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## ALUMNUS AGREES WITH EMERALD ON PLEDGING

Merle Chessman Writes Views On  
Subject—Believes Action Would  
Be Step Forward.

To the Editor of the Oregon Emerald:  
I should like to endorse the sentiments expressed by Graduate Manager Geary in an article in a recent edition of your paper relative to the evils of the pledging systems in vogue at the present time among the fraternities. It seems to me that, inasmuch as the fraternities have become firmly established at Oregon, they should throw their primitive habits into the discard and manifest some indications of progress and development.

In the beginning when they were forced to fight each other with open disregard for the rules of modern warfare, in order that they might win the right of existence and command recognition from one another, the practice of going into the High School for recruits and enlisting the "preps" long before they were eligible for entrance to college might have been justifiable to some extent, but it is certainly out of harmony with the present conditions.

In other colleges where fraternity chapters had grown old before the University of Oregon was conceived, the value of mutual understanding, agreement and co-operation, has been recognized by different fraternities and the idea has been put into practice. In some it has resulted in Pan-Hellenic organizations with prescribed rules and regulations. Such a system certainly eliminates in a large way waste of time, money and energy necessary for a continual rushing campaign and the resultant unrest in each individual fraternity and the animosity and enmity between different ones.

The injustice which a prospective student does himself when he pledges himself to a group of men, with whom he has but a slight acquaintance and the possible injury which a fraternity does its members in joining with them a young man, of whom little is known, would be avoided by the adoption of the saner practice of rushing and pledging after the candidate has matriculated at the University.

The subject is a serious one, as I view it, and can not be exhausted within the short space which you have for communications. Therefore, at the risk of being criticized as an interloper, I am going to suggest that a meeting of fraternity men be called to discuss the abandonment of a practice so provincial, obsolete and opposed to the best interests of the fraternities and the institution in which they exist.

Respectfully,  
MERLE R. CHESSMAN, '09.

### OREGON

By Bishop Charles Scadding.  
The soothing hush of cool Pacific's waves;  
The odors sweet of cedars—Orford's gift;  
The deep blue lakes, and winding rivers swift;  
The sanded shores which bright Columbia laves,  
And, stemming seaward, maidenlike behave,  
Joyous, and happy in its sprightly course;  
Willamette from the Cascade's frozen source;  
The mighty rocks; and labyrinthine caves;  
The stately firs; the scent of roses rare;  
The native grape, luxuriant, brilliant, wild;  
The slopes of apple blossoms, and of pear;  
The giant mountains which in white robes stand;  
For these, and by these many charms beguiled;  
I love thee, Oregon, thou beauteous land!

Katherine E. Hanne, '96, is assistant pastor of the Central Presbyterian Church in this city.

## CALL THE ATHLETIC FIELD 'KINCAID FIELD'

Pat McArthur Says Mr. Kincaid Deserves Honor More Than Do the McArthurs.

Portland, Ore., Jan. 5, 1912.

To the Editor:

About two years ago, some enthusiastic friend of mine at the University proposed to name the athletic field in honor of my family name, partially on account of my association with the athletics of the University, but principally because of my fathers' long service as a member of the Board of Regents. Since that time the field has been alternately alluded to by newspaper correspondents and others as "McArthur Field" and "Kincaid Field." The name has never been changed officially by the Board of Regents or the Associated Students and I am of the opinion that no change should be made, but that the old name of "Kincaid Field" should remain. I am not insensible of the compliment that was intended to my family name, but I am also mindful of the kind and courteous treatment accorded the athletic management of the University during my student days by Hon. Harrison R. Kincaid, former owner of the property in question. For more than ten years, Mr. Kincaid granted the University students the free use of his field and those were the days when athletics were struggling for a bare existence. We had no grandstand, bleachers or running track and would have had no field but for Mr. Kincaid's kindness.

Mr. Kincaid is still living and to change the name of the athletic field would be an act of ingratitude. His name has been an honored one in our state's history and in his declining years he should be made to feel that the alumni and students of the University have not forgotten his generosity. Henceforth let our athletic field be known only as "Kincaid Field."

C. N. McARTHUR.

### QUESTION OF FINANCES WILL DECIDE CO-ED TENNIS

Graduate Manager Geary is enthusiastic in regard to having a Co-ed Tennis Team. The matter is to be brought up in a special meeting of the Athletic Council in the near future, and arrangements decided upon. Finances are the only stumbling block toward the realization of a co-ed team, and even this is not a very great difficulty. If Washington will stand all the expenses this year, Oregon will finance next year's tournament.

The following poem appeared in a recent issue of the Eugene Daily Guard. The Emerald reprints the poem, not that it agrees with the sentiment but because of the humor expressed:

#### Who Is It?

(Bruce MacClelland.)

Who is it has the gift to choose,  
Of men, of acts, of laws and news,  
The view that's always clearly wrong,  
Then voice the same, with rancor strong?

The Oregonian.

Who is it shrieks at Governor West,  
A human man, who does his best,  
Like midnight yowl of backfence cat,  
Because he is a democrat?

The Oregonian.

Who is it trains with big Bill Taft,  
And Parkinson and greed and graft?  
Against free schools, where poor boys earn

The right to live and laugh and learn?

The Oregonian.

Who is it shrieks so loud and long,  
Like fabled shrew in ancient song,  
That people yearn to grasp her neck,  
And leave a dead and mangled wreck?

The Oregonian.

Who is it with a doom complete,  
Can send a man to sure defeat,  
Not by condemning with force and vim,

But the leading aid towards electing him?

The Oregonian.

## COMMITTEE ON ORATORY CHANGES BAD RULING

Earl Jones Will Represent Varsity at Preliminary Conference in Forest Grove.

The Committee of Oratory and Debate met Friday evening and chose their chairman, Earl Jones, to represent the University of Oregon at the preliminary conference of the Intercollegiate Oratorical Association, called for January 29, at Forest Grove. At this meeting of representatives from all Oregon colleges, the judges for the Intercollegiate Oratorical Contest will be chosen. The contest, which is an annual affair, was held at Eugene last year and will take place sometime in March this year at Forest Grove, under the auspices of Pacific University.

The committee, in this meeting, also voted to interpret their resolution of the previous meeting as allowing the winner of the tryouts for the intercollegiate contest to give the same oration unperfected and verbatim, in the later tryouts that he gave in the final intercollegiate tryout.

The committee decided, furthermore, that a time limit of eight minutes should be placed upon the speeches of the candidates in the preliminary tryout for the intercollegiate contest, which will be held in Villard Hall, January 29th, at seven o'clock. LeRoy Johnson, Professor De Cou, and Professor Reddy, proposed by Graduate Manager Geary as judges for this tryout, were accepted.

It is desired by the committee that all those intending to participate in the oratorical tryouts hand their names to either LeRoy Johnson, Earl Jones, or Graduate Manager Geary.

Classes at the University of Montana will hereafter begin at eight o'clock in place of nine as formerly.

The Genesee High School basketball team defeated the University of Idaho five last Saturday by the score of 17 to 11.



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