

## Senate legislation is an unwise measure

Trade friction between the United States and Japan has reached its highest level since the late 1930s. The U.S. Senate and the House of Representatives have overwhelmingly passed resolutions that call for retaliatory trade measures against Japan. Critics of Japan's trade policy charge that Japanese markets are closed to a myriad of American goods and services, including forest products, agricultural commodities, manufactured products, and banking and insurance companies. Many members of Congress are frustrated with what they perceive as Japan's intransigence in resolving this situation.

The U.S. had a total trade deficit of \$123 billion in 1984. America's deficit with Japan accounted for about 25 percent of that total. A Senate Finance Committee staffer estimates that American-based companies sold \$23.75 billion worth of goods and services in Japan in 1984, while Japanese-based companies sold \$57.13 billion worth of goods in the United States.

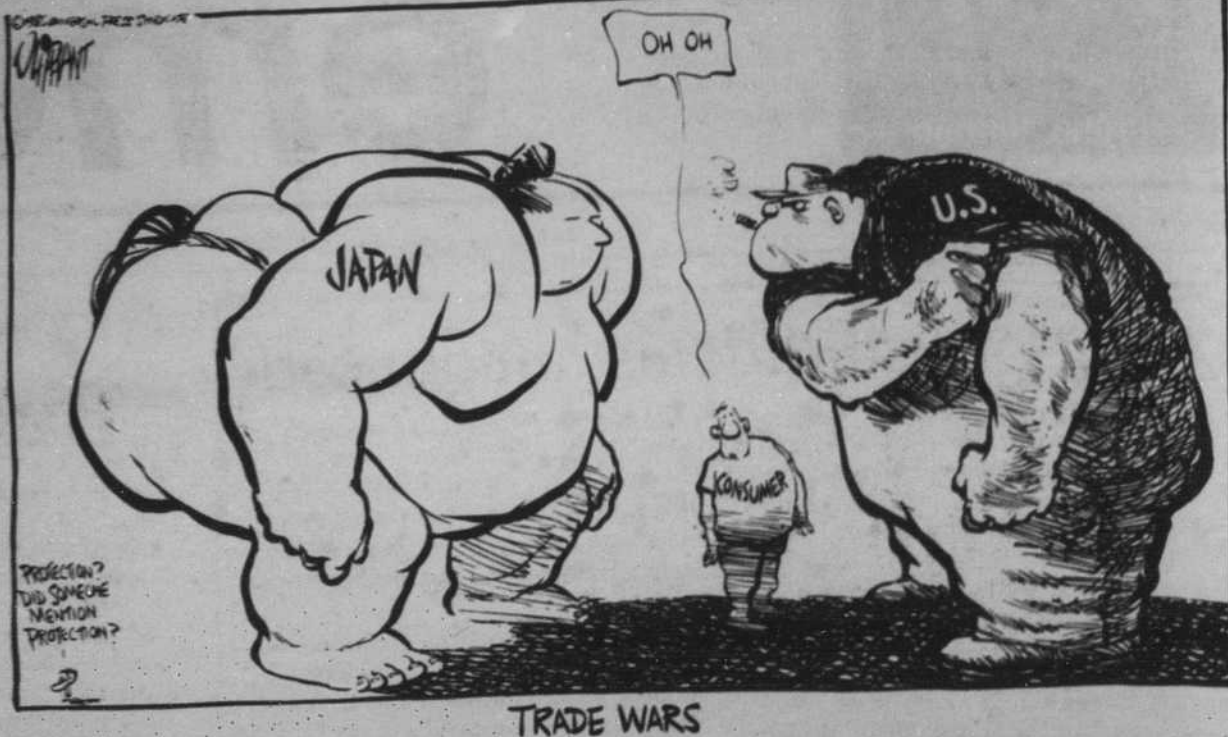
Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone is expected to call a meeting of his economic ministers Tuesday to discuss further liberalization of Japanese trade measures. But while Nakasone is working to open specific sectors of the Japanese economy, the Japanese government has maintained tariffs and quotas on U.S. steel, beef, lumber and other industrial products. Of particular concern to Northwest residents is Japan's 15 percent tariff on American plywood, which has further aggravated the Northwest timber industry's high unemployment rate.

U.S. Sen. Bob Packwood, R-Ore., who is finance committee chair, is a sponsor of legislation that would give President Ronald Reagan the authority to close American ports to Japanese ships. The bill, titled the U.S.-Japan Trade Act, was approved by the finance committee Tuesday by a vote of 12-4. In addition to the closure of American ports, the bill would impose tariffs and quotas on Japanese electronic and telecommunications products, as well as automobiles. Following Congressional approval, the legislature would give Reagan 135 days to implement a plan to deal with Japan's restrictive trade policies.

The United States and Japan must work to eliminate the huge trade deficit, but the trade act is not a sensible vehicle for resolving the situation. The Packwood supported legislation is an extreme measure at a time when congressional members should be attempting to ease trade tensions with Japan. The two governments must work together in order to forge a sensible trade policy.

Past experience has demonstrated that the imposition of tariffs and quotas invite further retaliation from the country that is the target of such measures. Additionally, the imposition of quotas on foreign steel entering the American economy has demonstrated the inefficiency of implementing such trade tools. Rather than modernizing their steel mills, American steel companies have used their increased earnings to purchase shopping malls, real estate and other non-steel industry related businesses. And although the U.S. does have a large trade deficit with Japan, Japan has proved to be a strong market for American goods. If the Japanese government were to further close its markets in response to Packwood's plan, the American trade deficit would grow even more.

Rather than attempting to increase frictions between the two countries, Congress should be working to reach an amicable trade agreement that will open Japanese markets to American goods. Neither the full Senate nor the House have taken action on the finance committee's plan. Write to Oregon's congressional delegation in Washington D.C. and state your opposition to the U.S.-Japan Trade Act.



## letters

### Doesn't hit all

I've read several letters from homosexual apologists who try to deny homosexual's responsibility for the AIDS epidemic. I have to laugh.

Currently AIDS is overwhelmingly a homosexual disease. In every Western country in which AIDS has been reported, the first persons stricken are gays. Gays account for over 72 percent of all AIDS cases, according to every source.

Like alcoholics, homosexuals have a bad habit that harms them and endangers normal people. Unlike alcoholics, homosexuals have decided to achieve special rights because of their vice.

These disease-machines account for three-fourths of all sexually transmitted diseases, parasite-intestinal infections, etc. and this is well documented in numerous medical journals.

Some bi-homosexuals with AIDS have been documented as encouraging AIDS victims to purposely spread their disease to prostitutes and to donate blood so AIDS will spread to others. Their mentality is that as more normal people get AIDS more money will be allocated from government.

You, the taxpayer, have to pay the bill for this gay-plague. You, your family and friends, have to withstand the risk that these diseases may jump out of the gay community and start to attack normals. Homosexual sex already has its hands in your pocketbook, if allowed to

flourish it may soon have its hands around your throat!

Oh, by the way, there is some evidence that AIDS may be able to be transmitted by mosquitoes and also the risk of viral mutations (new variety of AIDS developing) grows with every homosexual carrier.

Dan Goulet  
Health Conscience

### Parenthood

Some elements in our "modern" society try to devalue the importance of the family unit. That's too bad because if strong American families become the exception — rather than the rule — America cannot preserve itself as a culture or a nation for very long.

Young men and women are told their highest priority and goal in life lies in attaining a "glamorous" or high-paying occupation while the idea of bringing up a family is, at best, presented as secondary in importance to monetary success. Certain types of accomplishments receive much glorification today while the importance of parenthood is ignored or even significantly downplayed. That's rather odd, since our nation could endure without many of its glamorous occupations but it certainly couldn't survive without motherhood and fatherhood. So which task is really the most important overall?

Parents are responsible for cultivating desirable values and behavior in future generations. What other accomplishments can substitute for success in creating, nurturing, and providing the direction for the citizens who will inherit this country?

Just remember — no amount of military hardware or finan-

cial power will preserve this nation in the long run if our youth accept a philosophy that parenthood isn't the most meaningful and worthwhile goal. The foundations of all great nations, including our own, rest on preservation of the family.

Tereasa McNew  
Eugene

### So he sayeth

"Book of Truth" Ch. VIII — And proud Von Dragonclough, with blonde damsel by his side, he stood upon the pillars of P.L.C. and uttered unto the vulgar horde below him the faults that had befallen them: "You — you filth that would rather drink stale ale than fine wine, look unto the heavens for your retribution. Pinkos, commies, democrats, anti-nukes, and Gloria Swanson look-alikes may the high gods unleash a San Franciscan plague into your veins and may you stumble and flee in flocks from this campus like the sheep you sleep with. O' my stomach is ill with the conservative liberalism that is running through this campus like green apples through my system. Heed my call Magnum drinkers, Bohemians, and other assorted slobes, for the time has arisen for you to slay quiche-eaters and to take the reigns of the very administration and turn this Gypsy infested university into a respectable heterosexual oasis. I leave your destiny up to your pitiful selves... it is high time to prove yourselves..." And when Von Dragonclough spoke no more, but disappeared with the blonde to the fine dining restaurant of Hoots, the crowd dispersed and the weak they did cry in fear, for their fate is certainly soon to come. How say you U of O?

Von Dragonclough  
Political Science  
International Studies

## oregon daily emerald

The Oregon Daily Emerald is published Monday through Friday except during exam week and vacations by the Oregon Daily Emerald Publishing Co., at the University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon, 97403.

The Emerald operates independently of the University with offices on the third floor of the Erb Memorial Union and is a member of the Associated Press.

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