

OREGON EMERALD

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Intoxicate Yourself.

MANY COLLEGE students suffer for four years from a disease which can be diagnosed as *ennui*, which is nothing less than loafing on the job. This fatigue of the humdrum life is the greatest deterrent of efficiency. Balzac says that the symptom of this dread disease is a certain lassitude on the part of the student that makes him as tiresome as a rainy day.

Ennui is the lot of the student who is not interested intrinsically in something in college life. Many a capable student has traveled the path of Flunkerdom because he never really got into something absorbing—something intoxicating, if we be permitted the license of using the term. Students who are never intoxicated with some subject suffer from a chronic dryness of their minds.

The big problem of the college *parvenu* is to get intoxicated with some phase or phases of his or her work. The time to go on this "spree" is in the freshman year, and with this incentive honors and scholarship will come incidentally. Grades will be forgotten as everything is forgotten when one is intoxicated.

Another cure for this dreaded disease is for the student to get interested early in his or her college career. Too many students spend their four years before the fireplace. There are innumerable activities that are open: debate, athletics, oratory, campus service organizations, and the Emerald.

Charles Baudelaire has expressed the idea somewhat unconventionally, and we quote a portion of his little prose poem which we hope will be taken in the figurative sense only: "In order to escape from the slavish martyrdom of time, intoxicate yourself; unceasingly intoxicate yourself; with wine, or poetry, or art—as you will."

The Compulsory Tax.

THE ASSEMBLY Wednesday morning was devoted to a student body meeting, which established a well-defined policy by an overwhelming vote of 233 to 27; to-wit, That in a choice between a voluntary student body tax or intercollegiate athletics, the students stand as a unit—with the exception of meagre minority of dissenters who are not representative students—for intercollegiate sports.

The question was mooted pro and con with effectiveness on both sides, which is ample proof that the old time verbosity and flowery verbiage has been cast aside in student body meetings. In the face of the meeting Wednesday morning it was demonstrated that debating societies are unnecessary in a student body which is confronted with puzzling problems of actual conditions.

But that is aside from the main point, which is that the student body favors a compulsory tax, and that instead of making it voluntary it is willing to dig into its pocket for eight dollars as long as that amount is needed by the student body. In the event that the college grows sufficiently, the tax can be reduced.

This is a sound axiom in finance, i. e., taxation in its very nature is compulsory. The element of compulsion is the only assurance that it can be collected. The surrender of this right would place the student body politic on an unsound and boggy financial basis.

The stand taken by the opposition is that for the benefit of a meagre few the student body should surrender a right, without which the organization has no excuse for its present organization. Those who have had experience in collection of dues know that the feature of compulsion is the only guarantee of collection. And without the collection of the student body tax assured at the time when it is most needed, the student body could not maintain its present activities.

We question the contention that students are kept out of college on account of an eight dollar tax. Any student with an average amount of get-up can earn eight dollars in a month by working at odd jobs in the time which otherwise would be spent in doing nothing.

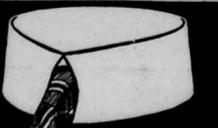
Very ably did the opposition present the case that certain students were forced to sacrifice themselves to meet this contingency. But the majority of students in the University are in this position. Statistics show that 52 per cent. of the students earn part or all of their way through college. Testimony of class treasurers shows that the most wayward students in the matter of paying class and student taxes are those best able to pay. So we draw the inevitable conclusion that those who oppose the compulsory feature of the tax are those best able to pay.

CAMPUS NOTES

* Alpha Tau Omega entertained L. B. Howey of O. A. C. last week-end.
 * Mrs. Morris Starbuck entertained the members of Delta Delta Delta with an informal Christmas dance at the Country club Saturday evening.
 * Charles Tisdale, Kenneth Moores and Bert Ford were dinner guests at the Gamma Phi Beta house Sunday.

* Miss Lucille Morrow was a dinner guest Saturday evening of Pi Beta Phi.
 * Kappa Kappa Gamma entertained Saturday afternoon with a tea in honor of the housemother, Mrs. S. C. Dyer of Salem. Pink was the prevailing scene in the decorations.
 * The senior meeting that was announced for last Tuesday was postponed, according to President Batley, until next Tuesday, December 14. It will be held at 4 o'clock, in Deady.

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