

Oregon Emerald

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WE HAVE TO DO IT

Tradition prescribes certain formalities which every editor of the Emerald must observe on assuming his official duties. He must advance to the front of the stage, as it were, make a deferential bow, and address the audience somewhat as follows: "Ladies and Gentlemen: With your kind indulgence, we shall now attempt the Herculean feat of conducting a college newspaper which shall be gingery enough for the undergraduates; staid enough for the inhabitants of Sublimity, Oregon; safe and sane enough for the most cautious alumnus; inoffensive enough for the faculty; journalistic enough for the Department of Journalism; in short, a paper that shall please, placate and pacify each of the 57 varieties of readers which the Emerald boasts."

This, then, is the task before us, as we see it. How we shall set about to accomplish it is a problem which, we are free to confess, we have not yet worked out. Certain are we that we have a man's size job before us, one which has taxed the resourcefulness of our predecessors, and which will keep us equally busy;—albeit we expect to have a good deal of fun out of it as well.

Along with his other introductory remarks, the editor must not forget to announce his "policy." The term is vague, and admits of much verbal efflorescence. Our creed, briefly stated, is this: We believe in the University of Oregon; we believe in her faculty; we believe in her alumni; and, most of all, we believe in her student body.

We have asked the make-up man to set us a banner head, which you may have noticed on the front page, to the effect that the University is just entering on her greatest year—and we believe that, too. We who are here now are fortunate in being participants in the new era which is now opening. The University will give us more this year than she has ever before been able to give, and we should give her more.

The Emerald is the organ of the whole University, and, since the University is greater than any person or group of persons, no clique or faction shall have any part in shaping our policy.

Furthermore, the University is a living, breathing institution, and this is a live student body—although some of us may not know it. Therefore, the Emerald would not be a representative publication, if it did not reflect the vim and optimism of the campus. It is our ambition, then, to present all the news of the University in as interesting fashion as we may, and to stand for progress in every activity in which she is engaged.

TO FRESHMEN, AND OTHERS

A Freshman receives a great many things at college, and chief among these is advice. Everyone is eager to admonish him in the way in which he should go. In fact, during the first few months college seems to him to be largely a place of correction and chastisement.

All of which is highly fitting and proper, although the Freshman can't see it that way at the time. The code of the campus, whether written or unwritten, has been evolved out of the experience of generations of students, and the newly naturalized citizens of this miniature republic will do well to conform without question.

However, it is not of rules and regulations that we wish to speak. After all, the Senior bench will survive in all its pristine loveliness, even if some unwary scion of 1918 should happen to trespass thereon. And even if some equally indiscreet yearling should so far forget himself as to smoke upon the campus, the campus will pull through.

Our particular advice has to do with the "dos" rather than with the "don'ts" of college. It seems to us that every student should enter with the ambition to do something for the University. This does not mean that he must merely spend four years here, "learn his lessons," and maintain an orderly department meanwhile. These things are desirable, but they still leave something to be desired.

To excel in scholarship is a laudable aim, the accomplishment of which reflects some credit on the University. Yet it is, after all, a selfish aim, for the student who attains it is amply rewarded for his pains, while no one else profits appreciably.

With outside activities it is different. The selfish interests of the individual must be sacrificed to the good of the team or the organization. Of course, no student enters any activity without the hope of gaining fame, or greater proficiency in that activity, or of benefiting himself in some way; but if he works hard enough to attain success, he will have long since learned to subordinate his personal interests to the common cause, because no student honor is won easily or without sacrifice.

This is why every Freshman should enter at least one activity which has nothing to do with the class room, and in which he is actuated by the desire to appear worthy before his fellow students. The activities from which he may choose are many. Oregon has a reputation to uphold and a Coast championship to win in debating. On Kincaid Field 35 men are turning out nightly for football practice, when there should be 60. The Glee Club and the Dramatic Club are calling for new members. The Emerald needs the best brains in the student body, if it is to adequately represent the University before the state at large. The Y. M. C. A. offers exceptional opportunities, for it is one of the biggest forces in college life. And there are all the other branches of intercollegiate athletics, the literary societies, the band and orchestra, all calling for the best that is in the students.

No matter who you are or what your limitations, you can find a place in some one of these activities. Perhaps you will do your best and never win the honor you are after. There are men who have plugged along on the scrub team for years, with never a chance for the Varsity. Yet these men were greater successes than some of the first team stars. Browning was right when he held that it is better for a man to do his best and fail

than to fall short of his best and win the world's applause. So we say that if a student keeps to himself and his books for four years, he misses the vital part of his college education, and, no matter what his marks, he is a failure.

Do something for Oregon.

FILL UP THOSE BLEACHERS

The football practices during the present week have been full of interest. The squad disposed of the usual dull routine of preparatory work up the McKenzie, and scrimmages have been started two weeks earlier than usual.

We have noticed much choice space still going to waste on Kincaid bleachers. We cannot understand this, because it seems to us that watching the practice is the next best thing to being in it, and if we were not engaged in coaxing bum editorials like this out of a typewriter, we should certainly be up on the bleachers watching the preparations for the big campaign.

Remember, when secret practices begin the gates will be closed. Let's all get together on the sidelines as long as Bez will let us in. The players need the inspiration that comes from the rooters, and the rooters need to catch some of the spirit of the players.

And, when the cheer leader-to-be calls for that first "Oskey wow wow," let's root!

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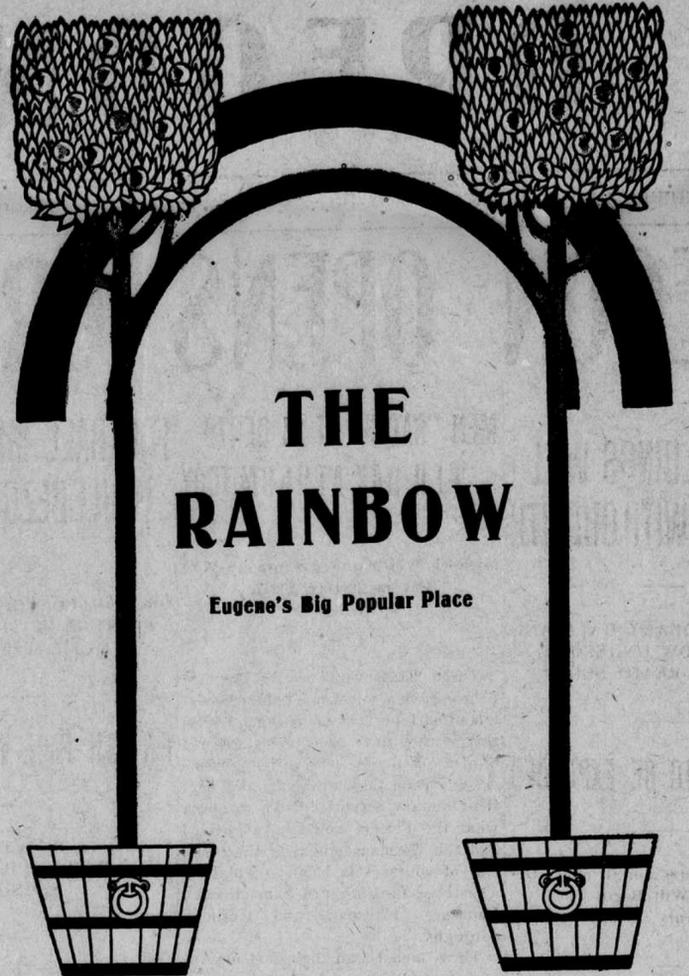
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B. L. HYLAND, Manager.

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