

The Next Sixty Days

The University Awaits a Vicious Battle

To say that the next sixty days will constitute a crucial period for higher education in Oregon is an understatement of the fact. There have been tenuous periods for the University before and surely the critical condition of the University in 1963 will not be the end of education's problems. During the first ten years of this century higher education in Oregon was crippled by a series of tax referendums, a so-called taxpayers revolt much like the current situation. The impact of the depression was reflected in the University's budget during the 1930's when programs were sliced to the bone.

The difference in 1963 is that the University has won its place as an institution of distinction. The University of previous years, the glorified high school and the country club disappeared long ago. The University receives a healthy share of federal and foundation grants. The faculty has improved. Many professors are national and international leaders in their fields. Awards and honors conferred upon men like Marshall Fixman and Virgil Boekheide add to the University's prestige. The University's strong defense of academic freedom and freedom of inquiry have strengthened its national stature. Distinctive publications such as *Comparative Literature*, *Northwest Review* and *Old Oregon* have contributed also. The examples extend on and on. The negative anti-tax mood of the state is having its affect. Facul-

ty members are getting anxious. They are keeping an eye on the special session of the legislature and the action of the State Board of Higher Education. They are asking, "Are we following in the footsteps of Colorado and Montana where higher education's importance was drastically minimized by ultra-conservative state leadership?" And there is bound to be a lot of back-stabbing in administrative circles. There is always that professor in the other department who hasn't done a thing since he got tenure. If he were to be cut out then maybe some other department's budget could be saved. The fighting of the various vested interests within the state system and throughout all state agencies promises to be a vicious battle. The scars on higher education will be seen for years to come.

And there will be ample opportunities for demagogues to capitalize on higher education in its crippled condition. There is no doubt that the vocal anti-education legislators such as Walter Pearson will be pointing to line items in budgets which will not seem justifiable to the general populace. It's a depressing time on the campus, not only for students who may be priced out of education, but for the faculty members who will lose faith in the state's willingness to support education. As one educator put it the other day, "It's going to be one hell of a storm and the University will feel its impact for years to come."

Changes for Fraternities

Fraternities at the University are taking steps to improve their system and their image. At a meeting last Wednesday the Inter-fraternity Presidents' Council voted to merge with Inter-fraternity Council. The new organization will combine the administrative, executive, and legislative branches of IFC, although the Tribunal will remain separate. Chuck Morberg, Presidents' Council president, said the reorganization will eliminate communication difficulties between IFC members and committee and facilitate planning of activities. An executive IFC committee of eight persons will

plan agendas for the IFC meetings and hear committee reports where discussion will be freer than in the whole IFC body. The executive committee will then report the committee recommendations to the IFC.

The ten present standing committees will be apportioned among three new committees. One of these new committees will be public relations and services. A more concerted effort is going to be made to promote fraternities and to explain their purpose and functions. We are encouraged with the attempts for improvement in the fraternity system.

An Untapped Resource

Monday, Oregon's legislators will converge on Salem to tackle the complex problems of the states' fiscal condition.

We suggest that while they consider cutting the budgets of state agencies, and taking other negative attitudes, they'll be passing up a wonderful source of revenue whose potential has not yet been fully tapped.

That source of revenue?

Sin.

That's right, good old everyday, cigarette smoking, beer-drinking, race-track betting, pool playing, sleep-in-Sunday-morning type sin.

The advantages are numerous and worthy of consideration. (This is in the best editorial tradition. Advantages are never few or worthless.)

A longer racing season at Portland Meadows, more and bigger liquor stores—with Gold Bond stamps perhaps?—off-track betting, maybe an 18-year-old limit for beer drinking, slot machines,—the list is endless.

Nevada has few fiscal problems, no state income tax, no sales tax, all due to the presence of Reno, Las Vegas, Lake Tahoe and others.

New Hampshire has instituted a statewide lottery in preference to other revenue raising means.

Drinking age for beer in New York is 18, attracting scores of teenagers from surrounding states.

Obviously, it won't be necessary to cut any budgets.

Just extend the racing season, license more tavern operators, remove those puritanical rules about those struggling small businessmen, the bookies, and revenue will increase wonderfully.

Everybody knows sin is popular. Why else would there be so many churches?

True, the state police, various hospitals, and public welfare might request larger budgets, merely to take advantage of the larger amounts of money available, of course.

And the University might find itself with a dipsomaniac student body, frittering away tuition money in one-armed bandits, placing bets with hard-eyed, shifty looking men in the SU Fishbowl on the weekends of football games, but, the state needs the revenue, and such an obvious way to raise it is certainly worth exploration.

After all, sin is more popular than sales taxes.

Herblock



"What A Dirty Trick, Sneaking Up On Us From Behind Like That!"

Letters To the Editor

Dimes for Dignity

Emerald Editor:

How about a Dimes for Dignity Campaign to raise funds for the printing of proper nameplates.

An Open Letter to the PHD (Alias the Common Man).

What gives with the name plates on the doors; 'Mr.' Doe, 'Mr.' Ray, 'Mr.' Me? What happened to the title 'Dr.' that noble appendage for which you struggled so those many years? Are you ashamed to be counted a scholar, when to be a scholar in this age of materialism is to hold on to ones ideals at the cost of personal gain? For men of stature, your false modesty is unbecoming.

Did the lawyer study harder, achieve more, that his door should proudly bear his insignia 'attorney-at-law'? Does the doctor omit the 'MD' from his shingle, the accountant the 'CPA' from his calling card? Or perhaps this glaring omission is due to some misguided deference to those instructors who have no title.

Then, I submit, you are false to your own ideals. You are not enlarging the goals of humanity, but rather lending yourself to that universal attempt to reduce all mankind to mediocrity.

Or perhaps you consider 'Dr.' ostentatious! Now that you have convincingly removed yourself from the status of the common man, you deem it a mark of 'bigness' to be counted a common man. This, sir, is the greater ostentation of the two.

We who sit at your feet are ourselves striving to rise above the level of the common man. Who needs a common man to lead the way?

Marion Paulsen, C.P.A.

Inadequate Protection

Emerald Editor:

The fire which took place Monday morning at Moore Hall revealed several inadequacies in the fire protection of the University.

1. A call placed to the campus operator resulted in no co-operation in turning in the alarm. The number of false alarms turned in probably had a great deal to do with this. Even so it is not up to the operator to decide which alarms are false and which are real.

2. A person turning in an alarm most likely knows only the name of the Hall and rarely the address. Even so the firemen should be able to locate the address immediately. The first group of firemen arrived at the Moore Hall fire approximately fifteen minutes after the first call was made, even though the fire station is only two blocks

away. The blaze had already been extinguished by men from Parsons Hall.

3. Fire extinguishers are not located in the lobbies of the halls. The one used came from the third floor of Parsons Hall.

4. The fire hoses in the halls are too short to reach other halls if the hoses in the burning hall are inaccessible.

5. The fire alarm in the basement of Bean sounds only on the East Bean side. Should an alarm for a fire endangering both quads be turned in there, West Bean would not have the benefit of warning.

6. The ventilation system transfers smoke from the burning area to many parts of the quad adding to the danger of smoke damage and inhalation.

If an effort is made to rectify these conditions the dorms would be much safer places in which to live.

Robert Ramberg,
Parsons Hall
Hal Holman,
Counselor,
Parsons Hall

An Apology

Emerald Editor:

We, the men of Parsons and East Bean, would like to apologize to the Eugene Fire Department for waking them up at 4:30 a.m. We would also like to apologize for putting out their fire.

We do think, however, that it would have been nice if the Eugene Fire Department had shown up while the blaze was being subdued to at least supervise the extinguishing of said blaze. We realize that we are to

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