

# Oregon Emerald

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## ANENT DEBATING

Perhaps all of us don't know it, but there are a few students showing a lot of "fight" for Oregon even in these piping times of peace, when the thud of the football upon the turf has died away, and the thump of the basketball against the backstop is not as yet resounding. We refer to the squad which is studying the questions over which Oregon will wrangle during the coming debating season.

For three months the members and alternates of the Varsity teams go through the grind. There are no rooters to cheer them on, nor is there any physical pleasure or joy of contest in their preparation. The activity in which they are engaged is not even a relaxation from their studies—it is more of the same thing.

And what do these students receive in return for their great sacrifice? Their material reward is a little gold pin, and perhaps a trip to the seat of a rival college. In addition, theirs is the honor that comes to a debater. And here is the rub.

The students do not now give to the debaters the honor which is their due. For as many students to attend an inter-collegiate debate as throng to a "movie" show on any ordinary week-end night would be a prodigy. Even with the admission free to everyone holding student body tickets, the audiences remain microscopic.

And so Oregon's debaters continue to harangue a few interested townspeople and faculty members and a vast concourse of vacant benches, while the great body of the students pursue the even tenor of their way, almost unaware that such an activity exists.

How would you like to be a debater? And yet it is in many respects the most important activity we have. There are plenty of respectable citizens of this state in whose opinion a victory in debate is worth a dozen football championships.

We do not mean to discount any sport, but we do question whether the students are maintaining the proper equilibrium between their intellectual and athletic activities. Time was when many of Oregon's athletic stars shone with equal effulgence on the rostrum. The names of Hank McKinney and Jack Latourette occur to us as examples. The same was true of Journalism—a glance over the records will show that bona fide as well as Mexican athletes—Joe Templeton, for instance—have held the editorships of the college publications.

At present there are few Dr. Jekylls in the Student Body. The devotees of the two types of activity maintain a friendly but well-defined barrier between them. A man versatile enough to make a football team and a debating team at the same time is a rarity.

What ought to be done? We leave you to answer the question.

## BROWN DEFENDS JUNIOR CLASS

Editor of the Emerald:—A recent editorial in the Emerald, criticising the Juniors and giving them a "friendly prompting," was no doubt an effort to arrive at the truth, so a brief examination of the statements made in the editorial might not be out of place.

Is there sufficient grounds for the statement "when it comes to enterprises which are particularly its own, such as the Oregon and the Underclass Mix, it has thus far been found wanting?"

As to the Underclass Mix, we are unable to find many spectators who agree with the Emerald in thinking it was "inferior to its predecessors," and despite the rain, which was no fault of the Juniors, the events did end satisfactorily and interest did not lag. These events were selected after a conference with and upon the advice of President Campbell. The tug-of-war, which has been the climax of the Mix, could not be used, because the duck pond had been filled. The events substituted were quite satisfactory.

With regard to the Oregon: The board meeting which the Juniors are charged with not attending was a class meeting called by the manager of the Oregon, for four o'clock Friday, a very inconvenient hour. A notice of the meeting was handed to a member of the Emerald staff, yet the same was not published. Mr. Holt said he could not state his proposition to less than seventy-five. Can any class secure an attendance of seventy-five at a meeting on Friday at four o'clock, if no notice of the same was published?

The Juniors have planned to cut down the size of the book to correspond to the amount of money at their disposal, and thus avoid the large deficit which has occurred in recent years. At the present time the advance sale of books on the campus numbers 350, while one year ago only 170 books had been sold. This year a larger percentage of Juniors subscribed to the Oregon than did the members of any other class. Last year this was not the case. It may be the criticism of the Emerald is just and the Junior class "has been found wanting," but if the examples set out by other Junior classes is to be taken as a basis of comparison, then the Juniors have made good and should be little criticised by members of a class whose Oregon deficit is nearly \$1,000.00.

PRENTISS BROWN.

## DRIBBLES AND SPIKES

By Rex Kay.

John Welch promises to be back next semester and do a little tossing for the baseball team.

Coach Bezdek says that many of the boys successfully learned to "put the shot" during the holidays.

Tom Cornwall is reported to be facing more serious trouble from blood poison in his legs than was first expected. A serious operation may be necessary.

W. S. C. will have some baseball this year if their dope is correct. The old aggregation will be back almost intact, with a few new and valuable additions.

Washington basketball stars kept in form during the holidays by playing various high school teams, all of which they easily defeated by large scores.

Idaho expects to turn out a speedy basketball team. The only position over which they seem at all worried is center, and there are three giants out for the place.

Phi Delta Theta romped away with the inter-fraternity basketball championship without much trouble. Delta Tau Delta might have been more interesting for them, however, had they used a little team work.

Anson Cornell was up on crutches yesterday for the first time since his operation. He is expected to return to college within a few days, but he likes the nurses so—you never can tell.

Sam Cook went to his home in Coeur d'Alene for the holidays, and has not yet returned. But with Buck Phillips of Idaho, still out for the discus, Sam

may be counted on to return for one more chance at Buck and a few of the other weight men.

Pullman claims to have men on their track team this year who will take all places in the vault and probably the hurdles. In the latter McCrosky is their hope. He is said to be going better than ever in the early season workouts.

## SWIMMING TANK CLOSED UNTILLATER PART OF WEEK

"Owing to the necessity of sending to Minnesota for filter sand, used in straining the water which flows into the University swimming pool, that natatorium will probably remain closed until the latter part of this week," said Mr. Fisher, who is in charge of the repair work.

The tank was emptied two weeks before vacation, when the worn filter sand was removed and washed. This did not prove satisfactory, so new material for the strainer was ordered.

## OREGON STUDENTS MAY BE EMPLOYED AT EXPOSITION

The University of Oregon has been given an opportunity to furnish student guides for the Oregon building at the Panama Pacific Exposition. O. A. C. students, also, will be accepted for this work. Eight men in all will be needed, to work in shifts of four each for a period of six weeks. Railroad transportation and board will be furnished by the Exposition Company. The men will be subject to call from the opening of the Exposition in February until the close of December. Those interested in applying for these positions should see Dr. W. M. Smith at the Administration office.

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## STUDENTS MUST PAY \$2.50 BEFORE JANUARY 15

January 15 will be the last day on students who have not paid their first installment on the Oregon can get the \$2.50 rate. The time was really up January 1, but due to the early vacation, the time has been extended two weeks.

Manager Holt has a squad of collectors on the campus collecting the money, and they will also make the rounds of all the fraternity and sorority houses this week. The Young Men's Christian Association will also take charge of money turned in by those who have been missed.

In regard to the pictures for the Oregon, Mr. Holt said: "Everyone is urged to have his picture taken as soon as possible. The time will be up the middle of next week. The number of proofs ordered by each person should correspond to the number of times his picture must go in."

The regular monthly class meetings will be held in the usual places during the assembly hour Wednesday.

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