

# OREGON EMERALD

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## Skyey Influences on Examinations.

PSYCHOLOGISTS HAVE worked out an elaborate barometer on how the mental faculties are affected by weather conditions, and according to an empirical investigation of the efficiency of the human thinking-machine, report that these bracing days are ideal for the students to do their grinding for examinations which are not far away.

The weather philosophers maintain that days that are fairly freezing tend to stimulate full attendance at classes. If such is the case, it would be the ideal time for the faculty, which is usually so progressive, to abolish the "cut rule". That is beside the point, but we certainly take pleasure in reminding the faculty every once in a while that there is still the matter of compulsory attendance at classes, which invites progressive reform. And by reform the Emerald does not mean a minor change but a complete abolition.

But this is beside the point.

It is a fact that fair weather is not a brain-stimulant. Students persist in thinking of the Millrace during the days of spring-fever which expression suggests the mental torpor that prevails. It is also a recognized fact among criminologists that a suicide will, in nine cases out of ten, choose a fair day for self-annihilation. So, too, with students. Many a student has annihilated himself in examinations during the spring; after passing with good marks at the end of the first semester. In a survey of the efficiency in the banks of the country it was shown that warm weather brought a plethora of clerical errors.

The old motto, "Make hay while the sun shines," evidently does not apply in the matter of examinations. Psychologists say that the best time to prepare for "exams" is when the sun is not shining, but rather when the snow is falling.

So it appears that the snow is a fortunate phenomena. The question is whether those unhappy individuals who are behind in their work will seize the opportunity while the cold weather lasts.

## Forging Ahead.

THE MEETING of the Board of Regents last Tuesday marks a milestone in the progress of the University. The crowning accomplishment of the session was the authorization to erect a new home for the newly created School of Education. The cost of the building will be \$40,000, exclusive of architecture fees and heating. The fact that the structure is only a unitary part of a still larger building is an assurance that the future holds much in store for the University.

According to plans, a time will come—and this time is not so far off—when the entire complexion of the campus will be changed.

A topic of vital importance is the President's liberal stand on compulsory military drill. An investigation of the eastern institutions revealed the fact that the modern and most effective way for a university to aid in preparation plans is not by rote-drill, but by study in engineering lines from the military aspect. Drill, according to the country's greatest experts, should be a matter of only a month or so. Educational preparedness is a greater assurance of efficiency in case the nation were called upon to defend its existence. This is the system in vogue in Harvard and Princeton.

By creating schools, out of the departments of journalism, law, medicine, and extension service, the University now has seven schools properly equipped for vocational training. The old academic doctrine that higher education is concerned with only the cultural and classical knowledge is thereby disproved. The demand is for vocational training as well as the cultural—or rather a commixture of the two.

That the University is advancing into better times as a result of the policy of vocational preparation is shown in the statistics taken recently from the graduating classes of two of Portland's largest high schools showing that a majority were intending to enter institutions of higher learning, and that the majority of this number had already signified their intention of entering Oregon.

These are only a few of the measures which the Board of Regents took, but from the magnitude of these undertakings, it is self-evident that Oregon is entering into a new era for the better; and this has been made possible by an efficient administration and a progressive Board of Regents.

## COMMUNICATIONS

**YALE-OREGON MAN WRITES**  
Oregon Emerald:  
Just a line to let you know I am getting the Emerald regularly and that the contents of said paper I go over in most diligent fashion, and it is a source of much pleasure and fond recollection.  
A few sidelights on Yale that may be interesting to the students.

To start with Yale is in three divisions one might say—the Academic school where all the art courses are given—the Sheffield Scientific school where the engineering and scientific courses are given and the Professional schools. As for spirit, there is plenty and I fail to find anything but a democratic spirit among the men—and a very strong feeling for Yale.  
As for football out this way I don't grant it a lot over western football, except in one respect; and that is that the

prospective Varsity material that comes in from the well-known "prep" schools around here have a better knowledge of the game than the average freshman in the west. The reason is that the majority of the "prep" schools have well known former college stars coaching and teaching on the faculties. I firmly believe though that more attention is paid to physical condition in the west, and when anyone tries to tell you Eastern football has it so much on the West, put it down as "bunk", it is a little better, yes—but its only a few years off till it will be on a par. Oliver Huston aptly expressed it in a recent article of his in the Oregonian. I am sorry to note that basketball has been relegated to the background—to me a Varsity team looks like a large inducement for getting men out and that's the idea of athletics as I understand—to get the largest number possible out in order that they may improve themselves physically. "Competition is the life of trade" and those engaged have a goal to attain so I fail to see in the taking away of that goal or incentive in the shape of Varsity team whereby the largest number of students are attracted to the sport.  
LYLE F. BROWN, '12.

## CAMPUS NOTES

Schedule sheets for the second semester are in the hands of the printer and will be ready for distribution by the last of next week.

Chi Omega dinner guests last Sunday were Ray Staub, Anson Cornell, Neil Norfitt, Iver Ross, Virgil Alexander, Charles McDonald and Harry Miller.

Superintendent Churchill estimates the number of freshmen students who will enter next September at 50.

Sigma Chi announces the pledging of Ferdinand Cate.

Dinner guests at Sigma Chi Sunday were Mrs. Page, Virginia Peterson, Genevieve Chapin, Catherine Twomey, Genevieve Shaver, Marian Neil, Beatrice Gaylord, Florence Pearce, Lillian Bohannon, and Elaine Brown.

## TEAMS ARE DRAWN BY LOT

Real Intra-Mural Schedule To Follow men will be shaken up in a hat and drawn Interfrat and Interclass Contests.

A steady diet of basketball will fall to the lot of followers of the game from now on. After the present inter-fraternity series the interclass series will be run off and then will come the real dyed-in-the-wool intramural basketball.

Bill Hayward will pick the captains of the several teams, and these, in conjunction with Bill will pick the remaining players. This is the way it will be worked. A captain will be chosen for each six men. These captains are supposed to be the best players, the pick of the rabble. The list will again be culled by Hayward and the captains of the second best players. The names of these players will be empaneled and the process repeated until five men additional to the captain will have been assigned to a team.

Any person, even a Frosh, will be eligible to the captaincy of these teams. Likewise any man in the University, including former varsity men is eligible. Merit alone constitutes the basis of the choice. Such is the doctrine of intramuralism.

The cup offered by Spalding & Co., of Portland, for the winning team of the series will be put on display so that ambitious players can imagine their names engraved thereon. Each team must select a name. The team that comes out on top of the percentage column will have its name and the names of the members engraved upon it. This loving cup will remain in possession of the fortunate team for one year, reposing in the trophy case in the gym. This is the plan that Director Hayward has in mind for the disposition of the prize.

All of the basketball games interclass included, will be recorded on a percentage basis.

## MAY REQUIRE MILITARY DRILL.

Unless the United States war department fails to detail an officer to give instruction in military science and tactics at the University of Montana, men students in the two lower classes will be required to take military drill at the university beginning with the fall term.

## 1915 CHAMPIONSHIPS

Sport	College
Football	Cornell
Baseball	Syracuse
Basketball	Yale, Syracuse
Track	Cornell
Rowing	Cornell, Yale
Hockey	Cornell, Yale
Hockey	Harvard
Cross-country	Maine
Water polo	Princeton
Fencing	Navy
Wrestling	Cornell
Tennis	Harvard
Golf	Yale
Soccer	Haverford
Chess	Columbia
Lacrosse	Harvard
Shooting	Harvard
Gymnastics	Harvard
Swimming	Undecided

A bill to provide for the purchase of ground and the erection of a weather bureau observatory building at or near the university of Montana has been introduced in the United States senate by Senator Henry L. Myers, was read twice and has been referred to the committee on public buildings and grounds.

STUDENTS EACH

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## NEUBAUER, CLASS OF '10, FIGURES COMET'S ORBIT

Former Mathematician Major and Now Lick Observatory Assistant Describes Work to Prof. DeCou

Ferdinand J. Neubauer, of the class of 1910 and a B. A., and M. A. at the University, now a member of the staff of the Lick observatory at the University of California, has recently succeeded in getting a determinate orbit of the comet e1915 (Taylor). In the verification worked out by Mr. Neubauer, the new comet has been found to have an orbit of about eight years in length.

In a letter to Professor E. E. DeCou, of the department of mathematics, Professor Neubauer said: "This offers one of the so-called indeterminate cases due to great circular motion. Naturally I am rather pleased to have succeeded in this particular case to get a determinate orbit. Also I have several asteroid orbits out, which I hope to verify at the next observation at Lick."

Professor Neubauer has studied in Europe and at Montreal, Canada, as well as a graduate course in the University of California. At the U. of C. he work toward a doctor's degree in mathematics and astronomy, with the result that he is now one of the assistant professors at the Lick observatory.

Professor DeCou has received a number of bulletins from him, in which the observations are explained in detail. As Neubauer was one of his students when at the University of Oregon, he says that he is very much interested in the work. Professor DeCou is also an astronomer, as well as a mathematician.

Wesleyan, in order to raise scholarship standard, has passed the following new rule: "A student with entrance conditions after his first year will be ranked as a freshman throughout the whole year, even though during the year he makes up the condition."

At Hamilton college, N. Y., the freshman "beer-keg" has been eliminated this year for the first time. More attention to the liquor problem is being given by student leaders and by instructors in the related classes and courses.—The Intercollegiate Statesman.

Twelve men at Colgate have pledged themselves to put the prohibition movement foremost among their college activities this year.  
The students at the Kearney State Normal school, at Kearney, Nebraska, have formed an Anti-Shave league. The slogan of the club is "More Fuzz."

## Student Photos

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