

Letters To the Editor

(Continued from page 2)

statement: "I think the people of this state should decide whether they want to keep the high standards in education we have, which are higher than we can afford."

Should Be Repeated

"If you want them, they should vote for the tax bill, if not, they should vote against it."

As Dean of Faculties Robert D. Clark put it in a letter to the editor of the Eugene Register-Guard, Senator Pearson's "comment should be repeated. If the people want the present standards . . . they should vote yes on Ballot Measure No. 1."

The Multnomah County legislator has made his position clear. He would take us back to 1926 for he believes that the educational system which molded Walter Pearson is good enough for the rest of the state.

Even more frightening than this crusty foe of education is the constituency that elects him. The Oct. 15 election will accurately reflect how much the Pearson mentality reflects the state's attitude toward education.

On Discrimination

Emerald Editor:

Regarding the charges of discrimination against Oregon fraternities:

Mr. Sanders found that no Negro is currently a member of an Oregon fraternity. Furthermore, he visited six out of the 22 on campus and was not pledged. We have it on no less an authority than Jim Williams, IFC Rush Chairman, that this was because Mr. Sanders didn't sign any preference cards, thus removing himself from rush altogether. However, Mr. Sanders says he did sign the cards. Now out of these "facts," Mr. Sanders drew the conclusion that discrimination was being practiced.

I visited eight fraternities during formal rush. I was asked to pledge two, I was flatly rejected by two, and the rest

made no comment one way or another. There was no explanation as to why I was rejected. Now following Mr. Sanders line of reasoning, I'm justified in charging the fraternities with discrimination.

As he said, quote "If I had been rejected by all of the fraternities I visited, and given no reason for this rejection, I would have had to assume that they had judged me solely on my merits as a person and found me unsuited for their organization." unquote. Since Mr. Sanders has assumed that that is not what they did, he has charged discrimination.

Now we may as well face the facts as to what type of an organization a fraternity is. Basically, it is today as it has been previously, nothing more or less than a home, in every sense of the word, for a group of men with the same likes, dislikes, tolerances, prejudices, etc. All the fraternities have minimum G.P.A.'s for their pledges and members, and certain other academic and social requirements which one must meet to pledge and remain a member of that fraternity.

But in the final analysis, the standard used to choose members is "Would I like that man for a friend and a brother?"

We all know that people pick their friends by strange standards. Some people don't like those who smoke. Some don't like people who comb their hair a certain way. The list of these criteria is endless. In other words, it is personal opinion, eccentricity, and yes, prejudice which determines who gets admitted to a particular fraternity.

From his remarks, Mr. Sanders evidently wants to set up a system where each fraternity has certain requirements (height, weight, G.P.A., style of dress, etc., etc., etc.), and each person who meets these qualifications gains admittance, regardless of the feelings of the individual members. I think we can all realize what would happen.

Fraternities, as fraternal organizations, would cease to exist. They would become nothing more than a group of "honorarys," each one "honoring" a different physical class of people. The close comradeship, the kinship of beliefs and ideals, the "homeness" of fraternities would vanish.

And not only does Mr. Sanders predict that they will vanish, he goes on to say that it will be their own fault. Quote "Fraternity men point to the fact that they have no discriminatory laws in their constitutions; and I point to the fact that they have no Negroes in their fraternities. I think it is time we tore down this web of hypocrisy that stretches between fraternity laws and fraternity practice . . . If the fraternities do not meet this challenge, if they attempt once again to shirk their social duty, then, by their own hand, they will have ceased to exist at Oregon." unquote.

But, Mr. Sanders, if fraternities do cease to exist at Oregon, it will be the fault of those, who, for whatever reasons, have taken away from the fraternities man's most basic right—the right to choose one's own friends and associates by one's OWN standards, WHATEVER they may be. I sincerely hope this does not happen here at Oregon.

Stephen McLaughlin,
Freshman, Honors
College, Business
and Law

Modest Proposal

We have at the University a segment of our population called the Honors College. It is composed of approximately 400 students who ranked in the upper 10 per cent of their high school classes. Special opportunities and privileges are extended to these "bright" students—as special curricula and teaching techniques and a beautiful private lounge. All this is to the good—and extension of opportunity and privilege toward

the able.

We also have on our campus approximately 1,500 students who fell below a "C" average during the fall term 1962. I propose that this University in a sincere spirit of helpfulness form a "Dishonors College" in which special opportunities and stimulation are afforded for this segment of our population. In all seriousness, the University might inaugurate a specially designed curriculum to help these students, particularly able professors, noted for their creative, stimulating and challenging teaching.

For many poorly motivated students their past academic experiences have been sterile and humiliating and their actions have been largely escape and avoidance, the only thing holding them to the task of being that of socio-economic necessity. Why not give them a chance at something better? Are we so naive to believe that this group should be treated the same as the average or superior student? These people need help.

We are indeed fortunate to have a Breen, a Johnson, a Greenfield, etc., but could these stimulating teachers be used effectively as a team to encourage the poorly motivated student—to capture his imagination? What a challenge it could be for them—and their students, knowing that together they would be setting a precedent unheard of at the University level.

If the University is in the business of educating all the students under her wing, and 1,500 students need help, then this University duty bound to give it to them.

Andre C. Briggs,
Graduate Student in
Education.

Replies to Kelley

Emerald Editor:

I do not want to question Professor Kelley's right to make a case for Brave New World. His case should not be predicted in error though.

His letter in Friday's Emerald contained an error—the student court is not made up of amateurs they are all professional. I am sorry my letter is crude but I could not find our stenographer. I have to go to the cafeteria for lunch now.

R. James,
Staff-Art School.

Needs Books

Emerald Editor:

Being a believer in what I have been taught in three of Oregon's institutions of higher education—that getting off to a good early start is important—I'm a bit chagrined when the U of O bookstore cannot furnish me with five textbooks, which are needed for immediate assignments. This is my sixth institution of higher learning and the first which could not provide me with at least some of the texts needed, on the first trip to the bookstore.

Can some early planning prevent this sort of thing next term? Five books are better than five order blanks.

pink "slipingly" yours
J. C. Briggs,
Senior Journalism.

Vote Yes Oct. 15

Emerald Editor:

We Oregon voters are being called upon to make an important decision Oct. 15. Never before has there been a greater need to understand the real issues involved in an election measure. Oregon's constitution requires that expenditures must

Advertisement

The Doctors and Liz Taylor

The doctors told Liz she could have visitors from 2 to 5. She said that was too young. If you are young, or even old, you will receive more gratification from a Dairy Queen than from Liz. Try it!

be balanced by income—therefore a tax program had to be enacted to produce an approximate \$60 million to balance a general fund budget of \$404 million. The \$404 million general fund accounts for approximately one third of total state expenditures. The two-thirds is spent for highways, game commission, SIAC, etc., and is financed from dedicated funds from which none of the \$60 million could be taken.

About 60 per cent of the general fund budget is appropriated for education. State aid to local school districts through the Basic School fund and from appropriations for special education programs account for 35 per cent of the state general fund. It is clear that education, because it represents this sizable portion of the general fund budget, has probably the most at stake in the referendum.

State general fund support of elementary and secondary education began in 1942 with educators alike recognizing that a real property could no longer carry the entire burden of education. It was the people in 1946 who approved the present Basic School Support Fund.

The voters in 1950 and the Legislatures since have consistently attempted to lighten the property tax burden and equalize educational opportunity by increasing the size of the fund. It was significant to remember that the fund was increased by \$19 million in 1961 and \$16 million in 1963, making a total increase of \$35 million during the past two sessions. This amount would have been otherwise levied as local property taxes.

A NO vote could be interpreted that the people no longer believe that the state should maintain its present level of support—which is now 36 per cent of local district operating costs. Actually, many state groups, including education, school boards, Grange, Farm Bureau, PTA and others have positions urging that the state provide 50 per cent operating costs or more from state revenue sources.

State government expenditures and particularly those for higher education and community colleges must keep pace with population trends. The citizens of Oregon have long held that education should be available to all and not a privilege for the wealthy few. Enrollment in schools of higher education, including community colleges, has increased considerably in recent years. There are approximately 25 per cent more high school seniors this year than graduated in 1963, and 60 per cent more juniors this year than there were seniors in 1962-63. Meeting the educational need of this increasing number will require greater state funds. The growth of community colleges will help to educate these students at somewhat lower costs than possible in our four-year institutions. With college funds in jeopardy an even greater burden will be placed on community colleges. The question that plagues the state Legislature is how to meet community college building and operating costs without adding to the

property tax burden. The 1963 Legislature reduced the percentage of state support for community colleges and greater cuts would be in prospect if the tax program is defeated.

Oregon has had a tradition of stable—even conservative—governmental finance. There has not been a major state tax increase since 1955, although property taxes have increased substantially. Our per capita state tax is ninth out of the eleven Western states, although we probably would be somewhat higher if total state and local taxes were considered.

This pattern of an orderly meeting of the most pressing needs for state funds is the real issue in the Oct. 15 election. Our tax structure is reviewed every two years by the Legislature, or the people may initiate change. A YES vote will indicate that the citizens of Oregon are willing to pay for the services that they have requested and that are necessary in our growing state.

Eugene H. Fisher,
Chairman Oregon State
Board of Education and
Member Elktion School
Board.

Swingline Fables for Fun



Confucius say, one day in fun,
To a friend and Number One Son,
"With my Swingline I'll fuse
Your most honorable queues
Because two heads are better than one!"

SWINGLINE STAPLER



98¢

(including 1000 staples)
Larger size CUB Desk
Stapler only \$1.49



No bigger than a pack of gum

- Unconditionally guaranteed!
- Refills available anywhere!
- Get it at any stationery, variety, or book store!
- Send in your own Swingline Fable. Prizes for those used.

Swingline, INC. LONG ISLAND CITY 1, N. Y.

Student Special—1/2 Price

4 to 7 p.m. Weekdays
9:30 to 6 p.m. Saturdays

PUTT-A-ROUND

Open Every Evening
'til 10:30 or later



Ladies Night—Tuesday, 7 to 10:30
One lady plays free when
accompanied by payee

33 W. 11th Ave.

in search of a
hip elective?
SWINGING
101



Prerequisite: open to
aware college males.
Scope of course: jazz
star Dave Brubeck, cap-
tivating new singer
Barbra Streisand, top
Broadway producer David
Merrick, plus fashions,
fiction, humor & more.

REQUIRED READING:

Rogue

NOVEMBER SHOW BIZ ISSUE

NOW AT YOUR NEWSSTAND