

Council changing for worse

By CORA GANGWARE
Of the Emerald

What would you do if you went to listen to a speaker and he told you that the committee you were involved in was changing for the worse, it is accepting extremely bad Leftist politics and that the

committee was doing some very dangerous things?

You might become outraged as the World Without War Council of Eugene did last Thursday evening when they listened to Robert Pickus, president of the World Without War Council of the United States.

Speaking on "Achieving a Sound Post-Vietnam Peace Effort," Pickus told the group, "The United States is morally and emotionally exhausted."

"The people are profoundly confused. All they have been hearing from peace campaigns is that the U.S. is evil because it involves itself in war. That's not what a peace campaign should be telling the people."

Pickus says that people working for peace should not only stress that the U.S. should not kill, but also that the other side should not kill either. "You are using dangerous techniques," Pickus said. "You did not tell the people that Hanoi was wrong to be killing as well as the U.S."

At this point a woman from the audience said, "Mr. Pickus, I wish you would have come here and told us what we can do now to help promote peace rather than criticize everything we've done here in Eugene."

In response to what the community could do to help promote peace Pickus told the group, "First of all we want to argue against most peace organizations and not work with them. The other groups are not working for peace, they only think they are."

"The other groups are saying that the U.S. is the major obstacle in the pursuance of a world without war. In fact that's what you have been preaching here in Eugene," he said.

Another woman said, "I don't see that arguing about what we have or have not done in the past is going to do us any good. What I want to know is what this community can do to help promote peace. So far you haven't told us anything."

Pickus responded by saying that, "Eugene is one of the few places in the U.S. where there has been an active peace organization for as long as 10 years."

"What is really needed is a person who knows whom to contact at the University to get our ideas across to that part of the community. We need another key person to get into the political community and get their backing, and another person to interest the religious community. The list goes on and on."

The issue that the World Without War Council is trying to present to the public is that there is more to ending war than just disarmament.

Pickus says, "To end war completely we must have complete disarmament and an alternative. The alternative is a set of laws which would settle conflicts."

"But we can't get this set of laws now because the world's power isn't in one place. The world has no sense of community," says Pickus. "And where is the will to move toward that goal of having a central power where agreements can be made. How do we get agreement? The answer is not negotiation."

"Negotiation means that there are usually just two alternatives — give the opposition their way or arm and fight it out. What we need is some central force that will bring pressure to bear on all countries," says Pickus.

In ending Pickus said, "What we want is world law and world community. That's what you should be working for here in Eugene."

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