

OREGON DAILY Emerald

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University of Oregon, Eugene, Friday, May 21, 1965

Where Competition Is Bad

*Inter-agency Squabbling Could Impair
Federal Aid to Education Programs*

Education has come to be big business in Washington. If the administration's new programs make it through this session of Congress unscathed, as they seem likely to, the total of Federal aid to education will jump to \$8.6 billion for the coming fiscal year. This is nearly a 37 per cent increase over last year's appropriations.

Many persons are not entirely happy with this. They see it as meaning mounting Federal control of education. But the fact is that state and local governments are no longer able to pick up the whole bill of school costs. Enrollments are rising sharply at all levels—in the colleges and universities as well as in elementary and secondary schools. This is particularly true in the institutions of higher learning, where Federal aid is necessary to support needed expansion, both on the physical level and in the growing field of research.

But the danger of a giant Federal monolith assuming control of our educational system is yet a remote fear. Jonathan Spivak, writing on "Education's Muddled Bureaucracy" in a recent issue of The Reporter, points out a more current problem. The people on Capitol Hill are not so worried about having too much power, he says, but are concerned with knowing exactly who has the power. As too often happens in any governmental structure, administration of legislated programs ends up scattered among a dozen different agencies. Thus, instead of co-ordinating together toward a single goal, authority is divided, and duplication and waste sometimes result.

This is the case with Federal education programming. The largest single share of Federal money, about \$1.5 billion next year, is administered by the Office of Education, a unit of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. But a dozen or so other agencies also make big contributions.

And they are often in conflict with each other's policies.

For example, both the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the National Science Foundation give fellowships for graduate study in the sciences. NASA provides grants of \$2,400 a year for the student, while it gives the university a negotiated matching fund which averages \$2,700 a year per student. The NSF student grants increase gradually from \$2,400 to \$2,800 a year per student for a three-year period. But the school's allowance in this case has a ceiling of \$2,500 per year.

This kind of conflict and inter-agency disagreement on policy makes for a kind of undesirable competition. And NSF's growing support of the humanities, as well as the sciences, could lead to a situation in which two or more agencies are competing for the same graduate students. All the while, each body is trying to get itself the fattest possible appropriation.

This kind of bickering within the separate bodies will only get worse if the government does not delineate authority more specifically. Sen. Abraham Ribicoff (D-Conn) has recommended that a Department of Education be created. But chances are that opposition from the affected groups will block this effort.

The most reasonable solution is already being implemented. Last year Francis Keppel, commissioner of the Office of Education, created an Interagency Committee on Education. This seems the most optimistic plan toward developing more co-ordination of Federal education efforts. Keppel, a former dean of Harvard's Graduate School of Education, has done much to clear out the deadwood that bogged down the efforts of his predecessors. It is only hoped that his new committee will not also suffer from the same internal squabbling that made its creation necessary.

Cameron's Comment



Our Contemporaries

Beer Minus Alcohol Sold at Louisiana State

By LINDA CHENEY
Exchange Editor

At Louisiana State University legislation is being enacted to legalize campus drinking.

But there is one drawback to this golden opportunity presented by the Union Food Service, one vital ingredient is missing from the cold, foamy beer—alcohol.

An editorial in the campus newspaper said, "But since most suave college men and their campus Janes drink for the invigorating taste of the beverage, the lack of alcohol (which has been removed from the product by a "vacuum-heat" process) will detract negligibly from the consumption of the beer."

At UCLA a committee has proposed a seven per cent scrip discount to be initiated on all books in the SU Bookstore. It is felt that a strong discount program would be of more lasting benefit than other items that could be invested in.

Speaking of books, an article in the University of Washington Daily cited a recent incident in book censorship. It seems that the book, "Fanny Hill" was recently resurrected from a legal closet at the University Book Store, while on the same day, it was buried under the counter at a bookstore across the street.

The University bookstore temporarily removed Fanny, due to a misunderstanding about some N.Y. court rulings. The book was restocked when research indicated there was no legal reason not to sell the book. Across the street Fanny was on the new arrivals table.

Yet, when a Daily reporter inquired if the store had been pressured to remove the book and mentioned that the U Bookstore had closeted Fanny, the store executive began to worry. In fact they had to be reminded that there were copies of the book in the store.

Originally, when the reporter walked in as a potential customer, the executive knew exactly where it was. Twenty minutes later the book was removed from the table.

The book shop next door, when questioned, saw no reason not to sell Fanny.

The Daily final comment, "All the while, the book Candy lay innocently on shelves of all three stores."

Using pep pills for one or two days around exam week does not seriously impair health or performance, according to a Food and Drug Administration expert.

On the other hand, the use of sedatives to augment the pleasure producing effects of alcohol, as could occur at certain social gatherings, can lead to car accidents or sexual assaults. Stimulants include the amphetamine drugs, also known as bennies, hearts, footballs, and pilots.

They are prescribed chiefly to cut appetite and relieve depression. Generally a normal dose produces wakefulness, alertness, elevation of mood and increased motor activity.

Sedatives include the barbiturates and are also referred to as red birds, goof balls and blue heavens. These are prescribed to induce sleep or a calming effect.

Taking these the night before an exam would not be wise, because there is impairment of psychomotor performance several hours after awakening. College students are discouraged from taking doses of sedative or stimulant drugs for longer than 2-3 day periods.

At the University of California, Santa Barbara, the surfing club is forming a patrol to help police the beach and combat campus beach vandalism, which is getting out of hand, due to mobs of high school students.

Michigan State University has been considering a proposal to allow students 20 minutes in between classes, instead of 10. Morning classes would be from 8-12:20 and afternoon classes would be from 1-5:20. This action would be taken to eliminate difficulties in getting across the campus rapidly.

Letters to the Editor

Millrace a Shock

Editor's Note: The following letter was sent to University President Arthur S. Flemming and a copy to the Emerald.

Dear Dr. Flemming:

Last Friday night I had the pleasure of witnessing my first Canoe Fete since graduating from your Ivy Halls.

While it was a most enjoyable experience and the floats were very good, in general, and showed considerable artistic ability and ingenuity, I was shocked!

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Realizing that you are relatively new on your job and not to blame personally, I still have to write to you as the president of the University.

What has the University and/or the city done to the Millrace? What I remember so well as an idyllic pastoral stream, with grassy banks and weeping willow trees overhanging the waters, has become, at least in appearance, an irrigation ditch or a sewage canal, with raw mud banks, no trees, and to cap it off, a monster of a heating plant, efficient, no doubt, but furnishing just about the crummiest, brutal, backdrop for a carefree, happy, undergraduate activity like a Canoe Fete that anyone could possibly imagine. The only show that could seem in harmony with that natural stage setting would be "The Nuremberg Trial." The engineer that designed the heating plant obviously gave its setting no consideration at all.

Can't you do something drastic to:

a. Landscape the banks of the millrace, get it looking like

something that will be an asset to the University and to Eugene?

b. Remodel the west elevation of the heating plant to provide a paramount, attractive background for future canoe fetes and water spectacles?

It seems ironic that, directly west of this horrible heating plant, is the School of Architecture, whose faculty apparently sat idly by as their best view was loused up by alleged progress. Why not a competition among the upper division students, a "sketch problem" on what to do with the West elevation of the heating plant? Then let's do it!

Stuart B. Mockford
Architect, A.I.A.

Reply to Allegation

Emerald Editor:

Concerning his recent allegation that Americans are the most ethnocentric and least self-perceptive of the world's people, Prof. Barclay should put his research where his mouth is.

John Nylander
Graduate Assistant,
Education