the Editor

Supports Pashkowski Emerald Editor:

Our experience with the USNSA this summer will be a unique one for it is understood that we are entering it on a trial basis. This should not hinder us from trying to get the best out of the programs and services proposed by the national association.

It is, therefore, very necessary to choose for our delegation people who are well acquainted with the needs of the University. The knowledge of these needs is naturally acquired through participation and interest in the activities and programs we have here. In the case of Pam Pashkowski, the participation is extensive and the

interest is keen. The record of service that this candidate has accumulated in the two years she has been here is something to be proud of and it would take more space than this to enumerate her qualifications.

It is worthy to note, however, that she served as Kwama president, as a member of the Co-op Board and as a member of the controversial Discipline Committee and many, many others. At all the Senate meetings that I have attended, Pam was there.

This combination of good judgment and the thorough background in campus affairs, I believe, makes her a qualified person for this mission.

Maher F. Qaddumi
Senator-at-large