

Student Publications Began in 1891



EMERALD PREDECESSOR was the Oregon Weekly, which first appeared Feb. 12, 1900. President at that time was Dr. Frank Strong, who according to this issue of the Weekly, reported the institution to be prosperous and recommended a number of changes.

THE
1900
EMERALD

Student publications did not exist during the early years of the University. The faculty and administration frowned on such activities and students had little time for anything except their studies.

As the University's enrollment grew, the students organized literary clubs and then demanded some means of expression. In the Johnson administration the Laureen club petitioned for a student publication.

The petition was approved with the stipulation that the faculty was to control policies. The severity of the faculty was demonstrated by their rejection of the first two candidates for editorship.

The Laureen chairman, A. E. Reems, finally was accepted and with the aid of another literary group, the Eutaxian, the Reflector began publication.

First Issue in 1891

The Reflector appeared in 1891, 15 years after the University's founding. The early issues bore no date, volume number, or issue number.

The material printed in it included class and society features, school news, faculty news, personality sketches, student oratories, excerpts from speeches and incidental information.

The University was without a publication for only a few months after the dissolution of the Reflector, for the Bulletin was first printed in July 1894. The Bulletin, a monthly, was so strongly controlled by the faculty and administration that it became only a mouthpiece for them. It lasted less than a year, ceasing publication in April 1895.

Both the Reflector and Bulletin could hardly be called student publications because of the strong control exercised by the faculty. But in March 1897, the Oregon Monthly appeared.

Students Take Over

The policies of the magazine were determined by the students. D. V. Kuyrkendall was editor-in-chief, Kate Kelly and M. H. Day were associate editors, and L. R. Alderman and R. J. Bryson were the business managers.

The Oregon Monthly was primarily a publication containing literary efforts by students and faculty members and some school and student news.

The Oregon Daily Emerald descended directly from the Oregon Weekly, the first issue appearing in February 1900. This was the first newspaper of the University, all the others being magazines. It

took the news function from the Oregon Monthly which continued from then on as a literary magazine only.

Clifton N. McArthur, who was prominent in organizing the weekly, became the first editor and C. C. McCormack was business manager.

Oregon Emerald Born

The paper started bi-weekly publication in 1909 and was rechristened the Oregon Emerald soon afterwards. Then in 1912 it became a tri-weekly paper, and in 1920 a daily. The School of Journalism, founded in 1912, spirited the increases in publication and the paper acted as a lab for journalism majors.

After the Oregon Monthly ceased publication, the Oregon Daily Emerald tried many literary supplements, none of which lasted for any length of time. In 1927 a literary Sunday supplement called the Oregon Spirit was published, edited by Dewitt Gilbert. A Sunday edition appeared again in 1922, this time edited by Ernest Haycox.

For 54 years the students of Oregon have had some publication containing student contributions and news of the campus. And for 51 years they have had a newspaper.

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