

# OREGON EMERALD

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## Forensics

Forensics at Oregon were never in a healthier state than now. It has been the custom to look back with veneration to the palmy days of 1906 and 1907, when we held the championship of seven states, and the golden age of varsity forensics. Then, however, there was a smaller proportion of students interested in public speaking, and the management had difficulty in drumming up candidates for the tryouts. Then, too, a championship did not imply as much, as our rivals' standards were even lower than ours, and when, as in 1907, we happened on several good men, honors were easily acquired.

The last year and a half forensics have taken a decided boom. A very respectable number of students are directly interested in oratory and debate. The public speaking courses are crowded with able men, and the successes of the last year and a half are the immediate and practical results of this increased interest, the good effects of which it is difficult to overestimate.

Our leadership in forensics should be as zealously guarded and valued as success in athletics. Indeed, success in public speaking is more important for practical benefits and as a pure advertising feature surpasses endeavor. To many, athletic victory only affords an opportunity for the comment that we are subverting study to play; but intellectual superiority commands respect from all.

As this revival of interest in forensics and our recent victories have occurred since the advent of Mr. Buchen, it is only fair to attribute to him a large share of the credit, as much as any successful athletic coach, he deserves the appreciation and the support of the student body for his valiant efforts in placing us in the position of pre-eminence we now enjoy, and for awakening interest in this most important branch of college activity.

## Who Is Bill Hayward?

Washington's last attack upon Oregon and Trainer Hayward, reprinted today in another column, is but a fair example of their policy of consistently attempting to bulldoze and domineer in conference affairs. Hardly an issue of the Washington Daily this year has failed to contain some gratuitous and malignant attack upon us or upon our trainer. This last paroxysm is as incorrect as it is scurrilous, and is noticed only because of the light it throws upon Washington's attitude towards us. Since her successes of the last three years, before which time we beat her regularly, our neighbor's behavior has been that of the bourgeois parvenu, who, intoxicated by sudden and unexpected good fortune, assumes a arrogant and overbearing manner and arrogantly tries to browbeat his associates.

"Who is Bill Hayward?" flippantly inquires the Washington Daily. If they will consult the record of their track defeats for the last six years, they may obtain an effective answer to their question as to who he is and what he can do.

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