

More Funds for Higher Education

An unprecedented number of students this fall has put the state's institutions of higher learning into a difficult jockey. And likewise, the governor.

Gov. Mark Hatfield has been under fire, much of it politically inspired, for his reluctance to call a special session to meet the need. This latter is put at \$2,770,124.

Having spent considerable time around similar institutions of higher learning, we think the governor probably is right.

Unless the schools in Oregon are far different from most, we suspect considerable belt-tightening might be possible. Further, we suspect class loads might be increased, fuller utilization made of classroom space, greater use of student assistants etc.

We certainly sympathize with the universities and their desire to provide the best education possible. Oregon State's president, Dr. James H. Jensen, pointed out last week that as much money is invested in the U.S. Air Force Base at

Camp Adair as at OSU.

However, all of us — and this includes colleges and universities — sometimes have to tighten our belt and get along with a little less than we think necessary. It's usually possible.

We would agree, however, with the University of Oregon's President Arthur S. Flemming that athletic department funds should not be expropriated for academic needs. The athletic funds come, to a considerable degree, from private donors at most schools. Their use for other purposes could hardly be justified.

Athletics, as all old coaches know, always are the whipping boy at any university. It must give them wry satisfaction to see the ivory-tower brigade looking enviously at the "tainted" athletic treasuries.

Incidentally, we suggest one way in which the Oregon schools might solve their enrollment dilemma is to tighten up admission standards for out-of-state students. It's being done everywhere else.

Administration's News Policies Being Challenged

More and more of the nation's newspapers, including even those that supported the Democratic cause last fall, are becoming increasingly unhappy with the administration's policies on news.

President Kennedy, as everyone knows, has cut down drastically on the number of news conferences he holds... far fewer, for instance, than held by ex-Pres. Eisenhower.

Moreover, there is a curious ambivalence in what administration spokesmen say about the free flow of news. Everyone from the president on down says the administration "firmly believes in the fullest freedom of information."

But in the next breath, they say we shouldn't be so free with this information. Pierre Salinger, the presidential press secretary, recently told a group of students in Seattle that "Some things happen every day which should not be reported by the press."

In other words, the government is edging toward a policy of "When in doubt, suppress." When some government official de-

cides that national security is involved, the news should not be reported.

This sort of approach hardly squares with our concept of government by the people. The people, obviously, can't govern themselves if they don't know what is going on.

One of the nation's most influential newspapers, the Hartford, Conn., Courant, recently took the administration to task commenting in particular upon the unfortunate Cuban invasion last spring.

Had the press been able to print the truth about the CIA-sponsored invasion, it probably never would have happened. As the Courant observed:

"This Cuban venture was out of character for us. Democracy will always come off second best at intrigue and conniving and counter-revolution. We will be at best clumsy amateurs imitating the pros, the totalitarian Reds."

"Let the people know what's going on and they and their nation will automatically be strong. Then we won't have to worry about who's going to bury whom."

Does Pre-Primary Endorsement Really Mean Much?

We think the whole furore being raised over pre-primary endorsement of political candidates here in Oregon is a teapot tempest.

Both Democratic and Republican parties are testing the water, may take the plunge. The Republicans actually have gone a bit further than the Democrats with the County GOP Central Committee voting for such endorsements.

Both parties frankly admit that the pre-primary endorsement plan is to encourage more activity by precinct workers. There are few, if any, rewards these days for precinct workers and some sort of a pre-primary convention would give them more of a voice in party affairs... and, concurrently, keep them working for the "good of the

party."

But is anyone these days greatly affected by party endorsements? Certainly not in the big races, certainly not in the larger state offices, possibly in legislative contests.

Obviously, non-endorsed candidates will win and will win often. What then happens to the non-endorsed candidate in the general election? Does the party, hat in hand, smoke a peace pipe? Or does the candidate refuse any overtures and become a maverick in the house or senate, thus making a mockery of party discipline?

We think the primary system can best be left as it is, with the voters doing the deciding. If the parties need to buck up their precinct organizations, there must be other ways.

Will West Germany Turn to Russia?

An ugly rumble has been heard in Berlin, that Germany's only hope of eventual reunification lies with the East, not the West.

Germans, so the story goes, feel that no longer is there any chance of reunifying their country under Western aegis. They are said to feel that only by aligning themselves with the stronger Eastern power is there a possibility of a reunited Germany.

Russia's No. 1 aim, of course, in the Berlin crisis is to split up the NATO alliance, to fragment its power. Convincing Germany that its future lies in the East

and not to the West would be a tremendous coup.

There are strong arguments against such a German reversal, however. West Germany is almost inextricably entwined, economically and politically, with its Western neighbors. Events of the past few months in East Berlin surely have demonstrated the futility of any sort of reapproachment with the Russians.

But the bogey of a new Moscow-Berlin alliance, as helped trigger World War II, must cause foreboding chills, indeed, in Western capitals.

Should Illiterates Be Allowed to Vote?

The state chairman of the Democratic party, E. D. Spencer, has stirred up considerable comment with a suggestion that voting laws be changed to allow illiterates to vote.

The present laws require that a voter must be able to read and write English. Spencer would abolish this requirement.

His argument is that a person "mentally competent and able to exercise good judgment and reason" should be allowed to vote.

But on the other hand, if a person can't read, how can he exercise good judgment and reason? Where will he get the information on which to base his vote?

Spencer's proposal, if ever adopted, would mean either a return to straight-party voting or else depending upon someone else to interpret the ballot.

We think Spencer's idea is a bad one. Literacy certainly is a minimum requirement, certainly not too much to ask.

West Coast Cutting Back Here

Last week's sugar-coated news release on office consolidation by the West Coast Telephone Co. couldn't conceal one fact... the staff in this area is being cut back.

We can't argue with West Coast's desire to save money. But we thought the news release could have told us more directly what is going to happen:

Half a dozen employees will leave the Gresham office, either for Beaverton where

the new consolidated business office is being established, or for other jobs.

A Gresham office will be maintained but customer requests, etc., now will be handled from Beaverton, Curt Straw, local manager, will remain in Gresham.

Again, we can't argue with West Coast's consolidation plans. That's their business. But we hope similar developments are laddered out straight... without the sugar-coating.



Carolyn Matheson watches Gov. Mark Hatfield sign autograph for Dick Cortright, while Ed Bernard and Linda Redmon wait their

turn. Oregon's young governor struck quick rapport with Sandy students when he spoke to them at high school, last week. (Post photo)

Hatfield Tells Youth Citizenship Ingredients

Knowledge, participation and faith are the vital ingredients of citizenship, Governor Mark O. Hatfield told Sandy area high and grade students last Wednesday afternoon.

Hatfield gave his views to an assembly of students from Sandy high, on "Citizenship" and seventh and eighth graders from Sandy, Clatsop and Dover in the high school auditorium. Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Sandstrom, who arranged for the governor's visit to Sandy, were his hosts, arriving with him at the school where he was welcomed by Carl Aschoff, student body president, and other officers of the student body.

Knowledge Needed
Hatfield, who said he finds speaking to youth a great challenge, emphasized that knowledge the students are now acquiring is the fundamental basis of the strength of their citizenship. A good citizen does not come into being at age 21, he said. He develops much earlier by learning the principles his country stands for, its history and the processes by which it functions.

As an example he cited the very young Chinese Nationalist soldiers he met during his service with the Navy in World War II. These young men, whose ages were 15-16, had been indoctrinated to fight the Communists, but were without any comprehension of why they were fighting or for what they were fighting. Their vacant, listless expression was a vivid contrast to that of young Americans who know what principles for which they fought.

Deplores "Spectatoritis"
Once a person has knowledge he has an obligation to participate in his government. Our country is suffering from "spectatoritis," Hatfield said. A democracy depends on every citizen's participation.

Hatfield said he believes strongly that the voting age should be lowered to 18. He finds young people at this age vital, interested and alert.

"We lose a great deal of vital interest by postponing participation to 21," he said.

He explained the outdated reason for the establishment of 21 as the age of maturity. It was chosen centuries ago when a man was considered at 21 to be physically strong enough to wear a suit of armor.

Faith Conquers Fear
Faith in one's ability and capacity to perform, he continued, gives a person courage to act on his convictions. Faith in one's fellow man gives the ability to work together. Our age is not the first one to face great danger. Hatfield pointed out, nor is the atomic threat more fearful to us than Indian massacres and decimating epidemics were to our forefathers. The man with faith sees and faces the dangers of his age, but knows he can conquer them.

The governor ended his talk

by emphasizing what he termed the "greatest fault" of all — spiritual faith. We must want God's will for our country, he said. Then we have the power of God with us.

After his talk Hatfield chatted with the students and signed the many autograph books that were presented.

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At Boring--

Miss Edith Anderson spent Thanksgiving in Portland with her sister and husband, the Elmer Hannahs.

When the Larry Childs had a baby girl, seven pounds, last week, he spent no time telling about it though he was a mighty proud papa. Instead, there was a huge sign in the general store, saying, "It's a girl—Tammy Sue."



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