

OREGON EMERALD

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Physical and Mental Preparedness for War.

MANY A WORDY war has been waged concerning the advisability of instituting compulsory military drill in the educational institutions of this country. Locally we have heard the echoes of speakers and newspapers urging that the University of Oregon establish forced drill. The Emerald has taken an opposing stand twice, and has brought forth veiled criticism. But no attempt has been made to answer the reasons advanced why compulsory drill would be unwise.

To institute military drill would be unwise because the University at the present is developing men who, in the event of war, would be better able to defend their country. And this is being done without the evils of instilling militarism and a false idea of patriotism, which are the inevitable resultants of compulsory military drill.

Some authority has said that fortunately some of our college students are wiser than their elders on this matter; and we flatter ourselves that this is at least an approximation of the truth.

Colleges have always waged an intellectual war for peace, and the effect of this is visible in the empiric fact that the youth of this country no longer regards war as an ideal. They no longer respond to a demagogue who croaks a false patriotism. And the love of peace has even spread to the younger children, who have abandoned street-war-play for the gymnasium.

The University of Oregon without military drill is turning out a student who is physically better fitted for arms than if compulsory drill were instituted. Military drill does not fit men physically for war, but only gives a superficial idea of tactics and discipline. An army of drilled nincompoops, to our idea, is not as efficient as an army of undrilled but intelligent men who are physically fit.

It is a matter of common knowledge that drill cannot make a man physically fit to endure war. But athletics, properly taught, can do that which drill fails in: physical efficiency.

An organized system of athletic training recognized as an integral part of the college curriculum is in vogue in the University, and has been re-enforced by recent faculty legislation to make athletics "universal" among the students. Here is a plan that provides for fitting men for the work of conserving and protecting as well as adding to what other men have created.

None other than Professor Dudley A. Sargent, of Harvard, probably the greatest expert on scientific physical development, disfavours military drill with the argument that properly conducted athletics is more effective. In part Professor Sargent says, "During our own civil war it was not necessarily the best-drilled that did the best fighting, but it was invariably the regiments containing in their ranks the highest average of physical development. . . . I have said that I am not at all in favor of the arguments which urge the introduction of military training into our schools and colleges, but I am strongly in favor of any movement which will bring into all our schools the most efficient system of physical training through athletics that can be devised."

Why not encourage in Oregon the present plan of developing potential armies, instead of ranting for a system that does not necessarily create physical efficiency, but emphasize a poor type of patriotism and encourages a mawkish militarism.

Home-Coming Day.

THE BIGGEST question facing Oregon at the present time is how to make Home-Coming Day a success. A large committee is struggling with the problem and as time goes on the members of that committee realize that the job is herculean.

The committee is large but not large enough. The members realize that their work alone will be futile if it is not re-enforced with student interest and spirit.

So we urge a committee of the entire student body. The trouble with the mechanism of student activities is that a few do everything while the rest—about 99 per cent—sit around and knock. Too many of the so-called critics are criticsasters. They are solely destructive. Destructive criticism is necessary but there must be an active policy of construction. So we urge a dynamic spirit of co-operative help on the part of all of the students. The labor necessary for a successful Home-Coming celebration is small compared with the reward.

CAMPUS NOTES

Theta Sigma Phi gave a luncheon Saturday noon in the Y. W. C. A. bungalow in honor of the delegates to the convention of the Western association of the Teachers of Journalism, which was held in Eugene last week. Decorations were in lavender and white, the fraternity colors; place cards were matrix shaped, the emblem of Theta Sigma Phi.

Those present were: Professor Frank G. Kane, head of the university of Washington journalism department; Professor Carl H. Getz, professor of journalism in the University of Montana; Professor Fred Kennedy, head of the printing department of the university of Washington; Professor and Mrs. E. W. Allen, Professor Colin V. Dymont, Mrs. Frederic Thorne, Miss Caroline Cole, Beatrice Locke, Grace Edgington, Bernice Lucas, Louise Allen, Lucille Watson, Claire Raley, Helen Curry and Helen Johns.

Beta Theta Phi Sunday dinner guests were Miss R. Louise Fitch, Nora Manerud, Frances Mann, Margaret Spangler, Marion Murdock and Marie Churchill.

Mary Spiller hall entertained about 40 students with a Hallowe'en party Friday evening. Ghosts received the guests and led them over leafy floors and through cornstock corridors to their cloak rooms. Individual pumpkin pies and cider were served.

Ellen Van Volkinburg, '15, spent the week-end at Mary Spiller hall.

Sigma Delta Chi gave a banquet Friday evening in the grill room of the Osburn in honor of Professor Frank G. Kane, head of the journalism department of the university of Washington, Professor Fred Kennedy, head of the printing department of the university of Washington and Professor Carl H. Getz, professor of journalism in the university of Montana.

Those present were: Professor Kane, Professor Kennedy, Professor Getz, Professor E. W. Allen, Professor C. V. Dymont, Mr. W. A. Dill, of Springfield; Dr. E. S. Conklin, Professor W. F. G. Thacher, Professor J. Frederic Thorne, Dr. D. C. Sowers, Fred Dunbar, Harold Hamstreet, Lamar Tooze, and Leslie Tooze, and Wallace Eakin. Speeches were given by the three visitors.

Delta Gamma announces the pledging of Mable Tilley of Portland.

Sigma Chi announces the pledging of Maynard H. Harris.

Kappa Alpha Theta entertained with a Hallowe'en dance Saturday night.

Clarence Bean, Don Campbell, Ellis Williamson, and Paul Downard spent the week-end in Salem and attended the Willamette game.

Pi Beta Phi pledges were entertained at dinner Friday evening by Kappa Alpha Theta.

Esther Campbell spent the week-end at her home in Jennings Lodge.

Mr. Cooper of Corvallis spent the week-end at the Delta Tau Delta house.

Rose Basler, Claire Haines and Leura Jerard were in Portland over the week-end.

Roland Allen, John L. Clelan, Edmund Tracy, Arthur McChesney, John Tate, Lyle Bain, and Louis Schultz, of the Albany high school football team were visitors at the Sigma Chi house Saturday.

John Kelly and Millar McGilchrist were in Eugene during the week-end.

UNIVERSITY HAS BOOTH AT LAND PRODUCTS SHOW

Earl Kilpatrick, director of the Extension Department, supervised an exhibit occupying a space six by six by 30 feet which has placed in the Oregon Land Products Show held in Portland during the past week. A number of charts showing the work of the extension department in other parts of the state especially in Journalism and Music were placed in the exhibit along with the Potato and Milk Bulletins prepared in the industrial survey class. A large number of the furs and birds from the zoological museum, also Mrs. Sweetser's paintings of Oregon wild flowers formed the greater part of the display. The walls of the booth were covered with pictures of University buildings and campus all placed there with the object of showing graphically just what the University is doing in Eugene and elsewhere.

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