

Oregon Emerald

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Spontaneity

SPONTANEITY is the word for it.

It was spontaneous notice that drew about fifty University students, representing many various campus groups, together in Friendly hall yesterday in answer to a call from newly-elected ASUO Prexy Harry Weston.

The spirit in which they answered the call with only a bare idea of why they were called can be given only one name—spontaneous.

But most spontaneous of all is the spirit which the new Oregon Federation aims to build in University students for the purpose of promoting the "promote Oregon University" idea.

OUTLINING and discussing a program of summer activities which will help to make contacts with seniors just out of high school and others who may come to college, student leaders told of the new plan's possibilities.

With the eventual intention of selling "the University idea" to prospective enrollees, Weston made plain the idea that merely a greater number of students is not desired, but that an increase in "the better type" will certainly be welcomed. A larger program of entertainment and discussion that would cover every little hamlet and village in the state as well as Portland and the larger cities was discussed briefly.

Alumni Secretary Elmer Fansett told the assembly that the whole strength of the alumni association would be behind any such program and a suggestion of signing a "big-time" dance band to make a circuit tour of larger cities and play for University rushing dances was discussed.

THE University's Greater Oregon committee of two years ago died from discouragement from not being able to promote various affairs as they wished. Last year's rushing season brought forth several dances and picnics which were admittedly not well planned due to lack of time. Prospective wearers of Oregon tinpans "were left to

A Doubtful Improvement

ONCE again the faulty rushing system of Oregon fraternities has come up for scrutiny by the interfraternity council. In an effort to alleviate the crowded conditions of past rush weeks—brought about by conflicting fraternity and entrance examination dates—the council has considered a proposal that rush week be started earlier, and that entrance examinations be postponed to the latter part of freshman week, after official rush week had been completed.

While the suggestion does indicate a desire to solve the situation the method of attack seems to be disregarding the basic problems entirely. Criticism of rush week in the past has centered about the points that (1) it literally "rushed" incoming freshmen into obligations before they have become adequately oriented; (2) due to the haste, confusion and competition, many unethical practices are indulged in by houses in an effort to pledge as many men as possible.

THESE fundamental problems of the traditional week will in no measure be solved by the proposed change. Under the moving up of rush week, freshmen would be "signed up" the Wednesday before school had officially begun. Virtually the only campus relationship for the frosh, under such a set-up, would be that which the fraternity men could provide. Thus contact with the campus would be, at best, incomplete, and the problems

wander about like lost souls," as one person put it yesterday. An attempt to put on a dance in Pendleton will need some outside talent and faces to supplement their familiar faces, commented ASUO Vice-Prexy Zane Kemler.

Under the set-up inaugurated by the state system of higher education, the various days for having high school boys and girls down to the campus of Oregon State college and the University are allocated in equal numbers by a student contacts committee. One year the press conference is here and the band concert in Corvallis, and the next year the opposite is true, with an occasional extra convention thrown in for good measure. In this way does the state system dole out "chances at the prospective students."

MOST significant of the afternoon's proceedings was not Harry Weston's statement that the aim of the new federation is not to win students to this campus on the basis of the good times shown them, but to get people of the caliber the University needs.

Nor was it the statement that the alumni would back this new idea in Oregon rushing to its best ability, nor the lavish but immature plans for mass-production dances, picnics, and dinner meetings and newsreels of Oregon campus life to be shown in the smaller towns.

THE outstanding thing was the enthusiastic declarations of faith and willingness to support such a program which a large majority of the student group showed. Slips were signed showing their intention of "putting Oregon across to Oregon students so well that they will put it across to prospective students."

Gone from the minds of these representative people were the thoughts of using an Oregon rush dance or picnic to do some rushing for individual houses.

Instead, ideas of a powerfully enthusiastic student body participating in the big job of bringing the best of the better type of students to the University were in their minds.

caused by hurriedly-pledged, unoriented freshmen in houses would be increased.

The second fault would be even less corrected. Regulation of unethical practices during rush week depends upon a strong interfraternity council, capable of forceful action if necessary, and able to supervise conditions effectively. The earlier rush week would provide none of these. With fewer students on the campus and interfraternity council organization at a minimum, the problem of checking illegal rushing would be augmented.

FURTHERMORE the "moved-up" rush week would make it necessary for fraternity men to return earlier, would increase the upkeep expenses of houses, and would do little to improve the financial woes which have been complained of recently by managers.

The gains of the remodeling—removal of confusion and bestowal of respectability upon the existing illegal early rushing practices—are dwarfed by the possibilities of these above evils, which overbalance the probable gain.

It would thus seem that a deeper probing will be necessary to solve the perennial rush week problem. Ever present, even though in the background, is the plan for deferred pledging. While the plan admittedly is not utopian, it does give promise of counteracting a majority of evils with a minimum of new problems.

SIDE SHOW

By JIM BRINTON

Little ex-Emperor Haile Selassie is still the world's No. 1 man without a country, as far as the league of nations is concerned.

The league listened to his plea for his lost land last week. Listen was all they did.

When the session was over league members found themselves free to do whatever they pleased. They were free from oaths that bound them to preserve peace and prevent armed conquest. Any approval of disapproval of the Italian conquest of Ethiopia in 1935 will be done by nations as individuals, not as one body.

Strange emotions must have dwelled in the chest of the little man as he stood before the league council. It was not many years ago that he was lauded as "descendant of King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba—the king of kings, the Conquering Lion of the Tribe of Judah." The nations sent their prettiest diplomats to watch a man become a king. And he became king of his primitive pastoral people for a few years.

Last week he stood before representatives of those same nations, who gathered to see the king become a man. Perhaps some of the same men, who had seen him become a

king were there. Almost as a death knell followed the words of the Archbishop of Canterbury announcing to the British House of Lords that he has "most reluctantly come to the conclusion that collective security is impossible."

Selassie remains a gallant figure, because of his magnificent stand against overwhelming odds in 1935. But he asked the league for more than it could give. He asked the league, led by France and England, to restore to him his country. But that is a thing they cannot do, without—war.

The loss of Ethiopia may be charged up to bad leadership in the league, to weak French and English statesmanship, or to any number of causes. Examine those causes, and you'll find that they may not be real. You may find the real cause of the league's being unable to act inherent in the principle of "collective security."

It is an old, old story—that of conquest—it is as old as mankind. The mighty nation rises, and rising, some other one must fall.

It is wrong. But is there any power great enough to stop it? Yes, war is great enough; but statesmen the world over must shake their heads and say, "No,"

The BANDWAGON

By BILL CUMMINGS

Promoting a greater Oregon was the keynote of a gathering of approximately 50 students called together yesterday by ASUO Prexy Harry Weston as the first step toward a summer campaign to draw new students to the campus. Most promotional campaigns take a great deal of promoting themselves before they get going, but this one seems to be off to a flying start, with enthusiasm on all sides.

The idea is simply to spread the good word around this summer that old Oregon is a pretty good place to come to school. Rushing is a good name for it, if the term is taken in the campus-wide sense, with the ultimate good of the University as the ideal.

Let's analyze the situation and find out just what chances we have of selling Oregon to the seekers of higher education who are about to select their alma mater. In the first place, Oregon is handy, just around the corner, as it were, to hundreds of high school seniors in the state. Then, too, Oregon offers as fine a law school as

can be found in the country; as good a medical school as anybody could want; high-ranking schools of journalism and business administration; excellent departments in social science, English, art, education, science, and music.

Oregon has a brand new president, who calls students by their first names and remembers faces; winning teams in basketball, baseball, track, and the minor sports; a new football coach who is moulding a grid squad with personality; plus; pacemaking campus publications, and extra-curricular activities galore.

Furthermore, Oregon boasts of an attractive campus and a good fraternity-sorority system offering the typical college life you read about. Fraternities and sororities, by the way, will benefit by the University's rushing program, for the purpose of the embryo Oregon Federation is to look over prospective students carefully and select the cream of the crop. Next fall should see a new high in rushing material for the Greeks.

From where I SIT

By CLARE IGOE

Something novel in the way of happy college fun was offered by the DUs recently, when they added a bit of variation to an old, old theme. It seems that Brother John Weber had just offered his pin, as a slight token of his esteem, to Barbara Needham, Sigma Kappa.

To celebrate the occasion,

the DU boys decided on the traditional dumping of the enamored John upon the Sigma Kappa steps, mattress-bound. Not content with this simple procedure, however, the inventive lads first firmly tied the protesting John upon an ironing board, then trussed him up in a mattress, and in this unhappy

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