

Oregon Emerald

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WHY GO HALF WAY?

The Emerald regrets being under the necessity of dissenting from the opinion of the majority of the Student Council as expressed in Wednesday evening's resolution concerning the cumulative cut rule. However, we cannot concur in an action which seems so clearly a compromise and an evasion of the issue.

The Council went on record as opposing the cumulative feature of the rule, and as favoring a safety zone of 16 cuts per year for each student. Apparently the injustice of taking a student's hours from him after he has earned them fairly, which was the real foundation for the students' protest, did not appeal to the Council.

What that body did was to kneel submissively and offer up a petition after this fashion: "Dread Powers That Be, we dare not question your right to fleece us out of our hard-won credits after you have given them to us, and we ask only that you don't be too hard on us, and that you frisk us at the end of each year instead of committing one big hold-up at the end of the course."

Of course, we shouldn't be too severe on the Council. It was in a hurry to get through and go to the circus Wednesday night, anyway.

But how is the new plan—if it is adopted—going to relieve the situation and correct the evil of wilful and wanton cutting at this college? How is it going to affect the shirker and idler for whom it was designed?

It is evident that this type of man will not be reached at all. He comes to college because it is the customary thing, or because his parents sent him. He comes to get a taste of rah-rah life, to "loaf and enjoy his soul," to while away a few semesters with queening, rounding, athletics, billiards, chair-warming, or whatever kindred pursuits for which his talents and inclination may fit him. Credits to such a student are a trumpery, and the loss of them a joke.

When we recall the meager percentage of students who ever graduate, as compared with the number who enter college, we realize the futility of trying to penalize the wulful cutter by curtailing his chances of graduation. We realize, also, the injustice worked by such a rule on the real student with a serious purpose. No, it does not harm the loafer, but it does handicap the student who is working his way, or participating in college activities, or carrying other legitimate outside work—for it is the latter who must cut sometimes, and who feels the teeth of the rule at graduation time.

It is doubtful if the present system has caused a single truant to mend his ways. What it has done and will do is to cause many law-abiding and earnest students to drop out of college, or to migrate to other colleges. The rule rarely keeps anyone from cutting—it only keeps them from trying to graduate.

But what shall the faculty do about cutting? What do our great neighboring state universities of Washington and California do about it? Nothing, so far as rules and penalties are concerned. Of course, the instructors have their individual ways of making it expedient for a student to attend classes—but that is another matter.

Sooner or later we are certain to have the same common-sense arrangement here. The world do move—even upon this campus—and the old order changeth.

Meanwhile, the Student Council has missed its big chance. Should it obtain its request from the faculty, it can claim scant credit for its empty victory. On the other hand, should its petition be spurned, the Council will lack the solace of having fought a stout-hearted and uncompromising fight.

SPURTS

By DeWitt Gilbert.

Practically all of the instructors and coaches in the Physical Training Department of the University of Idaho have resigned, marking what is said to be the beginning of a new system of athletics, which proposes the abolition of intercollegiate sports and makes athletics of some sort compulsory for everyone. This is a change similar to that which is being pushed forward at Washington.

Several Eastern crews will row in a regatta at Seattle while on their way to San Francisco. Interest in these transcontinental crew competitions is rapidly increasing. Five Eastern eights are expected to come West to the regattas of the Pacific Coast this summer.

One of the branches of track ath-

letics where the East almost invariably surpasses the West is the broad jump. There are at present among the colleges of the Pacific Coast at least three men capable of leaping over 23 feet, and one man, Oler, of Yale, has gone 23 feet 11 inches. This performance, coupled with a 440 run in 48 seconds, was the sensation of the Yale-Harvard meet last Saturday.

Re-establishment of American football at Stanford and California seems to be a development to be expected any time. The break between the two schools seems to have plainly opened the way for such a move and the strong sentiment favoring it in San Francisco and Berkeley will undoubtedly bring it about.

Heard in the bleachers during the faculty game, when Shockley grew a trifle wild: "Give us air, give us Ayer."

"Bez" was giving his infielders an immortal example of "second base as she is played" in the prof. battle this morning.

One of Oregon's faculty outfielders was playing a little too deep today, and Bezdek called him in. "I can't help it, Coach, I'm engaged in extension work," came the reply.

Helen Phillips left for Portland yesterday afternoon, where she will begin work at Columbia Park playground.

Examination schedules for the second semester 1914-1915 will be ready at the Registrar's office the first of next week.

ANNOUNCEMENT

* Student Council meeting Wednesday evening at 7:15, in Professor Ayer's room in Library Building.

Teachers College and Barnard clashed yesterday in baseball on Barnard field. When the smoke had cleared away and the dead and wounded carried off it was discovered with the aid of the adding machine that the T. C. nine were the victors by a 19 to 4 score.

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