

Oregon Emerald

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WHY WORK ON THE EMERALD?

In our first issue we made the regulation plea for student activities, but it seems we were too modest in urging our own claims. While we believe the Emerald staff, as it now stands, is fully equal to the task of "getting out" the paper three times a week, it is neither so large nor so efficient as it might be. We do not want to put out merely a satisfactory Emerald, one which shall "get by"—we want to put out the best Emerald possible with all the business and editorial brains of the campus at our command.

All the activities of the University as we have already pointed out, call for sacrifice from the students. Making a place on the Emerald staff and holding that place means work. It is going to mean more work this year than ever before. But perhaps no activity in which a student may engage at Oregon offers him a better chance to "do something for Oregon," and, at the same time, for himself, as does the Emerald.

To anyone who expects to engage in journalism as a profession, the Emerald should appeal at once as a practical supplement to his classroom courses in that department. But this appeal is by no means limited to prospective Greeleys. Newspaper training—and that is practically what the Emerald offers—cannot fail to prove valuable to any man or woman in any calling. The essentials of a good news story—accuracy, conciseness, sympathy, reliability, and the numerous other fetiches of the editorial room—are qualities which all of us may well acquire or develop.

Furthermore, we have not detected any surfeit of experts in the use of English on the campus, and therefore we invite anyone to employ the Emerald as an aid in improving his or her command of the language. Not that the "stories" printed in the Emerald are models of good journalism or god rhetoric, but at least they represent a striving after certain ideals. The main ingredient in the making of a clear, forceful and entertaining writer or speaker is practice, and we offer it gratis to all who come.

For these reasons, we should like to see the present numerical strength of the staff doubled. There too few Freshmen on the list. The editors, desk editors and departmental heads of the future must be drawn from the entering class of this year. All promotions on the Emerald are made according to a civil service system. A staff member rises from one position to another, according to his fitness as indexed by his showing. So far as our knowledge extends, there has never been an Emerald editor who has not served his time as a "cub," and most of them advanced by a one-step-at-a-time process extending over their first three years in college.

We repeat, then, that we can accommodate as many good news writers as there are on the campus. We insist on only two qualifications: ordinary human intelligence, and a capacity and willingness to work.

COMMUNICATION

Eugene, Ore Sept. 29.
To the Editor of the Emerald:

There is an issue before the students of the University of vital importance to every member of the institution. The question to which I refer is the circulation of a petition for student signatures which will present the attitude of the students as favoring prohibition. This petition, as I learn upon good authority, is to be used in the campaign for the abolition of the liquor traffic in the state. This is a very good proposition

with many merits, but it carries with it also serious objections and disadvantages. The people of the state know student sentiment, is absolutely and unequivocally favorable to prohibition. Without doubt all students would affix their signatures upon presentation. But here rests the difficulty.

The University of Oregon is not a political institution, and should therefore not dabble in politics of any sort. Does it not seem inconsistent for us, after such a hard struggle to keep out of the political ring heretofore, to manifest a desire to break in again? Our school belongs to the whole people of the state; then how can we express sentiments which conflict with the interests of those people who have helped us in our fight for a better institution of learning? Furthermore, we are still dependent upon these same people, and if we begin an antagonistic campaign, that same battle which we won last year will have to be refought, against greater odds and more embittered enemies.

The very faction in college which has started this movement depends upon the college for its existence. Now, before we even enter on that period of rest and prosperity the people have chosen to give us, a question such as this is thrust before us, which may, in all likelihood, become an instrument capable of destroying the University and the organization fostering the idea.

We cannot antagonize people and their interests; we cannot begin to make enemies of those so lately converted to our friendship; we cannot delve in politics which we recently abhorred full-heartedly.

As far as I personally am concerned, prohibition numbers me among its supporters; but we, as students, must look further into the matter and consider the difficulties into which it will lead Dear Old Oregon. Let us forget politics until the life of our institution demands our re-entrance, and buckle down to the task of building a greater and better University.
CHESTER A. FEE.

CAMPUS NOTES
by
Beatrice Locke

Margaret Stauffer spent the week-end in Portland.

Miss Alta Mason, of Portland, was a week-end guest of the Gamma Phi Beta house.

Delta Tau Delta announces the pledging of Aubrey Bond.

Mr. and Mrs. Parsons, Dorothy Parsons, Mrs. Holmes, Professor and Mrs. Edmundson, were dinner guests Sunday at the Beth Rhea house.

Ada Matthews spent the week-end in Cottage Grove.

Mr. Thomas Nelson, of Astoria, was a week-end guest at the Delta Tau Delta house.

Tom Donaca and Blair Holcomb were dinner guests at the Kappa Kappa Gamma house Saturday evening.

Gamma Phi Beta entertained Reverend and Mrs. Simpson for dinner Friday evening.

Mu Phi Epsilon entertained their pledges with an informal dance Saturday night.

Mrs. Peterson of Sutherlin, was the guest of the Beth Rhea house over the week-end.

On Wednesday evening the Beta Theta Pi fraternity are giving a dinner for Miss Ina Cochran, Miss Rose Basler, Miss Velma Sexton, Marie Sheehan, Leura Jerard and Mrs. Charles Gray.

The Iota Chi fraternity initiated Leon Jackson on Sunday.

The Sigma Nu fraternity had as their guests this week-end Dean Walker, '13, and Ercel Kay, '13.

Harold Fitzgibbon, '17, and Ed. Simmons, '17, returned to the University on Sunday.

Dal M. King, '14, returned to college to study law.

E. W. Bartlett, of Estacada, spent the week-end at the Beta Theta Pi house.

Miss Mary Raley, a national delegate of Chi Omega fraternity, is spending a few days with the chapter here.

Mr. Carlston Maddock was a dinner guest at the Beta Theta Pi house on Sunday.

The Iota Chi fraternity announce the pledging of Lloyd Hamline, of Portland, and of Vern Apperson.

The Beta Theta Pi fraternity entertained W. F. Nichols, of Falls City, Idaho, at dinner Saturday evening.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The "Round Table," a faculty and town organization, will hold its next meeting on October 13, at the Hotel Osburn. A paper upon "The Economic Necessity of the Present European War," will be read by John P. O'Hara, instructor in History.

LAUREANS CALL MEETING: TONIGHT FOR ELECTION

The Laurean Society will meet tonight at 7:00 o'clock, in Dr. Schaffer's room, according to President Bert Lombard. Officers will be elected and plans discussed for the first semester.

NEW COURSE OFFERED BY EXTENSION DEPARTMENT

Two University extension courses are being held in Portland under Mrs. Parsons this winter. One is a continuation of last year's course in Short Story Writing, and the other is a new advanced course in Principles of Appreciation of Art and Literature, with special attention placed upon the study of modern drama.

The appreciation class meets on Friday, and the story writing class on Saturday, every other week. The first meetings will take place this week-end.

"Stepping" will be considered good form among the best society at the college dances this fall, according to the statement given out this morning by Miss Austin, dean of women at the University of Washington. Because of the wide-sweeping craze that has gone over the country, Miss Austin has decided not to interfere with the dancing at University or fraternity functions during the season.

A course in military tactics for officers will be one of the features of this year's work in the military department at Ohio State.

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"SOPHS" HOLD MEETING AND PLAN MATINEE DANCES

The meeting of the Sophomore class Monday afternoon was a rousing one, and proves that the class of 1917 is still very much alive. Dr. Conklin was selected Class Advisor, and Bernard Breeding Sergeant-at-Arms. A series of matinee dances to be given by the class, and every member of the committee is working hard to make these affairs successful. Frank Beach was chosen chairman of the committee, and the other members are: Echo Zahl, Lela Cushman, Margaret Spangler, Louise Allen, Russell Ralston, Walter Arnsperger and Wallace Martin.

A tax of two dollars was levied and every member urged to pay as soon as possible to Frank Scaife.

Before adjourning, Dr. Straub gave the class a few words of advice and wished them success during the coming year.

The present Sophomore class has broken the record of any preceding class, in that it is completely out of debt, and it is the aim of every member to set a standard for the incoming class.

John Black, ex-'14, spent the first of the week on the campus. He is working in Portland, but may resume his studies in the University the second semester.

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