

OREGON EMERALD

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Wednesday, January 17, 1912.

The Farce of Informality.

The student body informal dance, given in the Men's Gymnasium Saturday evening, was one of the most enjoyable affairs of its kind given at Oregon during the past four years. Everybody was in the correct mood, the dancers felt like dancing, the orchestra was enthusiastic, and Berry, as he served red punch to puffing parties of pretty girls and polite men, smiled incessantly.

The success of these dances is to be commended highly, for they promote friendship and democracy among the students of the University—a state of social existence we have been accused of not having at our school. If it were possible, we should be glad to see these dances given more often in the future.

There is one criticism to be made on Saturday's party, however. Not only are these dances meant to be democratic, but informal as well. The dance was democratic alright, but about the only informality we could notice was that the men wore no dress suits. The girls, certainly as handsome a lot as ever graced the halls of any school, were in all their finery—out in their very best dresses—silk, satin, lace, slippers and all those things girls are wont to wear when they want to look their prettiest.

This should not be,—we have enough "dress-up" parties to show off all the evening dresses any girl will have during the year, and these student-body dances should be reserved as occasions when the girl with only one plain white dress, and we have more of them than it might seem to a careless observer, can go and be as well dressed as anyone. We wonder, how such a dress would have looked Saturday evening among all those pink silks, velvet slippers, and low cut waists. Ones humor is apt to get the better of him, when he tries to think of the dance as informal, with the women in mind.

This is a matter we should like to see the Pan Hellenic Association, or Women's Council, or even the Executive Committee, take up and regulate.

Its Up to the Fraternities.

The Emerald publishes a communication from Merle Chessman, '09, relative to the pledging of High School students at Oregon fraternities. Mr. Chessman takes stand with Manager Geary, advocating the pledging only of students in the University. The Emerald thinks there is much to be said in favor of the change and has been glad of the opportunity to present it to the students, but as the University is only indirectly interested in the matter, and the fraternities directly interested, the Emerald will leave the question now to the fraternity men to dispose of as they will, and devote its space to the large amount of news calling for publicity.

What About the Monthly.

Ralph Moores in his communication which we published last issue,

makes a good point when he says that it is a shame to discontinue so old and respected a student activity as the Monthly, especially since it is the only field of activity allowed those who are inclined towards literary fields.

It does seem a shame to jump on the poor Monthly and suppress it entirely right in the middle of its year's work. It hasn't as many friends and admirers, possibly, as many of the students enterprises have, but it fills a need in our preparation for life's work in fact, as Mr. Moores says, it gives an outlet to the expression of that thing which is the basis of culture and refinement—English.

The Emerald is in hearty sympathy with Mr. Geary's policy of economy, and will support many other recommendations the manager has for lessening the study body expenditures, for it thinks the present financial status demands them, but is questionable in this case whether the executive committee was entirely wise in its repression of the Monthly.

SAGE OF PODUNK

Some of our self-made men don't look as if they had worked overtime on themselves.

Umbrellas have been steadily going up the last few days.

What will we do for plain clothes "cops" when the suffragettes get on the police force.

Proposing is a short sentence for some, but for most of us it means a sentence for life.

People along the river banks are due to have some high old times soon.

Love may make the world go round, but divorce makes it wobble.

There is no land to hastening ills a prey,
Where beer evaporates and men do pray.

Paul Hammer, a hundred pound freshman is trying for coxswain on the University of Washington crew this year.

George A. Warfield, '00, is Librarian and Professor of Social and Political Science in South Dakota Wesleyan University.

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