

OREGON EMERALD

Published each Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday of the college year, by the Associated Students of the University of Oregon.
Entered at the postoffice at Eugene as second class matter.
Subscription rates, per year, \$1.00. Single copies, 5c.

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Shall We Over-Emphasize Organizations?

A FEW days ago a plan was proposed which it was said, would produce a panacea where chaos operated before. All of the hurryscurry between dances in search for the "dancer" would be overcome by having each of the various women's fraternities grouped together in one section of the hall.

The plan received a sufficient trial Friday night, we think, to convince the most rabid dancer that it should have no further trial. In the first place, in a large hall there should be lively movement. Otherwise the hall looks dead. In the second place, this plan strikes us as a grave injustice to the non-fraternity student. Heretofore it has been hard to get the town and non-fraternity student to attend the dances. The attendance under the proposed plan would be worse than ever, in fact, certain students would construe the measure as discrimination.

Such a plan, even if it accomplishes its purpose, would introduce more evils into dances than it seeks to eradicate. Fraternity students seldom over-emphasize their affiliations, never advertise before the non-fraternity student that they are of such and such a house. Students in their daily social intercourse are known as Jones, Smith, or whatever the case may be. Under the proposed system there is no doubt in our mind that the organization and not the person would become the personal appellation, which is an out and out over-emphasis of organization.

Democracy has always been a synonym of Oregon. Democracy has oftentimes been flaunted in a wrong sense, but here is a case where the organization is emphasized instead of the individual. This is only a small matter, but a series of such small matters can operate to change the general tone of the college. That is why we object to the proposed segregation of dancers according to their affiliations.

COMMUNICATION

To the Editor:
I am willing as a member of the student body to accept the verdict of the majority in regard to the student tax. But there is one point about that tax which in the heat of discussion we all overlooked. To-wit: How is that money spent? In a democratic organization surely there ought to be a direct report to the student body. At present, no one seems to know just how that tax is distributed. Every man and woman in college has a right to know where his or her \$8 goes. Let us have an itemized account of how the money was spent last year. Furthermore, let it be published in the Emerald.

This is only fair, and it is merely a matter of good business. The merchant whose accounts can not bear the light of day is in a doubtful position. What about our student body fund? The truth can never hurt a good cause.

Which reminds me that your correspondent of November 9 apparently had so little regard for the truth that he picked out for attack the one member of the faculty who has given students financial assistance in regard to the much discussed \$8 tax. To slander one's opponent is not good sportsmanship.

Yours for an open budget.

ROSALIND BATES.

INEXCUSABLE IGNORANCE.

The above communication does not warrant an editorial reply, for it is a request or a demand for something that has existed as long as the student body. Those in charge of the funds of the student body have in previous years and no doubt will this year submit a statement of last year's finances in full. The writer, we are under the impression, has only been in college this semester, as the above communication only too clearly shows. At the present time there is in circulation about the campus an unofficial statement of last year's receipts and disbursements, which the writer may have already seen. If on the other hand the writer has not seen this statement the Emerald will be only too glad to give information on the matter.

THE EDITOR.

To the Editor:
The writer was very much surprised to see in Friday night's Guard a proposed plan to segregate the girls who attend the University dances according to the various sorority houses or clubs to which they might belong.

The reason given for such a system was that it would do away with much of the confusion and mistakes arising from the inability of a dancer to find his partner in the crowd. The idea was said to

have originated with Dean Ruth Guppy and Mrs. Gerlinger.

With all due respect to Miss Guppy and Mrs. Gerlinger, what a silly thing this would be! Did Miss Guppy or Mrs. Gerlinger ever attend a large function of this kind where on the invitation it was pointed out in what part of the hall they should remain? Are University students so void of intelligence that they are unable to tell their partners in what section of the room they may be found?

There are two distinct purposes of an all-University dance: One is the pleasure derived from the dancing and the other is the pleasure of mingling with your fellow students. Where fraternity men mingle freely with non-fraternity men and sorority women are intermingled with their non-sorority sisters.

Do these ladies fully appreciate the significance of this proposed system? It is nearly everywhere acknowledged that the students of the University are over-organized. Nearly one-half of the students on the campus are members of fraternities or sororities. It has always been a very pleasing fact to me that at least our all-University dances were democratic—that as soon as a student entered the hall she left her sorority behind her. In a word, our dances have been our big democratic mixes where University students meet each other.

The question is: Are we going to spoil this democratic spirit by introducing the private organization into our most democratic functions? Is the little saving in time it would afford worth it?

RALPH S. ALLEN.

FACULTY WOMEN INTEND TO TOSS BASKETS ALSO

The women of the faculty are planning to have a basketball team which will challenge the women's different class teams, after the Christmas holidays.

So far, the faculty have been able to practice only on Saturdays, but during vacation, while the co-eds are breaking training, they plan to get in some good work.

Miss Hazel Rader, Miss Harriet Thomson, Miss Mozelle Hair, Miss Mary Perkins and Mrs. E. W. Shockley have agreed to try out for the team.

"We would like to have all faculty women who are interested in basketball come out and practice Saturdays, at 10 o'clock," said Miss Thomson.

Five thousand dollars has been added to the University of Michigan Union's \$1,000,000 club house fund, through a gift from L. W. Bowen and his four sons, who are all graduates or students in the University. It is hoped that contributions will total \$200,000 by December 1.

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