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Early Social Life Nonexistent

Way back in 1876, Mary Spiller, first woman member of the University teaching staff, did much for the growing institution in the direction and founding of college social life.

In contrast to the many organizations of a social nature on the campus today were the first college organizations, Laureans, men's debating society, and Eutoxian, women's literary society.

Social life in those days was practically nonexistent because there were no fraternities or sororities to offer social activities. Out of town students boarded with private families while all Eugene students continued to live at home. The closest function to social activity were the occasional joint open meetings of the two campus societies.

Fraternalizing in the halls and on campus was carried on with no objections; however dancing was completely prohibited. Later, Mrs. Spiller succeeded in allowing dancing under strict chaperonage.

Friendly First Dorm

Friendly hall, a familiar building to Oregon students, was formerly the first dormitory on the campus.

It was named after a Eugene merchant and was erected in 1894 at a cost of \$25,000. It was only about half the size of the present hall. The first women's dormitory, named after Mary Spiller, was erected in 1907. Mary Spiller hall, was a two-story frame building located at the southeast edge of the campus.

Sigma Nu claims the honor of being the first fraternity on the campus. A charter was given the Sigma Nu's in 1900. Five of the nine charter members are still living and assembled last December to celebrate the fraternity's semi-centennial. Eight years later the first sorority, Gamma Phi Beta, was installed.

At the present there are 21 fraternities and 16 sororities on the campus. A far cry from the first installation of chapters some 50 years ago.

Sororities and fraternities through the years have cooperated effectively in solving a difficult housing situation.

Today, Oregon can boast a helpful social program, thanks to the efforts of that pioneer tutor and women's adviser, Mary Spiller.

Gertrude Warner Gave University Oriental Relics

The later Gertrude Bass (Mrs. Murray) Warner brought the famous Murray Warner collection of Oriental art to the University in 1921.

Major and Mrs. Warner started the collection, believed to be one of the best in the world, while they were living in Shanghai. After her husband's death Mrs. Warner made several trips back to the Orient to add to the collection and to replace some specimens not up to museum standards.

Included in the Chinese display are many paintings by old masters, tapestries and embroideries, fine specimens of cinnabar lacquer, jade, porcelains, including some of the blue and white of the Ming period, and ancient bronzes.

In the Japanese collection are old prints, brocades, temple hangings, altar clothes, embroideries, old gold lacquer, porcelain, jewelry and collections of silver, pewter, copper, bronze armor and wood carvings.

Other Countries Represented

Mongolia, Korea, and Cambodia also are represented among the collections. Recently acquired from Russia are ikons dating back from the fifteenth to the eighteenth century, a bronze cross and an enamel and marble chalice.

Many modern water colors, woodblock prints, and old paintings on Oriental subjects also are on display in the museum. Among the painters represented is Oregon's own Maude I Kerns.

Valuable shelves of books descriptive of the art and life of the Orient are available in the museum library and periodicals dealing with these general subjects are kept in the reading room.

Mrs. Warner's purpose in making her collection available to the students was not only educational but social; she hoped through a mutual understanding of the peoples of the East and the West to hasten the day of permanent peace throughout the world.

The collection, in which President Campbell was deeply interested, is housed in the art museum building, erected in 1930 at a cost of \$200,000. It was planned that this should be the first unit of a "temple of things beautiful and significant."

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