

editorial

Cooling inflation

The U.S. Labor Department reported recently a further decline in the unemployment rate. Although the decrease for March was only down .1 per cent from the February figure of 7.6, the decline marked the fifth straight month that the jobless rate has dropped. News that unemployment is decreasing even slightly is welcomed, especially by unemployed workers in Oregon where the jobless rate has been running even higher than the national average. One dark note buried in the figures, however, is that inflation rates are partially affected by unemployment rates. A decrease in unemployment may nudge inflation figures upwards.

Inflation rates can be influenced by the number of people out of work. The more people without jobs, the less money in circulation. This decrease in spending tends to dampen inflation. Other economic factors can affect this relationship of money in circulation and inflation but, in general, as jobs become scarce, inflation rates move downward.

The thing to remember is that we are in the middle of a unique economic situation. Our economy is experiencing fluctuating cycles of recession and inflation. These two economic conditions are usually antagonistic to each other and shouldn't normally occur at the same time. The problem is further compounded because attempts to relieve one condition tends to aggravate the other. Efforts to prod the economy out of a recession by concentrating on business expansion can heat up inflation. Attempts to cool the economy and inflation can backfire and restrict economic growth and prolong a recession.

Hopefully the unemployment rate will continue to drop. As it does, however, government economists are going to have to emphasize other methods to keep the lid on inflation. The answer is not simple, but one fact is certain. Any economic policy that counts on unemployment to cool inflation is unacceptable.

Letters

Out of production

Thank you for the story about my speech last Monday before DemoForum. However, I do have one important correction: I do not take a "strong position against clear-cut logging."

I do take a strong position for clear-cut logging with guidelines as established by professional foresters.

We've had too much clear-cut logging in the 4th District that amounts to strip-mining and has permanently retired thousands of acres of forest land from production.

I have great respect for the Forest Service but I do not want to leave clear-cutting to their unguided discretion.

Charles O. Porter
96 E. Broadway
Eugene, Oregon

Disenfranchised

I would like to object to the fact that it appears that Law School students are being disenfranchised with the ASUO mail-in ballot implementation. Because Law School students pay fees each semester we didn't get the magic tabs in April that will allow us to utilize the mail-in ballots. It seems that being restricted in our right to vote should entitle us to a refund of at least part of our incidental fees for this year or a reduction in fees for next year.

Pete Wells
law, 2nd yr.

Editor's note: Kirby Garrett, ASUO vice-president, has informed the Emerald that the ASUO plans to locate ballot boxes in the main corridor of the law school on April 27 and 28 in order for law students to cast their ballots in the upcoming ASUO elections.

Kiss of death

The large ad for Carlo Rossi Burgundy in Wednesday's Emerald was a Gallo ad in disguise. The grapes in Carlo Rossi California Burgundy are scab grapes. Carlo Rossi wines are boycotted by the United Farm Workers Union and UFW supporters. The kiss promised by Carlo Rossi and therefore by the Gallo Brothers is a kiss of death for farm laborers.

All wines from Modesto are being boycotted by the UFW. The Gallo name may not be on the label but the wine in the bottle will be Gallo wine if the product is from Modesto, California. Modesto wines are Gallo wines and Gallo wines are scab wines.

Remember, "Carlo" is spelled G-A-L-L-O in Modesto.

Phyllis J. Wagoner
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Springfield, Oregon

Letters policy

The Emerald will accept and try to print all letters containing fair comment on ideas and topics of concern or interest to the University community. Because of space limitations, letters must be no more than 250 words, typed, triple-spaced, dated and signed with the person's major.



quest editorial

Testing for liberals

Editor's note: the following editorial is reprinted from the April 2 edition of the Eugene Register-Guard:

Is a liberal somebody who wants the government to blow everybody else's nose for him? Or is he somebody who wants the government to keep in its place and permit maximum freedom, consistent with orderly society? Nobody knows for sure. But Time magazine, in its current issue, has a liberal litmus test.

Time puts forth six propositions.

1. It is more important to create jobs than to balance the budget.
2. Too little attention is being paid to the needs of minority groups.
3. The defense budget should be decreased.
4. Forced busing should be continued.
5. There should be no censorship of pornography for adults.
6. The death penalty should not be reinstated.

If, says Time, you can agree with five of those six statements, you're a liberal.

How about six more:

1. In law, the result of a proceeding is more important than legal technicalities.
2. In law, due process is more important than the result of the proceeding.
3. The government is obligated to protect a person from his own folly.
4. Forced busing should be continued.
5. Each person should be free to choose his own companions, at work, at school, or at a social event, without regard to sex, race or religion?
6. It is the responsibility of government to insure that nobody is excluded from a school, social event or place of employment because of sex, race or religion.

The question recurs: What the Sam Hill is a liberal?



'... AND THIS ONE WAS A GIFT FROM ROCKWELL INTERNATIONAL AND THAT ONE WAS FOR A JUNKET TO ...'