

OREGON EMERALD

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Saturday, May 7, 1910.

Politics

"Let's have a clean election." To this annual crusade the Emerald would like to add its endorsement and make a few suggestions as to how it may best be accomplished.

In the first place personalities should be left out of an election. It makes no difference how much a candidate has done for his University. Such trifles may be all right in a small body where the members are intimately associated and acquainted, but the A. S. U. O. is past that stage, and it is time we were getting away from its pernicious effects.

We would advise therefore that every student make a special effort to find out just what frat, club or faction a candidate belongs to and vote accordingly. When possible everyone should vote for the candidate in his own house. If none is available, then the house most closely associated in politics should be chosen. The essential thing we are getting at is that personal merit should be disregarded.

Hardly second in importance is the element of personal friendship. How ungrateful it is to turn down a friend just because his opponent happens to have more ability. Such a man was Brutus when he sacrificed his benefactor for the common good.

As a better illustration, take the example of an editor a few years ago. This editor had a very close friend, belonging to the same fraternity, a popular man. But there was another candidate who had more ability, and the ungrateful editor turned down his friend to support the second candidate. We don't think that this will ever happen again, but lest it might we mention the circumstances. Think of it. Just for the good of the publication and partly, too, of course, for the University, this man sacrificed his friend.

An element of growing importance to the candidate himself is the matter of trading votes. The successful office seeker cannot ignore it. He should have a definite understanding with the various houses as to just how they stand. If he can get their vote by supporting and calling upon his friends and fraternity brothers to support certain candidates he is unwise at least not to do so. Many a candidate has won his election by being thoroughly up to date in these matters of practical politics.

And the student who is not running also has a chance to win friends and supporters for other years when he may be in the race himself. He should attempt to support only those who will agree to support him when he runs. It's a good idea, too, to tell both candidates that he will support them. They won't know the difference.

Next week the University of Washington Daily will be edited by the juniors and seniors of the Department of Journalism. It is their intention to put out an ideal paper.

LITTLE WORDS BOB UP AGAIN IN INTERSTATE

Washington and Montana Have Trouble With Orations for Big Contest

Orators of the Northwest are finding out that little words amount to something this year.

It will be remembered that Harold Rounds, who represented Oregon in the intercollegiate contest, exceeded the word limit by failing to count small words. Washington's representative in the interstate oratorical contest has run over the two thousand word limit in the same way by failing to count eighty-one little words.

In this case the mistake will cause no serious trouble, for as soon as a Manager Steele discovered it, he notified them and allowed them to revise the paper.

A change has been made in Montana's representative. Instead of A. Leech, who was first chosen, Bullerdick, who took second place, will represent Montana.

This contest will be held at Villard Hall May 27. The subjects are:

Washington, "America's Opportunity." Montana, Oregon, "A Call to Public Service."

Only two judges of composition and two of delivery have as yet been decided upon. They are, for composition, Professor Lyman, of the University of Wisconsin and Professor Alden, of Stanford. For delivery, Professor Matthews, of O. A. C., and Attorney Fisher, of Portland.

PROF. DECOU INTERESTS THE ENGINEERING CLUB

Discusses Recommendations of Waterway Commission In Talk on "Inland Waterways"

Professor DeCou talked to the Engineering Club last night on "Inland Waterways," his purpose being to awaken student interest in the development of our country by river and canal systems.

He showed how Canada, through her legislation in behalf of canals and waterways, is to make Montreal, instead of New York, the greatest grain center in America. He told how the railroads, through skillfully arranged schedules, drive competition from the rivers. To remedy these conditions, the Waterways Commission was appointed during President Roosevelt's administration.

This commission recommended the expenditure of \$500,000,000 for the improvement of waterways and construction of canals. Among other things, the commission advised improvement of the Columbia, Willamette and Snake rivers; and the construction of a canal system which will connect the inland waters between Boston, Mass., and Charleston, S. C. These canals are to be thirty feet deep and will make commerce on our Atlantic coast practically safe, besides giving greater protection to our navy than any other means which could be devised.

The improvement of the Columbia and Willamette rivers he showed to be of special interest to the people of the Willamette valley as a means of lowering excessive freight rates. The present activity in securing the opening of the Willamette river through the government purchase or construction of the locks at Oregon City, thus forcing commerce to Eugene, Professor DeCou showed to be of special benefit to the future of Western Oregon.

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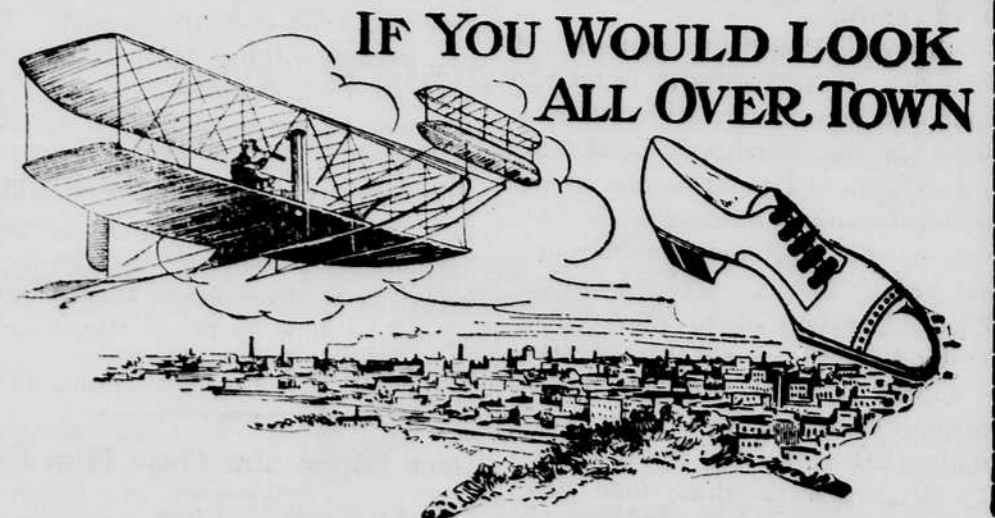
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