

OREGON EMERALD

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Thursday, April 10, 1913.

READJUSTMENT

Tomorrow the April vacation begins and most of us are leaving with unalloyed joy for the nine day recess. "What is a vacation," a number of students were asked. "A change," "A rest," "A chance to do what you want to do," are characteristic answers. All were partly true; none wholly. The conventional vacation is, of course, a change of occupation,—absolute idleness requires a degree of concentration few of us can attain,—and is usually accompanied by a change of place. The business man goes to the beach; we go home. The definition holds true of both.

But it is not the mere change of work or of scenes that matters, it is the change of mental attitude. The vacation motive is essentially an effort to get away from things; not so much that we desire fresh scenes and occupations as that we are tired of the old. Hence it is not so important where we go or what we take with us for amusement, as what we leave behind. Unless worry and care, which are dogs hard to lose, are chained behind, it can be no true holiday.

The spirit of vacation is freedom, but this is not attained until we liberate ourselves from both the "set" of our mental habits and the cramped social surroundings in which most of us live. The value of novel scenes and fresh activities lies in their power to divert from the habitual and so to help us to leave our everyday selves behind.

The chief object of a vacation is to give the individual a chance to develop his individuality. It is only when we get away from the people and things we come in contact with every day that we can express very much of our own true selves. A true vacation gives our embryonic or atrophied powers of spontaneous movement a chance to work; let us readjust ourselves to the world.

The true spirit in which to start on a vacation is that of release from bondage; get away from all care; forget the everyday things of the life that has become humdrum. You will find that you can't get away as completely as you think. But you will also find that you get a truer perspective of things, especially of your own manner of life. There is nothing quite so revealing as going away and looking at one's self in a new light. It is often surprising, in this light, to find out how much after all we enjoy the life we are in. The true test of a well spent vacation, then, is to be able to say, "It is good to get back."

A vacation is an investment in efficiency, both from the standpoint of the increased capacity for work due to the mental and physical rest and recuperation, and from the broader standpoint of the healthy readjustment to the life we are in. Our spring vacation should be based upon these fundamental principles. That means, with most of us, to go home and visit with "the folks,"—most of us little realize how much we are missed from home and how selfish it is to make a vacation "at home" an anomaly by converting it into one long round of social engagements. It means physical rest and recreation; long tramps in the sunshine. It means a chance to

think out the problems we meet and are too busy to solve when they come up; to get a true perspective on what we are doing; and thereby to be able to eliminate the unessential and the wastes.

It means relaxation, pleasure, health. Above all it means coming back with renewed energy, courage and eagerness for the work that is ours.

May every Oregon student have this kind of a vacation.

SIGMA DELTA CHI

The Emerald extends greetings to Omicron Chapter of Sigma Delta Chi. The members of the first Honorary Fraternity at Eugene are to be congratulated.

The opening of a Department of Journalism is briefly followed by the institution of Sigma Delta Chi. It is fitting that they should so come. The first is a recognition of the growing importance of the press and the need for trained men in journalism; the second is the result of the natural tendency of men of any profession to select a few of their members for special honors.

The power of the newspaper as a moulder of public opinion is recognized to be enormous. University correspondents and editors can bring praise or discredit to their college by the way in which they present its activities to the public. Sigma Delta Chi furnishes a means for these men to get together, decide a line of policy and follow it up consistently. It is likely to exert a quiet influence on University affairs, and especially on the public view of the University, which can easily be underestimated. Moreover, it will furnish a goal for the ambitious young journalist. When work on University publications is purely voluntary, faithful work is hard to get. With election to an honorary society dependent upon ability and successful practice there is likely to be a marked improvement in the regularity and quality of work done upon the University publications.

AN OUNCE OF PREVENTION

Next week every student can do his or her share for the cause of Old Oregon. During the spring vacation we will be scattered about over the state in our home towns, and there are sure to be ways in which we can help. Where there are organizations working for the University let us confer with them and discover from them the means by which we can best be of service.

The women's clubs are proving a factor in this matter and may be counted on to stand strongly for the cause of higher education. These and a great many other factors are entering into the fight.

Let us leave no stone unturned to prevent the calling out of the referendum on the University appropriation.

Announcements

Laureans—Meeting Tuesday evening. Special program arranged.

Eutaxian—Regular meeting Tuesday evening, Library building.

Engineering Club—Meets Thursday evening at Zeta Phi house, at 7 o'clock.

Y. M. C. A.—Regular meeting Thursday evening, Reddy Hall. Senator W. W. Calkins will speak.

"O" Lost—A gold block Glee Club "O" was lost last Saturday evening. Finder please phone 940 and receive liberal reward.

Vacation—College opens Monday morning, April 21. Cuts will register from that date.

Emerald reporters—Report for assignments Monday morning, April 21.

Idaho does not wait for their Freshmen to decide to wear green caps of their own free will, instead they give them a bath in the river, if the green caps are not put on the day they are supposed to begin wearing them.

Columbia has been eliminated from the big crew race on the Charles river on May 10. The cause is said to be the narrowness of the course.

PROFS. FORSAKE BOOKS FOR VACATION PERIOD

Devotees of Isaac Walton Prominent Among Faculty Members—Others Work.

According to statements made by the various faculty members, their vacations will be spent as strenuously as if college was in session. Many of the professors will be kept busy with work connected with the University, while others have planned to spend the week in working about their homes or roughing it over the hills, and one faculty member will superintend a job in horticulture on his farm a few miles from Eugene.

Professor F. G. Young will spend much of his time making preparations for the Commonwealth day which is held at the University the 16th and 17th of May. He will also superintend the planting of loganberry plants at his orchard on the McKenzie river.

Professor James Gilbert will visit an old friend, Oscar Gorrel, '01, at Oakland, Oregon. He will spend his time "doing farming, fishing and society," and will be absent from Eugene the entire week.

Professor Charles R. Reid will build his bungalow in Chula Vista during the week, and says that he will be kept busy most of the time swinging the hammer.

"I don't want to tell you Emerald reporters anything," said Professor Hugo Koehler, "for fear you will get my name connected with another fish story. However, I have planned on a trip out over the hills, and I think Kempthorne is going up the McKenzie again."

Professor McAlister will make a fishing trip up the McKenzie the latter part of the week, and Professor Barker will rest on his farm a few miles north of Eugene.

VICTORIOUS DEBATERS



Motschenbacher. Zimmerman.

REDDIE READS MAETERLINK'S ALLEGORY, "THE BLUE BIRD"

Professor Archibald Ferguson Reddie gave a reading of Maurice Maeterlink's allegorical fairy story, "The Blue Bird," before the Fortnightly Club last Tuesday evening, at its social meeting in the Commercial Club building.

A number of the partons of literature and club members, including its president, Miss Julia Burgess, of the University, formed the receiving line that greeted the large audience of towns and University people.

The mystical simplicity and charm of the two little children who had a dream that they were in search of the "Blue Bird," which is to the French people the symbol of happiness, was brought out to the fullest extent of its possibilities. The purring of the Cat and the growl of the Dog were imitated by Professor Reddie in an inimitable manner. Indeed, his personification of all of the allegorical personages, Bread, Light, Water, Sugar and Fire were excellent. The University of Oregon orchestra, under the leadership of Miss Winifred Forbes, played several selections of Humperdink's compositions.

Pretty Raw!

Miss Whoshe—"???" stole three kisses from me last night."

Miss Critishe—"Oh, he doesn't know any better."

Miss Whoshe—"How did you guess? He said they were better than any he ever had before."

He brought forth a handkerchief composed of one generous hole surrounded by a border of white linen. "Aha," cried he, putting his arm through the hole, "A laundry mark."

The Stanford women defeated the women's basketball team of the University of Nevada a few days ago by the score of 20 to 8.

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