

OREGON EMERALD

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Is This Debater's Logic?

WONDERFUL have been the manipulations of logic on the tongues of master logicians in bygone history. In the heyday of sophism the clever disciples of Socrates proved beyond the shadow of a doubt that nothing exists—not even the shadow of sophists themselves. Scholasticism rose to such majestic heights at one time that the greatest minds of medievalism took delight in debating on how many angels can dance on the point of a needle.

But one of the greatest contributions to the gymnastic art of argument were the syllogisms that three members of the forensic council used to prove to their own satisfaction that in this day and age of the emancipation of women there is no such thing as feminine ability in debating. This is new discovery to mere man who has proverbially held the tongue of women in awe.

Speaking seriously of the ban placed on women competing for places on the intercollegiate debating teams, we think that it is one of the most illiberal pieces of legislation that has been enacted this year—even worse than the abolition of intercollegiate basketball by the faculty.

Woman has by the aid of her natural and developed faculties mounted to a height in the intellectual world nearly paramount with man. Probably the greatest chemist in the world is Madame Curie. Probably within the narrow confines of the University of Oregon there lurks a master mind in a woman. Yet the forensic council, with the usual egotism of man, arbitrarily decided that man has a monopoly in debating faculties.

Three of the members of the forensic council voted that woman be prohibited from participation in competitive tryouts for the debating team. A few weeks ago a few of the ambitious women tried out for the team, and some of them bested some of the men.

But seemingly the men were not to be bested. They met in council and decided that women were an undesirable element to debating teams. One of the men said that women introduced the personal element, which has a demoralizing effect on the men—the same effect which would result if women played basketball or football with the men. Another said that women should no more be allowed to compete in debate than in football. Still another stated that women ruined the esprit de corps of the team; the coach says not so. And yet another proclaimed that high school debating had proven that women were undesirable debaters. After such a display of logic, we wonder if it would not be wiser if the women excluded the men from debating on the same illogical grounds that the men prohibited the women. Surely such arguments are the last words in dogmatism, narrow-mindedness and bigotry.

Oregon stood foremost in the state a few days ago by standing up fairly and squarely for woman's rights at the University in an effort to secure debating contests with O. A. C. and Reed College who were denying the women the rights of debating against men. Oregon's cause was applauded by the press, and in the midst of all this when the two colleges showed signs of recognizing the women, Oregon faltered and fell. And to cap the climax O. A. C. has denied barring women from debate, and says that everything has been done to induce women to take part in this activity. Debating is the only activity which places the women of the University in competition with the men with the possible exception of studies in which women excell. Is this right to be denied the women?

The women of the University support men's activities financially even though they know that they cannot compete in football, baseball and the like. The women are taxed equally with the men. Last year they contributed \$2776 to the support of activities, of which about \$54 was spent on women's activities. Should they not be represented in the only activity in which they are placed on a par with the men? Or should they be taxed without the opportunity of representation?

We are sure that the men who were responsible for this legislation will correct their mistake before it is too late. Oregon needs the best she has, regardless of sex or previous conditions of servitude.

CAMPUS NOTES

Ghostly, sheeted guides met the people arriving at the party at the Y. W. C. A. Bungalow Friday evening and conducted them backwards down the cellar stairs into the realm of a large illuminated skull and a skeleton suspended through the wood lift, then back through gloomy passages into the reception room. Here games such as bobbing for apples and fortune telling were indulged in until "eats," of cider, doughnuts, apples and toasted marshmallows were brought in. The decorations were principally of autumn leaves.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Edmondson chaperoned. Those in charge of the arrangements were: Margaret Dixon, Claire Warner, Mary Hislop, Ruth Trowbridge, Alley Church, Miriam Page, Roberta Killum, Katherine Bridges, Jewel Tozier and Genevieve Chapin. Erma Keithly read a ghost story and Marian Ady, a high school girl, acted as fortune teller.

The entire faculty was entertained in the Y. M. C. A. Bungalow Saturday evening by a committee of faculty women. The witch scene from Macbeth was given as a part of the program. The Bungalow decorated appropriately for Hallowe'en presented a very attractive appearance.

at the Alpha Phi house.

Kappa Alpha Theta entertained at dinner Tuesday evening Mrs. Allen, a Pi Beta Phi from Chicago, Myrtle Kem, Leah Perkins and Kathryn Fraley.

Mrs. S. S. Dunn, Mrs. A. R. Sweetser, Mrs. R. C. Clark, Mrs. W. D. Smith, Mrs. A. E. Caswell, Mrs. J. H. Gilbert, Mrs. C. H. Edmondson, Mrs. W. F. G. Thatcher and Mrs. J. F. Bovard will entertain the faculty and those connected with faculty at a Hallowe'en party Saturday evening at the Y. W. C. A. Bungalow. An informal program will be given.

Delta Delta Delta entertained the members of the chapter at dinner Thursday night.

Mrs. George McCoy of Twin Falls, Idaho, and Mrs. John Creek of Ashland are spending the week-end at the Delta Gamma house. Mrs. McCoy and Mrs. Creek are on their way home to Ashland.

Claude Washburn of Junction City was a dinner guest at the Sigma Chi house Wednesday night.

Mr. and Mrs. James Johns (Pearl McKenna, ex-'12) of Pendleton spent Tuesday in Eugene.

Mrs. Hunter of La Grande is spending a few days at the Gamma Phi Beta house.

Bess Cushman and Jennie Higgins were dinner guests at Gamma Phi Beta house, Wednesday evening.

Mr. Carl Getz, dean of department

of journalism at Montana University, is visiting at the Iota Chi house.

Eva Brock spent the week-end in Hood River.

Helen Coke, ex-'15, of Portland, and Grace Bean, '14, of Salem, motored to Eugene last week-end and were guests at the Gamma Phi Beta house.



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