

Faculty Forum

Political Science Prof Expounds On Adverse Effects Of Loyalty Oath

Editor's note: Though this was written in 1959 and is in reference to oath required by the National Defense Education Act, it was thought that the ideas were especially appropriate at this time in view of the recent controversy over the Idaho loyalty oath. By BERNARD C. HORNING Professor and Chairman of Political Science

An invitation to contribute to the Faculty Forum at this particular time makes it highly appropriate, I think, to comment on loyalty oaths, a subject which has lately agitated the pages of the Argonaut. Professors whose primary academic field happens to be political theory and ideology would understandably have at least as great a professional concern respecting this subject as would most members of the academic world.

ers and students as such. The specific reference is to the so-called non-Communist oath provision of the National Defense Education Act of 1958. Although I am confident that a great many faculty members, on this campus as on others, generally share the opinions expressed below, I none the less speak here only as one individual.

Two main contentions may, I think, be validly pressed against this type of specially-imposed oath: (1) It is ineffective; (2) It is objectionable on principle. With regard to the first contention it is relevant to inquire as to what purpose of end the oath requirement is designed to serve. Is it designed to expose Communists? Hardly a better technique could be devised to hide Communists. Surely no one supposes that a dyed-in-the-wool Communist would hesitate to sign a non-Communist oath if he thought he could thereby further his own ends.

If it is genuine it is freely given.

Is the oath requirement merely a safeguard which any "prudent investigator" would seek before granting loans of subsidies? If so, the "investor" has been acting imprudently for some time not requiring loyalty oaths, for example, of newspapers and magazines for the untold millions in subsidies which they have received in the form of special mailing privileges, nor of book publishers and authors similarly subsidized, nor of clergymen for the special tax exception privilege granted to them. Newspapers, books, sermons all deal in ideas. Why single out certain persons in the academic world? Why impose special oaths not required of farmers, air carriers, armament manufacturers, shipping companies, and a great many other groups and individuals in American life who benefit from public subsidies?

Actually the fundamental defect of "the oath" goes immeasurably deeper than its mere uselessness. In the realm of study and learning it is most objectionable on principle. The explanation for this lies in the very nature of "the disinterested search for truth." In this world of the intellect there are no iron curtains closing off certain areas to the seeker. There are not some questions which cannot be explored. There are not some things which one dare not think about. "The oath" implies that there are. It implies that there is no valid distinction between intellectual freedom and the absence of restraints on the level of overt ACTION.

To deny intellectual freedom, as Mill and Milton and many others have eloquently told us, is to "rob the human race." Freedom of the mind can thus be defended not only as the basic right of the free individual but also on the ground of the rich rewards it brings to the individual's fellow men. On principle — the principle of the free mind — an oath requirement especially imposed in the realm of science and scholarship is especially inappropriate.

More Anti-Oath

Dear Jason: The Lewiston Morning Tribune and The Argonaut have at last, between them, smoked out those "timorous professors."

I find it ridiculous to be asked to take an oath that I do not and have not in the last five years belonged to any subversive organization — when the law does not tell me what the state considers a subversive organization to be. Since my organizational memberships include only the Moscow (USA) Fine Arts Club, the American Association of University Professors, the American Musicological Society, and three others with "music" on the masthead, I have no reason to fear I might later be accused of perjury for signing the oath. I would be less than human, however, if I did not resent the insinuation that I, unlike most of my friends and neighbors in Idaho, must make such a public declaration of patriotic purity. In the many years I have lived in Idaho, I have been proud that this state did not succumb to the witch hunting hysteria of the McCarthy era. That it should show signs of doing so at this date is no pleasure.

2. Since no intelligent person could conceivably believe that any oath would deter communists or "subversives" from seeking public employment, I can only conclude that this law has a purpose other than its declared one. To me it appears to be just an effort to embarrass the academic profession and all supporters of free inquiry. Because I think the effort is at this time a feeble and futile one, I refuse to be embarrassed by it. I shall sign the oath because I see no sufficiently compelling reason not to do so.

I have, however, the sincerest sympathy for those who may refuse to sign. It is always a question just where to stand and fight in any battle of the mind. I may think this is a weak barricade on which to stand. At the same time I see the dangers of allowing people of the Birch Society mentality to get a foot in the door of academic freedom. I may live to regret that I did not elect to stand and fight just here. This is a question that each one of us can only decide for himself. I honor those who believe the fight must be made here and now even while I choose to continue the educational battle for a generation which will see the absurdity of paper oaths and will recognize the necessity of free inquiry in schools, in government,

Dear Jason

in the press and in all walks of American life.

Agnes Crawford Schult Associate Professor of Music

Wall Of Silence

Dear Jason: Speeches, slogans, publicity, and everything goes when it is campaigns, marches — anything budget time. The whole Campus is activated and in union cries for bigger appropriations, for more money (for bigger buildings and better barnyards).

However, when academic freedom — the very cornerstone of university life — is being destroyed and the inherent right of every member of the campus community — the right to teach and to learn without bounds and shackles — is being trampled there are neither speeches nor marches. Instead a wall of silence is erected — a cruel wall which separates the intellect from reality. And the scholars become shadows, mute, pathetic shadows moving aimlessly along the great wall of silence. The whole academic scene turns into one of intellectual decrepitude and of tragic human waste.

Ugly, sordid materialism. Empty meaningless life.

Eleny Theo. Stimson

Not A 'Grandma'

Dear Jason: I appreciated Neil Modie's comments in the column, Nothing Much (April 23), concerning our scheduling of the film, "Where the Boys Are," for this Sunday at the Campus Christian Center. The article convinces me to two things. First, our need to be much more clear in our publicity releases. And second, our church and church groups on this campus.

The naive, but alas all too widely held image of the church which your article reflects is that of the church as the "grandma figure" who stands grey-headed and furrow-browed at the edge of the campus, wringing her hands, scolding her grandchildren, and ready with a ruler to whack any jam-stealing knuckles she can reach.

It's lamentable that the church of the twentieth century has failed to rid itself of this maternal image, for certainly this is not what the church is. As a case in point, our purpose in offering a series of lectures on courtship and marriage is not (as you apparently suppose) to introduce a new moralism, or enforce the old, but to place before those interested seriously in marriage some practical considerations which may be discussed within the larger context of life's ultimate meaning. In other words this is not intended to be a series on "how to be happy though married," but rather an attempt to discover the implications of various dimensions of married life for those who would live responsibly in this world.

It seemed a happy coincidence that the film, "Where the Boys Are," was available for viewing and discussion during the time of the lecture series on Marriage. For whether or not the picture deals "frankly" (you're probably right that it doesn't with the outside of marriage, it seemed to the committee that it reflects enough of a contemporary attitude toward the place of sex in life, along with other questions of personal goals and values, to open up a lively and fruitful discussion. Contrary to your opinion, we do not wish the film to be anything that it is not — to support one position or another — by the issues it raises.

(Incidentally, it occurs to me that your own attitude toward sex, Mr. Modie, may be reflected in the use of the word "vice" in the title of your article. If so, I suggest that you might profitably enter into the discussion Sunday evening — before heading for Robinson Lake!)

Sincerely, Chad E. Bolick Director, Westminster Foundation

Mistake Told

Dear Jason: On page three of today's edition of the Arg (Tuesday's Argonaut) I find this title, "WF Series to Discuss Sex Relations." Let me commend the writer for the way this short article has been executed.

However, it is necessary for me to also point out that there is a gross error in his reporting. The series you will find is the work of the Westminster Foundation. We would like to be able to claim

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New Exec Board Passes 5 Reports In 2nd Session

The new Executive board met in its second official session Tuesday night to pass five E-Board suggestions from Election Board Chairman Bob Hahn.

Hahn suggested moving the election booths to the Agricultural Sciences building from the Engineering Building because of the population shift next year caused by the new Wallace Dormitory Complex.

Alice Joy Taylor, outgoing E-Board member, presented a report on Election Regulations suggesting some changes in present regulations. Miss Taylor said there was a question about the regulations because some were abolished by the rules listed. She suggested amending the regulations and deleting the conflicting articles.

Marlene Finney moved the report to be tabled until next week to give the E-Board members a chance to examine it more carefully.

In presenting the Campus Chest allocation report, ASUI Vice President Carvel Whiting said that the charities Care and United Nations International Childrens Emergency Fund (UNICEF) would be discontinued because the University's name

did not appear on the donation list.

The \$110 amount will be recommended for the Near East Foundation and used to educate a boy in Jordan. The remainder of Campus Allocations will be given to the Elks Philanthropy Fund.

Areas Of Concern

The new E-Board members were assigned areas of concern for the next year. They are: Dave Lindsay, international students; Carl Johannesen, student-faculty area; Bill Longe, finances; Jim Johnston, student government improvement; Marlene Finney, student recruitment; Mary Lynne Evans, academics; Jim Scheel, constitution and regulations; Jay Sherman, communications and Ken Weatherbie, student relations.

Submitting a report on last year's Student-Faculty Retreat, Carl Johannesen suggested that various businessmen should also be included on the retreat. Johannesen said that the ideas of the businessmen are important to the students and the community.

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Regents Accept \$7,650 In Donations, Bruce Dunn Memorial Fund Okehed

Stock valued at \$1,687.50, added to the Author W. Farenwald Alumni scholarship fund and monies totaling \$1,125 given by Winn-Dixie Stores were included in the \$7,650 worth of gifts and scholarships accepted by the University Regents at their April meeting in Boise last weekend.

Dean Emeritus Arthur W. Fahrenwald presented stock to support the Arthur W. Fahrenwald Alumni scholarship fund.

The Regents approved the establishment of a fund designated the Bruce Dunn Memorial scholarship. The fund will include any scholarship money given to the University in connection with its participation in the G.E. College Bowl program April 21. Dunn, killed in an auto accident last month, was a member of the University's College Bowl team.

The Winn-Dixie Stores foundation, Jacksonville, Florida, fund will be used by students William Rasmussen, Kappa Sig; Linda Elliott, Pi Phi, and Boyd Earl, Gault.

Funds for two scholarship grants totaling \$800 were accepted from Crown Zellerbach Foundation, San Francisco. The grants are available to junior or senior students majoring in forestry. Western Electronic Manufacturers Association, Los Angeles, granted \$750 to be used by students in Electronic Engineering or a related field.

The Idaho Candy company, Boise, presented \$500 for use by the College of Business Adminis-

Spanish Club Organizes

The newly organized Spanish Club held its first meeting just prior to Spring vacation. The four-fold purpose of the club — social, cultural, literary and publicity — were explained by committees.

Officers elected are: President, Larry Kirkland, off campus; Vice President, Jim Nelson, Uham; Coordinator, Bob Creech, Uham; Secretary, Anne Smith, Pi Phi.

Interior Gives

The Department of Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Billings, Mont., granted \$450 to be used by student Edwin L. Madsen, off-campus. Mrs. Arthur E. Clarke, Lewiston, presented \$400 for tuition for Ronald McCartney, Shoup Hall. The Department of Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Portland area office, gave \$375 to be used by Marcus L. Arthur.

Scholarship funds totaling \$200 were accepted from Dropping, Kelley and Finch, Boise, to be used by Art and Architecture. The scholarship committee of the Wallace Gyro Club, Wallace, presented \$150 to be used as a scholarship award for William McNeil, off-campus. The Sandpoint News-Bulletin, Sandpoint, granted \$125 for its annual scholarship in journalism.

The National Merit Scholarship corporation, Evanston, Ill., granted \$100 to the University because of the attendance of the National Merit scholar, Caren L. Chappell, Forney Hall. The Idaho Heart Association presented \$100 for heart research. Mrs. Jessie H. Smith, Pocatello, presented \$100 for the Sarah Hutchinson Award for 1963-64.

The Hanna Mining Company, Riddle, Ore., added \$100 to the Idaho Mining scholarship fund. Received from the Foresterettes, Moscow, was \$50 to be used as a Foresterette scholarship for James R. Crawford, off-campus.

The Craigmont Chamber of Commerce presented \$62.50 for use by Carol Pardue, McConnell Hall. A gift of a four volume set of the current edition of American Men of Science was made by C. C. Cowin, Moscow, to the department of physical science. A grant of \$25 was presented by the Delta Gamma Mother's club, Moscow, to be added to the University blind fund.

Students Okay 'Red' Speakers

Students at the University of California at Berkeley voted 2,947 to 847 Wednesday to allow Communists to speak on campus.

The referendum was in the form of a request asking the university regents to remove the ban which forbids Communists to appear at college sponsored events.

HERE'S MORE ABOUT Lecture

The danger and results of pregnancy often have adverse effects he said on the unmarried couple, interrupting plans and attainment of education. He added that if a couple were to that point in their relations they would probably be better off to get married rather than subject themselves to the resulting psychological strain or face the danger of an unwanted pregnancy.

He talked of the various methods of contraception now commonly used, including a lengthy discussion on oral contraceptives, how they function and the physical results of taking them. He said that oral contraceptives were preferred by most newly married couples because they did not interfere with the actual act of intercourse. He added that they were very reliable.

His talk was interjected with levity and he spoke to a very attentive audience. The series is sponsored by the Westminster Foundation. The next lecture will be Wednesday evening on "the Place of Religion in Marriage."

NEED WISDOM—JFK "Today we need both wisdom and strength and that's the reason why Americans should wake up and read."—JFK.

A CLASSIFIED WILL FIND IT!

HERE'S MORE ABOUT ASUI Leaders

Miss Finney stressed the importance of the community's role in student recruitment. Students are attracted to the University partly because of Moscow's home-town-away-from-home atmosphere, and the city and the University must work together to make the community a good place to live, she said.

The University will grow, but it will be measured and controlled growth with the philosophy of first maintaining the quality of the institution, she added.

More Time Here

Soper pointed out that the student spends more time in Moscow during this year of college than he does in his home town. "For the student's four years here, Moscow is his home town," he said.

Because student leaders are students first and leaders secondly, they need the townspeople's help in attracting students and helping the University and thus the community to grow, Soper stated.

He suggested the idea of an exchange dinner program, by which Moscow families would invite typical students to Sunday dinners. Students could return the invitation by inviting the townspeople to their living groups for dinner.

Chamber President Elmer E. Nelson presided at the luncheon.

Student Reactions Given To Quarter System Change

Student reaction to changing to the quarter system from the semester system at the University is about equally divided. Among 12 students selected at random and interviewed by the Argonaut.

The Interim Committee is studying the advisability of making the change. President D. R. Theophilus requested the committee to make the study.

Some schools do use the quarter system, but the semester system is used in the majority of colleges, said Ralph Farmer, chairman of the committee and professor of finance administration.

HERE'S MORE ABOUT — Jr.-Sr. Prom

be given a nightclub atmosphere through the use of round teak-wood tables with candles on them. Intermission entertainment will be by the "Terriers," a vocal group from Washington State University.

Women's hours have been extended to 2 a.m. for the Prom, the last all-campus semi-formal dance of the year. Tickets for the dance have been on sale at the ASUI office in the SUB. Advance tickets are \$2.25 per couple and door tickets are \$2.50.

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Foresters Set Observance

Forestry students will observe Forestry Week — April 28 to May 4 — in a variety of ways.

Theme of the observance is forestry research. Student foresters will aid in the site development of the new U.S. Forest Genetics laboratory adjacent to the campus by planting trees and shrubs on the grounds.

Contests on the Ad lawn with crosscut and power saws are being held.

Richard Powers, off campus, and Jon Bergquist, Chrisman, are chairmen of Forestry Week. Terry Williams and David Kimpton, both of Chrisman, are in charge of displays; Dennis Ward, off-campus, contacts; Lewis and Carl Pence, Campus Club, activities, and Ronald Carr, off campus, posters.

LOST—On the third floor of Library, small gold pocket watch—family heirloom. Contact Dan Johnson, 626 Ash, phone 3-8712.

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HERE'S MORE ABOUT — Vandaleers

Sunday in Salmon at 8 p.m.; Monday at St. Anthony at 1 p.m. Rexburg at 3 p.m. and Rigby at 8 p.m.; Tuesday in Bonneville at 10:30 a.m. and Montpellier at 8 p.m.; Wednesday in Rupert at 1:30 and Twin Falls at 8 p.m. and Thursday in Fairfield at 11 a.m., Gooding at 2 p.m. and Mt. Home Air Force Base at 8 p.m.

The group performed at 8:45 a.m. this morning at Boise High School and at Borah High School at 11 a.m. They will present their final performance this evening at South Junior High School in Boise at 8 p.m.

Want Ads Bring Results!

SDX Elects Board Prexy

Warren Board, off campus, was elected president of Sigma Delta Chi, professional journalistic society, Tuesday. He succeeds Neil Modie, Beta.

Other officers elected are: Larry McBride, Phi Delt, vice president and corresponding secretary; Fred Freeman, Sigma Chi, secretary-treasurer, and Bob Hofmann, Delta Sig, program chairman.

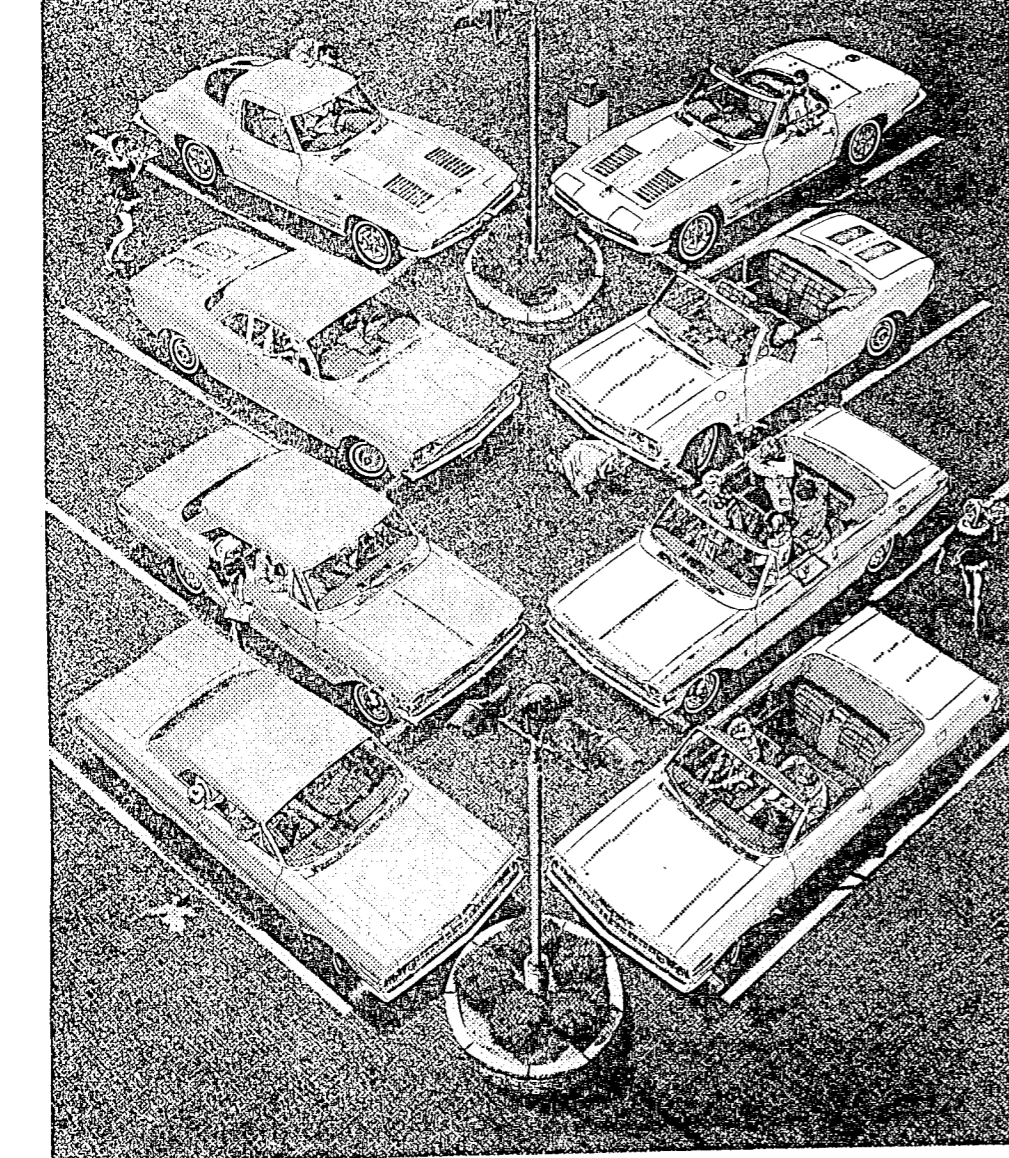
Mark Brown and SDX advisor Bert Cross, chairman of journalism, will attend a regional convention of the organization at the University of Oregon, Eugene, this weekend.

Jerry Brown, off campus, was initiated during the Tuesday meeting.

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