

OREGON EMERALD

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Thursday, March 6, 1913.

ATHLETICS AS ADVERTISING

With the Athletic Council busy endeavoring to make selections of coaches for baseball and football, we again hear the oft repeated assertion that we must have a winning team, without regard to the cost, for the reason that unless athletic victories are won, students will flock elsewhere and the University will suffer. Actual facts, however, do not seem to bear out this allegation. The growth of the University has been steady, without any perceptible regard as to whether we had winning teams or not.

Recent investigations at Yale and Harvard throw light upon the question. Says the Harvard Bulletin:

"The Yale Daily News has reinforced through an exploration into Yale history the truth established for Harvard by President Eliot that success or failure in athletics has no influence on the numbers of a college. The News, going back as far as 1866 in its researches, has shown that at Yale there has been no relation between increase or decrease in enrollment and the winning or losing of games and races. In 1868, 1872, 1880, 1891, and 1899, the entering classes showed an increase, though Yale had been unsuccessful in athletics the year before; and decreases in the entering classes in 1876, 1811, and 1895, followed successful seasons in athletics. In the period from 1885 to 1894, when Yale teams and crews were winning pretty steadily, there was, to be sure, a considerable and almost continuous increase in the entering classes; but there was a like increase during the same period at Harvard, and we certainly at that time were not distinguishing ourselves in athletics. The experience at Yale therefore falls in exactly with that at Harvard to disprove any relation between athletics and enrollment.

"It is clear American boys keep their heads in this matter, whatever the space given to college athletics by the newspapers, and no matter how tense the absorption of graduates, the boys themselves seem to pick their colleges without much regard to the winners. There was a great and general increase in the number of boys going to college beginning about the middle or end of the eighties, and many colleges showed the result in their numbers; but success in athletics has been one of the least of the causes which controlled the distribution of the increase. It is a habit of the American people to enjoy its amusements hysterically; but underneath the yelling, there is always a saving sense of humor. In this endowment of the fathers the sons have a full share."

The greatest factor in determining what college a student will attend is in nearly every case purely that of the type and quality of work offered. Second only to this, especially in the West, is that of distance. Colleges here are so far apart that it is not possible, as it is in the East, for a student to choose between a dozen institutions. Unless other influences enter strongly, the mere distances force him to go to the college nearest home. We have students at the University from every state west of the Rockies, and from several east of them, but reasons other than our athletic renown brought them here. On the other hand, it would be much easier to show that the University's

financial embarrassments have had more influence upon the emigration of students to other states than the fact that Washington wins annually the football championship of the Northwest and California the Coast track meet.

The few men who admit that the advertising of athletic victories attracted them are not, as a rule, notably good students and otherwise credits to their Alma Mater. Athletes rank high in scholarship at Oregon, but they are nearly all men who would stand well anywhere, and who entered the University primarily for more substantial things than athletics. Often as not the prep stars who would be most attracted by athletic successes do not become college stars anyway.

Of course, we want to win. Victory is always gratifying. But it seems that the influence of winning teams upon attendance has been exaggerated.

NOTICE TO EMERALD STAFF

As the temptations attendant upon the advent of Spring weather will tend to make the Emerald work especially arduous for the staff reorters, it is necessary to make arrangements, whereby the staff will contain only those who can and are willing to keep up the pace during the remaining months of the year.

To do this, an opportunity is hereby given to all who do not wish to stay with the Emerald work and maintain the necessary reportorial pace, to withdraw at once. This is entirely optional with the reporters, although any possible sluffing and lack of interest in the work cannot be tolerated.

If you are not absolutely sure that you can put the same effort into the work as in the past, or even more, you should take advantage of this opportunity as it is offered and not wait to find out the difficulty later on. The pace must be kept up, perhaps increased. Save the embarrassment attendant upon the realization that your services are not needed, by looking ahead and determining for yourself whether or not you want to continue the work this spring.

CITY EDITOR.

Women's Choral Club—Members who are not present at rehearsals Friday and Saturday and next week, will not be eligible to appear in concert. Melvin Ogden, Director.

Wisconsin has a wealth of material in the baseball line, and they are working hard to perfect a championship aggregation.

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Jess Garrett, an ex-coast pitcher, has been selected to coach the O. A. C. baseball team for this season.

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Announcements

Sophomore debate—Try-outs for the Sophomore team have been postponed until Friday, March 28. By order of the Committee.

Triple-A—Meet by order the Administrator, at the Chi Omega house, Friday afternoon, at 4 o'clock.

Theatricals—"Servant in the House," presented by the class in Dramatic Interpretation, at the Eugene Theatre, Friday evening, March 7.

Y. M. C. A.—Professor Sweetser will address the regular meeting of the Y. M. C. A., Thursday evening, on the subject, "The Challenge of the Country." Deady Hall.

Dance—Student Body informal has been indefinitely postponed from this coming Saturday evening in favor of the excursion to Corvallis.

Freshman debate—Try-outs will be held March 22 and 29. For information see Freshman committee on debate.

Y. M. C. A. election—The annual election of the officers for the University Y. M. C. A. occurs on Thursday evening, March 20, at the regular meeting. All members should take notice.

Women's Athletic Association—Meeting scheduled for Saturday afternoon at 1 o'clock, to form permanent organization, has been postponed until sometime next week, to be called by Miss Thompson.

Choral Club—Meets for rehearsal every afternoon, except Sunday, at 4 o'clock, in Villard Hall.

EUGENE DEMOCRAT FORGETS DATE AND BITES ON FAKE WILSON BET

Taft Man Wagers That Banks Will Be Closed Four Months From Yesterday and Wins.

Tuesday, one of Eugene's best Democrats was idly leaning against a telephone pole on Willamette street, enjoying the rays of the afternoon sun, when he was approached by a local Taftite, who said, "Well, Woodrow, I see that your president is to be inaugurated today, and a peach he'll be, too. I'll tell you what I'll do; I'll bet you five dollars that four months from today every bank in the United States will be closed."

Fairly bursting with compressed rage, "Woodrow" almost tore his pockets to get his five into the hands of a convenient stake holder. Blandly scratching his head and with a real William Howard smile, the Republican said, "I would just like to remind you that four months from today is fourth of July."

"Woodrow" not only lost his five dollars, but also the price of several "bit" cigars which were demanded by the witnesses of the wager.

That "The Servant in the House" is a play of great moral force and is one of the great allegories of modern times which contains the essence of the teachings of the Man of Gallilee of two thousand years ago, is the opinion of the critic, Mr. B. O. Flower. The following is a paragraph taken from his criticism of the New York production. He says: "It is a notable fact that the most powerful and soul-searching sermon of recent years has been delivered, not in cathedral, church or chapel, but in the theatre, and not uttered by gowned and mitered priest or dark-robed minister, but by a band of earnest actors, who faithfully strove to interpret the old-new message as the author desired to have it voiced. And it is equally significant that this message, luminous with the vital principles of pure and undefiled religion, was so gladly received by the people, that the play has proved one of the greatest successes." This drama will be produced in the Eugene Theatre, Friday, March 7, by the Department of Public Speaking.

HELP WANTED

Insertions Free.

"Work for the Night is Coming."

One student to wash dishes and do odd jobs around the house, for board and room, at once. Y. M. C. A. Bureau.

The Association Bureau has several needy students listed for work on regular hours during the week. Mr. Businessman, you need help and they need the work. They give satisfaction. Phone 504, University Association Bureau.

Student wanted to do chores and tend canoes, for board and cash. Private family. Association Bureau.

This spring there will be more odd jobs for students than there are students to do them. This is your opportunity to lessen the burden on your parents and friends. Leave your schedule of working hours with the General Secretary in the Association Bureau.

Students wanted, to circulate "Pacific Northwest." Write to Philip S. Bates, publisher, 215 Oregonian bldg., Portland.

The Association has a good proposition for six students for the summer.

Several students wanted to handle a good specialty during college course and summer vacation. Association Bureau.

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