

# 'Messiah' Concert Tomorrow

## Vienna Boys' Choir in First Eugene Appearance

### Operetta Scheduled Monday

Talented Singers Presented by Civic Music Association

"Ladies in hoop skirts and white-wigged gentlemen in brocaded breeches" will appear on the McArthur court platform Monday night when the Vienna Choir Boys present Mozart's operetta "Bastien and Bastienne" as a highlight of their first Eugene performance. The concert begins at 8:15 p.m.

Now on their first American visit in a decade, the boys, directed by Felix Mozer, will arrive here from Vancouver, B. C., to present a selection of sacred songs and music.

The organization, one of the oldest musical groups in the world, celebrated its 450th birthday July of this year. Membership is limited to 60, boys from 8 to 12 years old, but while on tour only 20 will appear.

Occasional concert tours were made by the choir as early as the seventeenth century. They were first organized in 1498 by order of Emperor Maximilian I to sing in the court chapel in Vienna. After the Emperor's death, the Hapsburgs subsidized the group until their ruin after World War I.

The choir initiated tours in 1926 in order to continue its existence. It traveled throughout Europe and was brought to the United States in 1938 by impresario S. Hurok.

The boys today are placed under the finest supervision in Vienna. To enroll in the organization, which is equivalent to a school, a prospective choir boy must pass rigid examinations of scholastic ability as well as musical talents.

Presented locally under the auspices of the Eugene Civic Music association, the group will sing numbers by Giuseppe Verdi, Jacobus Gallus, Franz Schubert, Johannes Brahms and others.

The music critic from the New York Post has written of them, "The applause abated only when there was singing or an intermission."

### Exam Absences Clarified by Fogdall

Absences from final examinations will be excused only if incontrovertible evidence is produced by the student that his absence was unavoidable, and then only at the discretion of the instructor, Vergil S. Fogdall of the office of students affairs stated yesterday.

Serious illness or death in the family would constitute such an excuse, Fogdall said. Grades of "incomplete" will be registered for the student if his excuse is accepted by the instructor.

The final examination schedule will be found on page 8.

## OREGON Daily EMERALD

Fiftieth Year of Publication and Service to the University

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, EUGENE, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1948

VOLUME L

NUMBER 55



### Faculty to Decide on Semester Plan

L. S. Cressman, head of the anthropology department gave formal notice yesterday that he will move that the faculty recommend the University calendar be changed from the term to the semester system at the January, 1949, meeting of the faculty.

If the faculty voted in favor of Cressman's motion, it would be the first step towards putting the University on the semester system, starting with the 1950-51 school year.

The board of higher education must be notified of the desire of the faculty to change, if the motion is passed, and then must approve the change. On two earlier occasions, the faculty has regis-

tered approval of changing to the semester system, but has not asked approval from the state board.

The last time such action was proposed was in 1939. In an Emer-

#### Happy Days---- Publication Ends

The Oregon Daily Emerald, in ending publication for this term, leaves its readers with this thought:

Don't go away mad,  
Just go away,  
There will be no more Emeralds,  
After today.

ald poll of students on the question, which appeared in the January 14 issue of that year, it was found that "All-in-all the campus is divided on the subject, although most of the students interviewed mentioned that if it would not be in effect while they were in school the two semester plan would be all right with them."

Other views on the problem at that time were similar to the opinions expressed pro and con today. Christmas vacation studying and inconvenience and expense of change versus easier on the administration and less time wasted in registration.

### Program Features 500 Voices

First Performance Of Handel's Work Since Before War

UO students and Eugene residents are invited to be at McArthur court tomorrow at 8 p. m. to hear nearly 600 students in a presentation of Handel's "Messiah."

500 members of choral union and 70 members of the symphony orchestra, both under the direction of Dean Theodore Kratt of the music school, will give the first performance of the "Messiah" on the campus since 1941.

The "Messiah," a work which displays intense religious feeling, is particularly appropriate to the Christmas season. Most familiar passages from the oratorio are those included in the "Hallelujah" chorus. It has been traditional to stand during the chorus since King George II of England did so when he first heard it in 1744.

This year's pre-Yuletide production is sponsored by the School of Music and the University Religious council, and has been in the formative stages for nearly a year.

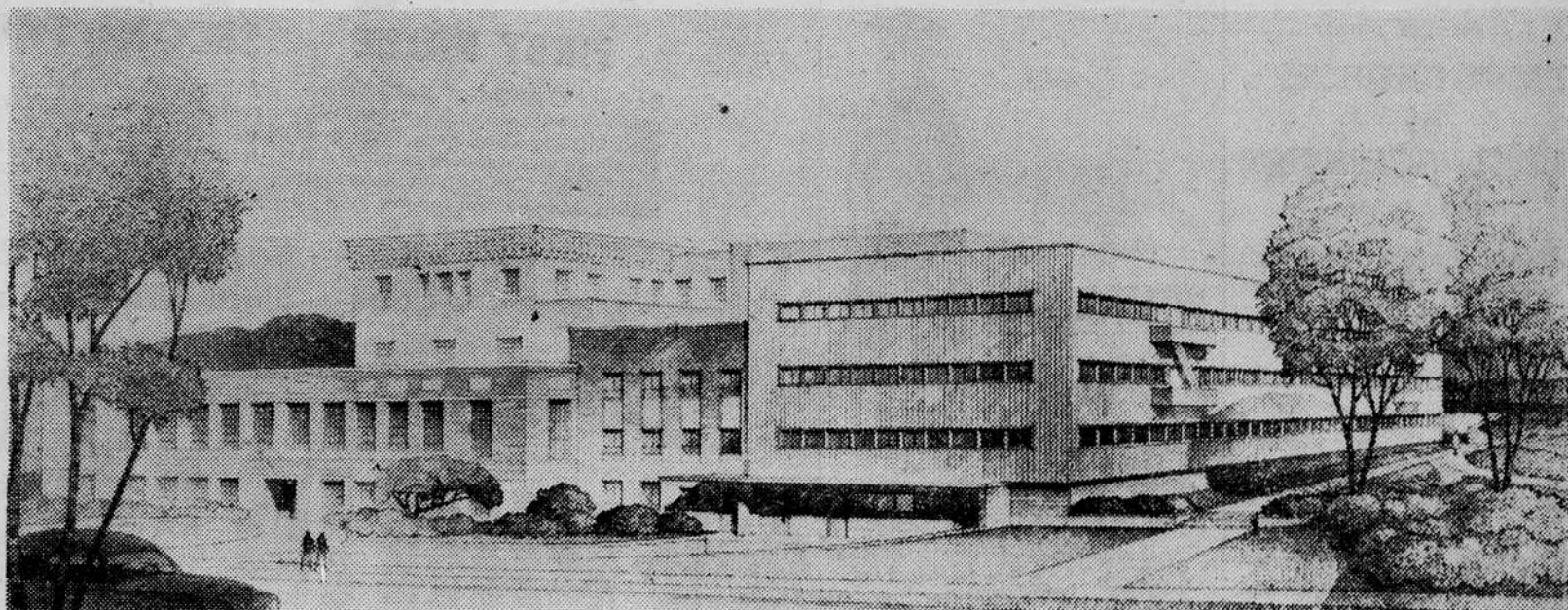
Students are urged to attend tomorrow night, as no comparable choral productions may be forthcoming for a number of years.

Soloists for the choral part of the production, chosen by Dean Kratt, include Virginia Walker, Claire Lewis, Dorothy Gangnath, Lucile Olson, Elizabeth Nelson, James Kays, Lowell Chase, Robert Roberts, Phillip Green, and Wayne Sherwood. They have been given special instruction by the music school.

General arrangements for the presentation of the "Messiah" are under the direction of Lou Weston of the religious council. Committees functioning under Miss Weston include Mac court arrangements, headed by Mickey Campbell and Glen Lamb; promotion, Gretchen

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### Artist's Conception of New Library Addition



Artists conception of proposed addition to library showing west face and extended wing and three story structure which will add approximately 35,000 square feet of space to present accommodations. Ex-

terior finish of the addition will be of brick and metal, designed to blend with present campus buildings. Bids were called for by the state board of higher education Tuesday.