

Tom Hayden

Hayden urges economic reform

By TOM WOLFE
Of the Emerald

Sedate calls for U.S. economic reform characterized the message delivered to several hundred people in the EMU Ballroom Wednesday night by Tom Hayden, a prominent political activist of the 1960s.

Ten years earlier he would have been calling for them to burn their draft cards and forget their textbooks, but Wednesday night the original president of Students for a Democratic Society talked economics on the system's own terms.

The ex-Vietnam War protester stepped out on the stage 20 minutes late dressed like an aspiring district attorney — "What ever happened to the sixties?" he asked the crowd.

"It isn't easy to put the need for a new economy on a picket sign," he answered.

"People like to celebrate apathy. But apathy is a cover for a frustration so heavy and complicated that it finds a hard time expressing itself.

"This generation starts with a heavier burden because it is less naive and more sophisticated than students of the sixties," he began.

"This generation has to face the fact that for the first time they will be less wealthy than their parents. The safety valve in America has been the dream and occasional reality of upward mobility — for too many Americans that's not true anymore."

With that introduction, Hayden began a three-point attack and outline for economic reform and redistribution of economic power.

"Economic development has become the buzz word of the seventies," said Hayden. "We have achieved democracy in the political arena but we lose that power in the economic arena."

Corporate heads are now more powerful than the president and one percent of the American people own half the stock, he said.

"We need a redirection of tax dollars and I'm not even sure that's enough. A progressive tax system is very far away — tax reform really hasn't come very far in the last 70 years."

Hayden called for laws and institutions to model alternatives, executives with the power and determination to carry out such plans and the organization of people to

support them.

"You can't have an economy based on greed, avarice and corruption and then expect people to rise above all that in their own lives," he warned.

Hayden cited corporate and union pension and holdings as reservoirs of money, solar energy as a reservoir of power. Both could be used to effect needed changes, he said.

Hayden explained his attraction to solar power as a cheap, environmentally sound, non-discriminating way of providing energy for everyone. "Solar power is Democratic power," he said. "The sun shines on rich and poor alike."

The speaker said he would "also like to go after the corporate structure itself." He mentioned several ideas, regulation, consumer representation and trust-busting, but said one idea has yet to emerge as the answer.

When asked the difference between his desire for "economic Democracy" and socialism Hayden answered that it's a lot easier to get elected on a platform of economic Democracy. "It doesn't have all the baggage."

Groups join for rally against Redden ruling on state board stocks

By RICHARD SEVEN
Of the Emerald

The ASUO, People for South African Freedom (PSAF) and the Portland Citizens against Racism will sponsor a rally Friday to support higher education's divestment of South African-based stocks.

The rally will begin on the EMU Terrace at 12:30 p.m. A bus and car caravan will depart for Salem at 1:30 p.m. The Salem rally will begin at 3 p.m. in front of Attorney General James Redden's Salem office.

The rallies, of course, are to protest Redden's May 2 decision which said the State Board of Higher Education cannot divest itself of South African stocks.

ASUO Pres. Gary Feldman says the groups are also preparing to challenge Redden's opinion before a state court.

The attorney general's formal opinion against divestment, which was released after five months of study, centered on two points: first, a 1975 Act gave the Oregon Investment Council (OIC) control of the investment powers for higher education funds, and second, the Prudent Person rule in governing trusteeship of endowment funds constitutes a barrier to divestment. It says state investment managers must not make judgments based on political or moral basis, but only on the safety and probable return of investments.

Walt Sheasby, spokesperson for PSAF, says the state board does have the authority to invest stock under the Oregon constitution. He maintains the 1975 Act merely gave the OIC day-by-day control of divestment decisions. The state board thus retained its discretionary and supervisory authority to set investment policy.

Sheasby says the "prudent person" rule has never before been used as a barrier to divestment, but merely as a requirement that it be carried out in a careful manner.

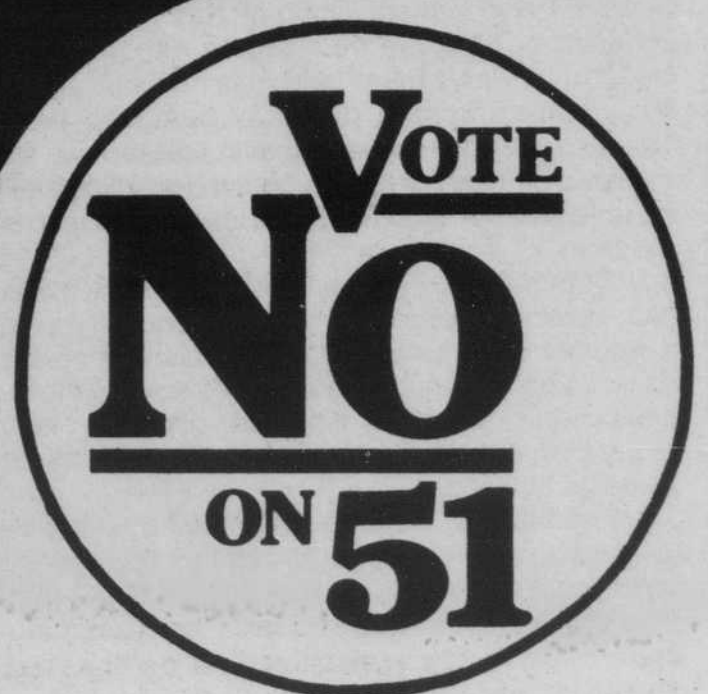
"We have concluded," says Sheasby, "that the attorney general, in trying to erect legal barriers to prevent educational institutions from setting investment policy according to any other than monetary dividends, represents a smoke screen."

Don Chalmers, director of the Office of Student Advocacy (OSA), says state scholarship students and other beneficiaries of the endowment funds, are being contacted to serve as plaintiffs in court.

The Oregon Federation of Teachers also passed a resolution last weekend to urge the OIC to divest all stocks relating to S. Africa in the Public Employee Retirement Fund.

My Girlfriend Spent The Night And My Landlord Threw Me Out.

He said he didn't want "that sort of thing" going on. But I don't think it's any of his business, as long as I'm a good tenant. I found out that the 'gay rights' ordinance could help me. That was a surprise. The ordinance protects all of us. I'm voting Tuesday.



Paid ECHR, PO Box 402, Eugene OR 97440
Phil George Treasurer

Rally for Divestment!
EMU 12:30 PM
Friday, May 19
 Rides leave for Salem from EMU 1:30 pm
 Rally at Attorney General's office 3:00 pm

Sponsored by ASUO, PSAF,
 Portland Citizens Against Racism