

The Demonstration

Planned Demonstration Speaks Well for Its Organizers

Friday's demonstration protesting U.S. participation in Viet Nam will apparently be one of the best-organized activities to take place at the University this year. The group has taken pains to follow all conceivable city and University regulations governing such activity and has saved the University potential embarrassment by clearly declaring that the protest was not sponsored by the University.

Leaders of the protest have also attempted to make the all night vigil an educational experience for those attending by providing outside speakers as well as members of the local community. Speakers include Wayne Morse, U.S. Senator; David McReynolds, a leader of the American peace movement; and Robert Scheer, a journalist who has recently been in Viet Nam.

As with any group strongly advocating a point of view, some opposition has arisen. Those picketing in opposition to the demand that the U.S. get out of the Southeast Asian country have declared that they intend to remain around the edge of the organized demonstration and not interfere with the organized program. We hope that this course will be followed. It would be a sad commentary on the University community to have a poorly organized counter demonstration upset the well-planned protest.

Those protesting U.S. actions in Viet Nam are protesting a situation which has been festering in that country virtually since the Second World War. Although it is easy to simplify the struggle into a U.S. action against the threat of a communist regime, the picture north of Saigon is

more complex. The Viet Cong is not an aggressor, it is a body made up of Vietnamese citizens, indistinguishable in background or physical appearance from any other peasant.

The U.S. is fighting in jungles, bombing villages where Viet Cong members are known to be hiding, at the same time killing and injuring farmers and villagers. A journalist who had spent several years in Southeast Asia observed once that to the average peasant in Viet Nam there is no central government, democratic, catholic or communist. For this reason Saigon and Hanoi may struggle for years without any real support from the majority of the people.

Yet we must consider the real threat which Red China represents to the free world. A weakened government such as the one currently in power in North Viet Nam would have little real power against its strong neighbor. With other countries in the area, such as Sukarno's Indonesia, who have demonstrated their antagonism to the United States in particular and the Western nations in general, there is little doubt as to which way Viet Nam would drift if power were given to those now leading the Viet Cong.

No easy solution is possible in Viet Nam. The United States is damned if we maintain the present war with its resultant destruction, and damned if we let up, possibly opening another country to communist control. President Johnson's declared desire to negotiate and to return to the basic principles of the Geneva conference is the most workable solution heard to date. But negotiate with whom?

There is no solution in sight.

The Co-op Board

The University Co-op calls itself "the students' own store," but in recent years there have been some questions raised as to the aptness of that statement. It was especially during last year's controversy over the College Side Inn that some people questioned whether it is the student-elected board or the professional managerial staff who actually control decisions about the store. While the Board was deciding whether to tear down the historic Side and replace it with an addition to the bookstore, several persons suggested that it was the professional managers who actually made the decisions and who exerted a good deal of influence over the Board. There were questions raised as to the general competence of Board members and their ability to exercise their independent decision-making power.

Last spring an attempt was made to help answer such criticism. Old Board members conducted a forum for candidates and attempted to provide them with the knowledge they had gained on the Board. How-

ever, of those who attended the session only one person was actually elected to the Board and he is no longer a member.

The best way to solve this problem is to elect better quality student leaders to the Board to begin with. Those who have raised questions about the competence of the Board this year and in the past will have an opportunity to do something about it Thursday when the Co-op holds its annual membership meeting. Nominations will be made for three student members elected in the ASUO general election next week. The positions open are a one-year sophomore position and two two-year junior positions. These three members will then combine with two holdover members and select two faculty members to fill out the Board.

Thus this meeting provides an opportunity for those who would like to see changes in the Co-op Board to make a contribution toward the realization of those changes.



Letters to the Editor

University Sponsored?

Emerald Editor:

Reading from the Emerald about the forthcoming Viet Nam Protest Meeting I have noticed repeated statements which say that it is not a University sponsored event.

But as each issue appears I cannot help but get the impression that the University is sponsoring the event: First the Administration decided that the Student Union must be kept open all night in order that the demonstrators may stage their "events." Second, and just recently, the Administration has decided to allow the Women Dormitories to abandon their Friday night curfew in order that the girls may attend. No doubt when I pick up the next issue of the Emerald I will see where all the sororities will have followed suit.

Is the political climate on this campus such, and are the (now) liberated maidens on this campus so politically oriented as to know what the demonstration is all about? In other words can the Administration justify letting the girls "out" for such an occasion?

Oh, but pardon me, as I read further I see that the girls (& guys) will be entertained by a movie show at the so-called Protest Meeting; Joan Baez will be there to entertain also (tax free), Marc Ellington will be there to entertain them, and Senator Wayne Morse will start the party off by giving one of his funny speeches. No doubt there entertainers will be followed by a host of other pacifist speakers, and then peanuts and crackerjacks after that.

Now if all this is going on I wish the Administration would cancel my Saturday morning classes so that I can attend too, what fun!

J. S. Carter
1st Year Law

Editor's Note: No precedent has been set by allowing the demonstrators to use the Union all night Friday. Several high schools in the Eugene area have used the same facilities for all night senior parties on several past occasions and on one occasion, students were allowed to use the union all night to watch returns from the national election.

Senate Visitations

Emerald Editor:

We would like to extend our thanks to Mr. Rick Williams for the interest and concern he has shown for his constituency by polling their opinions on the value of appropriating \$1,400 to send three NSA delegates to the national conference. This is the first time we know of that a senator has come directly to those he represents

and asked them for their opinion on a specific issue. Thank you Mr. Williams.

Elina Lynn Fox
Senior, Education
Barbara Winter
Senior, English
Jennis Johnson
Junior, English
Linda Goodman
Senior, Social Science
Penelope L. Crawford
Senior, R. L.

Editor's Note: The \$1400 NSA appropriation in the ASUO budget covers the expenses of an as yet undetermined number of delegates to the summer convention as well as the University's dues in NSA, and operation of any NSA programs at the University during the coming year. The figure does not represent merely expenses for three delegates.

Apathy

Emerald Editor:

I have, for several years, considered student government a useless proposition. This attitude is due less to the ineptitude of those who seek and secure office than to the apathy of those who are represented. Apathy has caused student government to seek out few really worthwhile campus issues and to become generally a mere sounding board for the faculty and administration. This problem was pointed out in excruciating clarity by your three headlines of last Friday (the 16th). To wit: "Romney Attacks Citizen Apathy", "For Top ASUO Posts—It's a One-Horse Race; Moore, Rapp Withdraw", "Lack of Quorum Adjourns Senate". If the significance of these escapes some of your readers I'm sure you can enlighten them.

Jack R. VanOrman
Graduate in Education

Letters to the Editor

Political Beliefs

Emerald Editor:

I hope, for her sake, that before she enters the practice of law Lil Rebhun (Daily Emerald 16 April 65) gains a little more insight into human psychology than she demonstrates in her letter regarding the Free Speech Movement. Does she really think that people's political beliefs and values are spontaneously created in a vacuum? Do any of us arrive, clean and undefiled, at a certain stage in our development and suddenly manifest a complete political ethic?

I would submit that, whether we like to admit it or not, we are all children of our fathers.

For good or evil our political beliefs are affected and molded by the beliefs of our parents.

Secondly, I would submit that no one, but no one, is capable of rendering a completely objective and impartial account of activities in which they themselves have played a prominent part. No doubt "their speeches were informative" but that they "simply told about the events and circumstances prevailing at Cal throughout this year" I would question. Does Miss Rebhun suppose that if the chairman of the Berkeley YAF were to simply tell about the events and circumstances prevailing at Cal throughout this year there would be com-

plete agreement with the Aptheker report?

I think that it would be helpful for Miss Rebhun to realize that people's perceptions of reality are shaded by the system of ethics to which they adhere. What they believe is, in turn, greatly influenced by what their parents believed. It is a grievous fault to maintain that an individual's beliefs are necessarily in complete accordance with the beliefs of their parents. However, it is likewise a serious fault to airily assume that the parent's orientation has no effect on the course of the offspring.

Walter Lenington
Grad., Anthro.

OREGON DAILY EMERALD

The Oregon Daily Emerald is published five times in September and five days a week during the academic year, except during examination periods, by the Student Publications Board of the University of Oregon. Entered as second class matter at the post office, Eugene, Oregon. Subscription rates \$5 per year; \$2 per term.

Opinions expressed on the editorial page are those of the Emerald and do not represent the opinions of the ASUO or the University.

Cathy Neville, Editor

J. Craig Mathiesen, Business Manager
Chuck Beggs, Managing Editor
Kenneth R. Kappel, Advertising Manager
Stephen Green, News Editor
Dave Jordan, Associate Editor
Joe Hoffmann, Sports Editor
Phil Semas, Associate News Editor
Irma Dawn Moar, Associate Managing Editor
Bob Carl, Assistant Managing Editor
Steve Dimeo, Entertainment Editor
Bob Denniston, Walt Biddle, Photo Editors
Mary Stamp, Feature Editor