

## MUNICIPAL LEAGUE PRAISES UNIVERSITY

**SPEAKERS GIVE OREGON CREDIT FOR GREAT WORK IN COMMONWEALTH**

**Old Officers Are Re-Elected and Two Commissions Are Appointed for Municipal Aid**

The second annual conference of the Oregon Municipality League came to a close last night with election of officers and the appointment of two commissions, one on the improvement of municipal charters and the other on city planning.

At the motion of President Campbell, the officers of last year were re-elected to their positions in lieu of their efficient administration. The officers are: Thomas N. Strong, of Portland, President; Albert C. Schmidt, of Albany, Vice President; Prof. F. G. Young, Secretary-Treasurer.

The committee on improvement of municipal charters was appointed last night, with the following members: Benj. C. Sheldon, of Medford, R. F. Tischer, of Salem, F. J. Tooze, of Oregon City, R. G. Dieck, of Portland, Don C. Sowers, of Eugene.

This committee was appointed as a result of a paper read by Benj. C. Sheldon, in which he gave a bird's eye view of a modern city. Among the recommendations that the speaker emphasized for consideration in the drawing up of a charter were home rule, short ballot, city planning, municipal efficiency of administration through the instrumentality of efficient accounting, proper reports, publicity, responsibility and a municipal purchasing agency.

A paper on "City Planning," by E. T. Mische, resulted in the appointment of a committee to investigate and report on the idea of a standardized system of city planning for Oregon. The personnel of the committee is E. T. Mische, of Portland, Marshall N. Dana, of Portland, I. N. McArthur, of Lebanon, and Ellis F. Lawrence, of Eugene. A fifth member will be appointed later.

This commission will probably act on the recommendation of Mr. Mische that the field be thoroughly investigated with a purpose of submitting to the next legislature a draft of a bill to make proper city planning a legal necessity. The system presented by the speaker is somewhat similar to the law in force in Massachusetts at the present time. The proposition provided for local boards of city planning appointed by the Mayor for a period of five years, whose duty it was to make plans and suggestions, which, if approved by the City Council, would be submitted to the State Board, whose sanction makes the plan effective.

The University received an abundance of praise from the visitors yesterday. According to Bert R. Greer, of Ashland, the state institution is one of the greatest agencies of progress that the state has. In his connection with the development of the springs near Ashland, he received invaluable help from H. B. Miller, Dean of the School of Commerce. "We are realizing from \$225,000 to \$250,000 on our big sanatorium, which we are constructing at a cost of \$175,000, and this huge saving is directly responsible to the Commerce and Economics Departments, who supplied us with data from every corner of the world. I feel more loyalty toward this institution than any other institution of learning that I ever knew of, and it needs our support in every bit of its work throughout the state." Many expressed the opinion that the Commonwealth Conference represented the highest service of the University to the state.

The principle of excess condemnation was discussed from a legal standpoint by W. L. LaRoche, City Attorney of Portland. The principle, which provides that a sovereign power may condemn private property in excess of direct needs for public use was analyzed as a principle which conserved the welfare of the public and was a necessity. Commissioner Dieck insisted on an application of the principle to the acquisition of land for roads and excess condemning for the purpose of beautifying such projects with parks.

## GERMANY WILL YIELD TO AMERICA—CLARK

**Professor of History Thinks Italy at War Lessens Danger for the United States**

"America's chances of being drawn into the European conflict have been materially lessened by Italy's declaration of war," says Doctor Clark, of the History Department. "Germany will send a half million men to the Austro-Italian line. Austria and Germany are completely surrounded by enemies, except on the Dutch frontier. These two powers have all they can handle and it is my opinion that in answering our Lusitania note, even though they may be dilatory, will concede all the demands of our State Department."

"Should we become a belligerent, our coast defenses form ample protection against any attack. All the large navies have been damaged and an invasion of our country would be impossible."

"As to the length of time that the European embroilment will last, no one can definitely say. It seems that Lord Kitchener has proved himself a wise prophet when he predicted almost a year ago that the war would continue at least three years."

"Germany's resources seem to be inexhaustible. She has lost practically no territory. Beside the annexation of Belgium, she has forced much land from the allies. Russia has lost a large slice of Western Poland and the battle line is now dangerously near Warsaw, the Polish Capital. The Kaiser's troops have made large inroads into the Baltic provinces. The territorial losses suffered by Austria-Hungary comprise only a part of Galicia which was taken by the Russians several months past."

"The German-Austrian alliance has the advantage of unity and concentration of action. The German commanders have absolute control over the army and navy of the two states, backed by the resources of a hundred millions of people. Another advantage is the fact that Germany is fighting on interior lines of defense. The armies of the allies, on the other hand, are fighting separately, not under a single command. If they had been, a detachment would surely have been sent to help Italy, whose raw troops will make weak resistance against the force of a half million of German soldiers."

"England and France have concentrated upon the bombardment of the Dardanelles and the capture of Constantinople. They think a year's work will have been accomplished when Turkey is subjugated. No attempt will be made for a while at least to beat back the Kaiser's men along the French frontier."

"The losses of life since the opening of the world conflict last summer have been appalling, having already reached three or four million in number. The German-Austrian ranks have been depleted by approximately two million. A million Russians have been killed or imprisoned, and England's loss amounts to about 500,000."

Bert R. Greer urged that the scenic and climatic resources as well as the more material resources be capitalized as they are in California. "Los Angeles," he said, "is an artistic combination of sand dunes, good climate, an open beach and good advertising." The speaker maintained that Oregon was blessed with a better all-around climate and scenery than even California, but that the people lacked the push that brings thousands of tourists to California each year.

A. L. Barbur, City Auditor of Portland, expounded the principle of doing municipal business on a cash basis if possible, and if an absolute necessity, not to issue long time bonds, but serial bonds which are more scientific. "The issuing of long time bonds," he said, "is merely selling the credit of the taxpayer at a discount. Moreover, it leaves to posterity debts that rightfully belong to us. Posterity will have enough financial troubles without having to be burdened with our obligations. Officials are always under the pressure of lowering taxes, which they usually do by cutting down the sinking fund. Serial bonds would eliminate this financial law in our municipal fabric, for it would necessitate the retire-

## "THIS WAY OUT" PROVES TO BE IRONICAL TITLE

**Freshman Class Hour is Said to Have Paved the Way for Exit of the Institution**

(By Milton A. Stoddard)  
"This Way Out," meaning exit, farewell, was a good name for the Freshman class-hour in Villard yesterday, because, sorry to hear, they say this is the last of the class performances. The faculty says they are no funnier than a broken arm and must therefore be abolished.

On the program in two places a little jester head was printed. I suppose this was warning to the inswarming audience that they were about to see something funny. I guess they did—there was laughter.

The general idea was a trial with a judge (Irwin Sutton), a district attorney (Jawn Dolph), a defendant (James Sheehy), et cetera, and a jury half men and half girls with pantallettes.

It seems that Defendant Sheehy was an old man, the father of his daughter, Gladys Colwell, and he had shot his mother-in-law with a butcher-knife. The defendant sat in agony; his daughter acted flip and also kissed him; his wife, Alice Gram, hopped in haughtily and sang vaudevillanously, and the jury jumped out of the jury box and musical-comedied around and sang, accompanied by their own dancing and the Frosh orchestra led by Professor Baton and his waltergrebe.

Judge Sutton with loosely attached whiskers shouted, "Order!" and the juryfolks frisked back into their box. During the testimony the jurors slept (that is, they pretended to).

John Dolph, district attorney, said that his name was Honorable Algeron Jones, and he made a sweet, slap-you-on-the-wrist plea to convict the defendant.

The counsel for the defense, Don Newbury, forcefully advocated conviction. Result: jury reached some kind of decision and the judge shot the defendant three times right in the court room.

Each jurywoman danced into the room with a juryman, each couple occupying the stage for a spell of dainty dancing. The girls were pretty and the men jurors were good dancers, so somebody in the audience told me.

The acting was adequately fitting to the nature of the play and things in general were so amusing that cackling cackination burst forth.

The group of Junior men right up in front, almost on the stage, seemed to enjoy the show.

The performance was short and snappy—it lasted about thirty minutes.

A Freshman quartette composed of Albert Gillette, William Vawter, William Snyder and Don Newbury, sang harmoniously before judge and jury. Bob Earl, court attendant, ejected Crandell, candyman, who hollered his wares up the aisle.

The trial was interrupted twice by the phone, which called up to announce the score in the German-Allies game. Each time it was a tie—they were holding back for the Pathe's Weekly. "This Way Out" got by very well.

ment of bonds progressively as the utility for which the bonds were issued wears out. This is the scientific way of bonding a city's improvements."

Mr. LaRoche advised the passage of a law prohibiting the issue of warrants except for roads and similar improvements when the necessary funds are not in the treasury.

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## FOUR UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS TO ADDRESS HIGH SCHOOLS

Four members of the University faculty will deliver high school commencement addresses this week: Dr. Joseph Schafer, at Grants Pass, on "Education as a Social Adjustment," Wednesday; Professor F. S. Dunn, at Carlton, on "The Moral of an Arabian Proverb," Wednesday; Professor E. E. DeCou, at Molalla, on "Choosing a Life Work," Friday; Dr. George Rebec, at Klamath Falls, on "Education and the Higher Life Values," Friday.

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