

OREGON DAILY EMERALD

Opinions expressed on the editorial page are those of the Emerald and do not necessarily represent the opinions of the ASUO or the University. Opinions expressed in signed columns are those of the writer.

LOUIE ABRAMSON
Business Manager
MAXINE ELLIOTT
News Editor

CHUCK BEGGS, Editor
BOB CARL
Managing Editor
PHIL SEMAS
Associate Editor

WILBUR BISHOP, JR.
Advertising Manager
ALLEN BAILEY
Associate Editor

Page 6

University of Oregon, Eugene, Thursday, January 6, 1966

Greeks Should Go Local

*The Delta Gamma Case Proves Again
That Nationals Hinder Locals' Good Intentions*

Fraternities and sororities here have come under heavy criticism from this newspaper. We have taken issue with Greek policies on hazing, relations with the Conduct Code, and racial discrimination. But we have also said that Greek houses have a lot to contribute to the University. They have made great strides in the past few years in some of these areas. Locals here have demonstrated their willingness to make changes and listen to criticism.

But their efforts to keep pace with the changes taking place at the University are being held back by the hidebound traditionalist attitudes of their national organizations.

The University's Delta Gamma chapter last term had an experience that demonstrates how a national can stop a local's efforts to make a contribution to a worthwhile program. DG wanted to contribute to the National Student Association's Fast for Freedom—an effort to feed hungry Southern families—but had to get permission from its national first. The national said no, because it doesn't want its girls to participate in any "political, sociological or ideological" programs. One of the major changes that has taken place at this and other colleges is the student interest in political and social issues. But apparently it is the view of the national DG organization that this kind of activity is bad for sorority girls.

We don't propose to single out DG for special attention. Apparently a number of other sororities also have this clause in their charters. This case does demonstrate, though, that nationals are living in the past and are hindering sincere efforts by local chapters to adapt to the changing University and to continue to be a worthwhile part of it.

There is a reason for this. Most of the leaders of national Greek organizations went to college before students became interested in the central problems of society. The main problem most college students were interested in then was which party to

go to on the next weekend. A fraternity or sorority was only a social organization. There was no reason for involvement in anything else—including the kind of education students were getting.

But today's student is interested in these larger problems—civil rights, the war in Viet Nam, the problems of education. And Greeks are just as interested as anyone else. In fact, Greeks have an ideal opportunity to make a real contribution to the development of the University, since they are coherent, organized groups. There is evidence that many of them would like to. But they are often hindered by outmoded national policies.

It's doubtful that locals here can do much to change these national policies. They're set by alumni over whom the locals have no control. There seems to be only one other answer, and we endorse it strongly for University Greek chapters: pull out of the nationals.

We fail to see any real objections to going local. The main problems are obviously financial, since the alumni organization usually owns the chapter's house and gives it other financial backing. But we're certain that President Flemming would support any chapter that wanted to go local if its national put on financial pressure.

As far as other advantages of national affiliation—contacts after graduation, etc.—they seem negligible when stacked up against the fact that locals to a large extent can't determine their own future. Obviously, local fraternities and sororities are practical. They've worked well on other campuses. "Going local" would have no effect on a chapter's local activities. Co-ops here have no nationals but are able to compete easily with the nationally-affiliated houses in campus activities.

The advantages of dropping national affiliation seem to outweigh the disadvantages. Greeks could make a much better contribution to the University, if they weren't held down by outmoded and hidebound national policies.

Mr. Quill's Impudence

The recent actions of one Mr. Michael J. Quill, president of New York's Transit Workers Union, have made a sham of honest collective bargaining.

Perhaps no other single event, save the criminal philanderings of the Teamsters' Jimmy Hoffa and Dave Beck, has done more to publicly display the avarice and ruthlessness which characterizes the attitudes of some high-level labor leaders. Quill, now in custody of court for defying an injunction, said on his way to the jailhouse that he (and eight of his arrested officials) will "rot" there until their demands are met. The demands are extravagant, but not surprising—substantial increases in wages and benefits combined with a 32-hour work week. In other words, more money for less work.

Quill, thus far, is showing little desire for a reasonable settlement of the strike, Sunday, one day after John Lindsay took over as New York's new mayor and found him-

self greeted with the strike call, Quill proclaimed on television that the real reason for the dispute was political rivalry between Lindsay and New York Governor Nelson Rockefeller. It's quite unlikely that Lindsay would choose to usher himself into office with a massive transportation tieup.

Mr. Quill must feel proud that he has brought the biggest American city to its knees, causing staggering economic losses. Ostensibly preaching the labor union theory of betterment for the laborer, Quill and his 34,000 transit workers have virtually denied several million persons the right to move freely about their city to earn a living.

It's a sad day in the history of the labor movement when a union boss can stand before television cameras and literally tear apart an order from a court of law, as the impudent Mr. Quill has done, and thereby cause temporary chaos in the lives of millions of persons.



Letters to the Editor

All letters to the editor must be typewritten and double spaced. Letters not over 300 words in length and those dealing with one subject will be given preference for publication. All letters must be signed in ink and must give the class and major of the writer. Letters not meeting these criteria will be returned to the letter writer. The Emerald reserves the right to edit letters for style, grammar, punctuation, and potentially libelous content.

No Meters!

Emerald Editor:

For some time it has been the burden of the off-campus student to grumble and complain about the increasing expansion of parking meters around the campus, such activities generally being ignored by the University. At least, new life may be infused into the battle.

According to a story in the Jan. 4 Oregon Daily Emerald "Flemming Turns Down Parking Change Request," a study is to be made for extending parking meters along Kincaid St. to the Education Building and between Alder and Kincaid on 14th and 15th. With this pro-

posed expansion of pay parking a new group of students will be affected. For the first time students living in fraternities and sororities will be faced with the problem of meter feeding and parking tickets.

These groups have an advantage not enjoyed by the off-campus students. They have both organization and cohesion, the two basic qualities necessary to be effective in any attempt to challenge the University. As a member of that amorphous mass known as the "off-campus student" I challenge the fraternities and sororities that will be affected by this proposed expansion to take up the battle where we have failed, for their benefit as well as ours.

James R. Hargreaves
First Year Law Student

Protests Construction

Emerald Editor:

As a student following current trends on campuses, I protest! Much was made of the construction confusion last September, and rightfully so. The situation has improved, but not so much that something should be said again.

It seems a pity to see such incompetence and waste made on the brand new sidewalk to the new student health service building. A sidewalk was poured improperly and in about three weeks later the compressor and jack-hammer were at work again ripping it out.

It also seems to me that an unreasonable amount of time is being spent on job completion making studying in the dorm area impossible. The noise in this dorm area coming from construction is not particularly conducive to study, especially with the approach of final examinations. For three months one has had to suffer through noise outside the dorm, and be resigned to stay there and study because library and other study area facilities were grossly limited.

The unattractive views of construction in progress and the sloppy mess of mud in Oregon's wet weather might—just might—have been bearable had it not been for the duration of the parking problem. The south

(Continued on page 7)

Other Editors Say

From the Corvallis Gazette-Times

Down at the University, where professors have been known to read dirty poetry in public just to demonstrate their academic freedom, some of these same professors violated an even more basic American freedom.

By a margin of almost two to one, the University faculty voted to exclude the press from a faculty meeting. The primary topic of discussion, and this makes the action even more reprehensible, was the expenditure of public funds.

John Hulteng, the estimable dean of the University's School of Journalism, correctly told the teachers they would get a much more accurate report in the newspapers if the press attended in person and did not have to rely on second-hand reports which were certain to leak out.

The academicians were not impressed. The vote against admitting representatives from the Eugene Register-Guard and the student Oregon Daily Emerald was 208 to 112.

This is a deplorable viewpoint at a University which "Howls" for liberalism and freedom of expression in all its forms for both faculty and students.

We are happy to report faculty meetings at Oregon State University have always been open to the press.

Oregon Daily Emerald

Rande Wilmarth, Sports Editor
Nomi Borenstein,
Assistant Managing Editor
Larry Lange, Assistant News Editor
Dave Butler, Feature Editor
Shota Ushio, Photo Editor
Steve Dimeo, Entertainment Editor
Mary Ann Wakasugi,
Religious News Editor
Editorial Board: Chuck Beggs, Bob Carl,
Maxine Elliott, Phil Semas, Allen
Bailey, Pam Bladine, Karen Winn,
Cliff Kaufman, Gene Sokolski, Nomi
Borenstein.