

Different people

A paid political ad in the personals section of Thursday's Emerald stated that a vote for Eugene McCarthy is a vote for Gerald Ford.

After some research, I have determined that this is not the case. Eugene McCarthy and Gerald Ford are, in fact, two entirely different people. Thus, a vote for Eugene McCarthy is a vote for that man and his policies, and a vote for Ford is, any way you look at it, a vote for Ford.

Further research has not been able to show that Gerald Ford and a man known as "Jimmy Carter" differ significantly. Perhaps this is the Ford alter-ego to whom the sponsors of the Emerald ad intended to refer.

Eugene Dannen
Junior, Psychology

Irresistible force

L.C.D.C.'s tight grip on decision making without citizen's vote threatens Oregon citizens, but an irresistible force for yes repeal L.C.D.C. rising now and will restore democracy in Oregon on November 2.

"If there is any place on earth

where we can demonstrate that government of the people, for the people, by the people is workable, it has to be here... If we fail, the game is finished, liberty and justice are lost, the dream of the founders ended for all the world..." Father Theo. M. Hesburg, Pres. U. of Notre Dame, 1976

It is on this crystal clear basis to restore democracy in Oregon that yes repeal of L.C.D.C., which eliminates the electoral process of Oregon's citizens in decision-making, is rising now as an irresistible force.

Kathy Anthony
Catching Inlet
Ccos Bay, Oregon

For Dave Burks

We, all the other Operations sergeants of the Sheriff's Office, wish the public to know that the recent letter from our fellow sergeant, R.W. Ridings, was not representative of the Department. We are in full support of Sheriff Burks and his administration.

Together, we represent 89 years of experience. We have watched the Department progress under the able leadership of

Sheriff Burks. We want to continue to work with him.

We disagree with Sgt. Ridings' claims of general low morale; if morale is so low, how can he account for the marked increase in productivity and efficiency under Sheriff Burks' leadership?

Sheriff Burks has utilized highly selective hiring and promotional procedures in filling all positions with the most qualified, capable officers available to him. We repudiate Sgt. Ridings' insinuation

that he may be terminated for expressing his opinion; that would never happen in Sheriff Burks' administration.

Most of us have worked under Dave Salyers when he was with this department. We know he lacks in administrative ability; we feel he is not qualified for the important position of Sheriff. He has demonstrated this in his last assignment as director of the Lane Interagency Burglary Team, from which he had to be removed by

the Lane County Criminal Justice Technical Advisory Committee for not adequately performing his duties.

He quit the department without any notice.

We urge you to re-elect Dave Burks for Sheriff — a proven administrator.

Sgt. L. Schrenk
Eight co-signers
Operations Division
Lane County Sheriff's Office

endorsements

District 41 voters can't lose

The race in District 41 is almost a no-lose situation. Either Democrat John Stewart or Republican Mary Burrows would do a good job of representing the district, but if we lived there, we'd vote for Stewart.

Stewart has been active both in and out of the Democratic party during the past few years. He was the state coordinator of Gov. Jerry Brown's Oregon write-in campaign and worked hard against nuclear power as a member of Oregonians for Nuclear Safeguards.

Stewart has a good concept of the problems facing Oregon and the solutions that should be used to solve them. He could be expected to take a Democratic line of taxation issues, which might be important since many issues were decided by only one vote last session.

At the same time, Burrows offers a voting record that deserves to be considered. She supports ballot measure 9, had a 100 per cent rating from the Oregon Student Lobby last session, and a 72 per cent rating from the Oregon Environmental Council. She takes good stands on most social issues, supporting life-line rates for utilities, tax incentives to encourage conservation, expanding the bottle bill and movement away from local dependence on property taxes.

However, Burrow's support of the phone tax during the last session raises some questions about her commitment to re-vamping Oregon's taxing system and her understanding of the situation of poor folk of this state.

Stewart is our choice, but District 41 can sleep easy either way it goes.

Ballot measure 9: a definite yes

Sometime late on election night Walter Cronkite will announce to a bleary-eyed nation how Oregonians voted on ballot measure number 9, the nuclear safeguards initiative.

More than any measure on the Oregon ballot, measure 9 carries national significance. Congress would interpret passage of the measure as an indication of America's doubts about nuclear power. The nuclear industry would learn that even though they outspent their opponents seven to one in Oregon, no amount of money can conceal the basic flaws implicit in a nuclear future.

Measure 9 places liability for accidents and responsibility for waste where it belongs, with the nuclear power industry. The measure also guarantees the people of Oregon, through their elected representatives, the final say on siting and safety standards.

The nuclear power industry needs state regulation because it is unable or unwilling to regulate itself. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), the federal agency charged with licensing responsibilities, has failed miserably in its watchdog function. Oregonians will have to look out for themselves.

Under industry and NRC regulation, nuclear safety standards are incredibly lax. Radioactive waste stored only 25 years is already turning up on ocean floors, in birds and in soil samples. Radioactive waste has a half-life of 24,000 years, time enough for tectonic forces to change the shape of the continents.

The immediate threat to human health and safety is also severe. The effects of exposure to minute traces of radiation are only beginning to be understood. The catalog of incidents of accidental exposure to high doses of radiation seems to grow daily. Nuclear power plants regularly emit carbon 14, tritium, krypton, and radioactive iodine 132. Discounting the possibility of a major holocaust, the risk of damaging the health of millions of people merits closer regulation of day-to-day operations of nuclear plants.

Opponents of ballot measure 9 claim

America's need for energy overrides the need for concern about long-term safety. The fact is, nuclear energy will not constitute a significant part of our energy supply at any time in the foreseeable future.

Known uranium reserves will be short by the early 1980's, and by 1990 nuclear power plants will be entirely dependent on new discoveries for fuel. Uranium costs have quadrupled in the last two years. The United States already imports uranium from abroad.

Even if the cost of nuclear fuel were to remain low and supply could be insured, the construction costs of nuclear power plants make nuclear power uneconomical. The Trojan plant cost nearly twice the original estimate, and the cost of building a plant today is over \$1 billion. Utilities have projected returns on investment in nuclear plants based on an average operating capacity factor of 80 per cent, while the largest plants have to date operated at 49 per cent capacity.

Nuclear energy is not just expensive, it is capital intensive. The U.S. is suffering from a shortage of investment capital likely to continue through 1990, and nuclear power plants require enormous amounts of capital. Federal Energy Administration officials estimate that \$500 billion invested in conservation efforts would save twice as much energy as the same amount invested in new sources could generate. A dollar spent on nuclear energy creates only half as many jobs as a dollar spent on conservation.

One could go on and on about the contradiction in the nuclear power industry. The nuclear industry as it is run today is not safe, not economical and likely to collapse under its own weight soon, carrying billions of invested dollars with it.

Oregonians have the opportunity to plan their future wisely and take control of a situation now out of hand. Ballot measure 9 would allow the people to choose the energy sources best for them and would show the nation that Oregonians will think twice before gambling on nuclear power.

Vote yes on ballot measure number 9.

opinion

Press ignores strike

On Thursday Oct. 14, 1,000,000 Canadian workers conducted a general strike but many Canadian newspapers couldn't report it — their printers were in the streets too.

Most U.S. newspapers also gave scant attention to the story — their reasons were different, however.

In what was termed "the biggest demonstration ever staged by Canadian labor," workers in all industries took to the streets to protest wage and price controls slapped on by the liberal Trudeau government on the same day a year ago. During the year of controls both prices and unemployment increased. On August 14 of this year, the Canadian Labour Congress, counterpart of the AFL-CIO, announced that workers had had enough and proclaimed October 14 as a day of national protest.

And protest the workers did:

- 90% of Canada's autoworkers were off the job.
 - 6,000 Port Alberni pulp workers struck.
 - Postal service was stopped in British Columbia.
 - Public employees in Calgary, Lethbridge and Edmonton were off the job.
 - B.C. ferry service to Vancouver Island was down.
 - In Nova Scotia steel and mining operations were stopped.
- In most big cities, labor organizations staged giant rallies and marches for what labor leaders called Canadian labor's "finest hour." Ten thousand workers assembled in Toronto to protest the government's "anti-inflation" program.

The general strike has traditionally been considered the highest expression of labor solidarity. It seeks to unite workers of all industries with the unemployed, the aged and youth and the middle classes in opposition to corporate power.

What is "news" in the U.S. about October 14th is that the Canadian general strike barely made the papers. The Seattle Post-Intelligence carried a page five thirteen-line report. The Eugene Register Guard reported in a page two story that Canada "appeared to be functioning almost normally." Even the Emerald relegated this report of the strike to its "Opinion" column.

The lack of news on the Canadian general strike constitutes a "blackout" by U.S. newspaper publishers. Such a blackout has the effect of isolating U.S. workers, cutting them off from the inspiration of the more militant Canadian unions.

Canadians unions have become a political force through their association with a labor oriented political party, the social democratic New Democratic Party. The U.S. labor movement, meanwhile, has restricted itself to bread-and-butter unionism since its political left-wing was purged in the 1940s and 50s.

What corporate owners fear most is the reintroduction of the political question — Who's going to run the country? — into the U.S. labor movement. Our textbooks have been wiped clean of our own traditions of class politics; the news media with its blackouts keeps us from the examples being set by more militant and political unions in other countries.

It's pretty clear that when our "free press" keeps us ignorant of what working people in other countries are doing to counter the trends of inflation and unemployment our own efforts to do the same are made more difficult.

Isolation and ignorance have been the tools of kings and ruling classes for centuries. The blackout of the Canadian general strike says that the same tools are being used to blunt the political consciousness of U.S. workers and ward off the militancy of our unions.

Jerry Lembcke
Sociology