

# Oregon Emerald

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## TOMORROW'S ASSEMBLY

Unless they abandon their present intention, the committee of Juniors appointed as a lifesaving crew for this year's Oregon will ask the Student Body for financial assistance at tomorrow morning's meeting.

This issue is in some respects the most important which the Student Body has been called upon to settle for months, because it affects not only this year's Oregon, but all the year-books which the University will put out in the future. For the first time the Juniors are coming to the Student Body for aid in the project for which the class has heretofore been solely responsible.

Already the issue has been fought out in the Executive Committee. The present Oregon management "braced" the committee for \$500 of Student Body money, and consequently the arguments for both sides were brought forward.

In defense of their action, the Juniors pointed to the financial stringency now prevalent, and the difficulties with which the present Oregon management have met in attempting to finance that enterprise. They showed that the various fraternities and societies represented in the book pay for their space, while Student Body activities have received their publicity gratis. Therefore, it was argued, the Student Body should isolate itself from the desired 500 rupees.

The Executive Committee decided to pass up the opportunity. They reminded the petitioners that according to usage, the Oregon is none of the Student Body's funeral, and that all previous Junior classes have shouldered the burden. They also mentioned the program of rigid economy which they have adopted this year to reduce the Student Body debt; how wrestling and tennis have been refused Student Body aid, how the football team last fall was forced to subsist on one meal at training table per day, and how the various teams are denied necessary equipment and expensive trips in the war on the H. C. of L.

Here, then, is the issue, and the arguments for both sides, presented as impartially as is in our power. What are you, the enfranchised voters of the republic of the University of Oregon, going to do with the question? It behooves every one of you to do some honest-to-goodness thinking between tonight and tomorrow morning, and come to assembly prepared to cast an intelligent vote.

## WELCOME TO OUR READING ROOM

In our last issue we urged the students to read the files of University of Oregon publications preserved in the Library. The fact that one stu-

dent went so far as to ask us where he could find said files—which we couldn't tell him—encourages us to a further attempt to direct the students' outside reading along broadly cultural lines.

In the Emerald exchange list are almost all the important college newspapers in the country. Some of them arrive every once in a while, some of them we have never seen. But we always have a sufficient number on hand to satisfy the reading capacity of any reasonable caller at our luxurious quarters, just off the Journalism dissecting-room.

The moral is: Come around and feel the pulses of the other colleges through their student publications. Learn from the Washington Daily and the Vermont Cynic what problems are agitating the minds of students at opposite rims of the continent. Read them all, big and little, for each is trying in its own way to interpret student life and quicken student thought at its own institution. It would make us more useful and more loyal Oregon men and women, could we get away from our own campus by some such means, and feel the one big bond of sympathy that binds all American college students together, irrespective of section or institution.

You'll find the papers on the hooks or on the table in the Emerald office. Just come in, put your feet on the table, and go to it. But don't kid the typewriter.

## COMMUNICATION

To the Editor:

In line with the recent discussion in your "contribution" columns regarding the nefarious "cut" system at present in vogue at this University, I should like to present another side to the proposition, one which perhaps has often been advanced, but which I think is worth repetition and serious consideration.

One of the acknowledged functions of the University, and I think not the least important, is to instill into the student a degree of reliance, perseverance and tenacity, aside from the mere acquirement of knowledge.

Can these qualities be gained under the "nursery" method? When the student graduates and goes into business, his dilatory habits are not followed by a chain of gentle remonstrances, say in the shape of a small fine, at least not for long; the ax is soon brought into play.

There is an object presented to him and toward that object he should strive. The travelling salesman is not asked to see all the small merchants if by devoting more time to a few of the larger ones he can make more profit for his firm. The student does not come to college to attend classes, but to acquire knowledge and develop his latent traits and instincts. If he can best accomplish this, by missing his classes, let them be missed without a foolish penalty to pay. When knowledge is the commodity dealt in, can you take it away by six-tenths of an hour?

One youth may, and probably a good many will, fail at first, but in failure he receives the punishment merited by his fault. Would it not be better for this test to come under the gentler guidance of the college than the callous rule of the world? The student should have a chance to build a little for himself.

The work of the instructor will perhaps become a little more difficult. Why not pay them for the extra trouble, and turn out men of character—not rule-ridden automatons? Are we doing the fair thing to parents, in turning out dependent children instead of men and women?

The life a student prepares for demands responsibility. Why deprive us of the exercise of this trait during our preparation? We may find later that the font of character, so long unused, has become sterile.

J. H. C.

Wrestling is becoming more popular every year at the University of Wisconsin, the number of men enrolled in this year's classes showing a decided increase over last year.

## ANNOUNCEMENT

A special meeting of the Student Body will be held immediately following the assembly program tomorrow morning. Important business will be considered. Everybody out.

# DECOU HAS NEW COURSE

Class in "The Mathematical Theory of Investment," Offered by Mathematics Professor

A new course in "The Mathematical Theory of Investment" will be given by Prof. E. E. Decou next semester for students of business and public affairs and all others interested.

During the past year, for the first time, a suitable text has been published.

Some of the subjects treated are: Interest, annuities, the extinction of interest-bearing debts by periodical payments, the valuation of bonds, sinking funds and depreciation, building and loan associations, life annuities and problems in life insurance.

The course will deal with first principles, bringing in the most practical mathematical applications, requiring no advanced mathematics beyond a good knowledge of Algebra. The class will meet Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 11:00 o'clock.

DR. W. D. SMITH THINKS AIRSHIPS WILL BRING UPLIFT

"When men become accustomed to riding in aeroplanes, I firmly believe there will be a spiritual uplift," said Dr. W. D. Smith, head of the Department of Geology, in a lecture before the students' class at the Methodist church, Sunday morning.

"It seems to me that the higher he gets, a man is inspired by the wonder of God. When he goes up on a small mountain, he can see only a limited view of nature, but when he is on a peak 16,000 feet high, he is inspired with the wonder and the power of God.

"Hugh Miller, a Scotch scientist, is one of these people who love the rocks and the works of God. Mr. Miller worked for 20 years on a red sandstone in Scotland before he found the fossil formation therein and the value of it. Specimens of animals were found in this sandstone which are unperceived today.

"The study of God's work is exhilarating. No scientist who loves the rocks and all nature doubts that there is a great God, and that He, controlling all the world, is working toward one ultimate purpose. That purpose we do not know. Some people think scientists to be atheists; no scientist who has studied nature and the history of evolution can be an atheist," said Dr. Smith during his lecture.

Next Sunday Professor Sweetser, head of the Biology Department, will tell of the life and work of Henry Drummond.

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# PRE-MEDIC FRATERNITY HOLDS TENTH MEETING

The tenth meeting of Sigma Alpha, the local pre-medic fraternity, was opened last Wednesday night with lectures by President Campbell, Dean Straub and Dr. Zimmerman. After the speeches, boxing and wrestling matches were staged. Apples were passed around as refreshments.

President Campbell spoke upon "The University of Oregon Medical School." "Opportunities of the Medical Profession," was the subject of Dean Straub's lecture. Dr. Zimmerman spoke on "Preventive Medicine."

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