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Theme Suggests '76

Among the themes suggested for this year's Homecoming was "Spirit of '76 . . . denoting the University's 76th anniversary.

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ALUMS**

courtesy of

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PORTLAND, OREGON

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GREGG'S**

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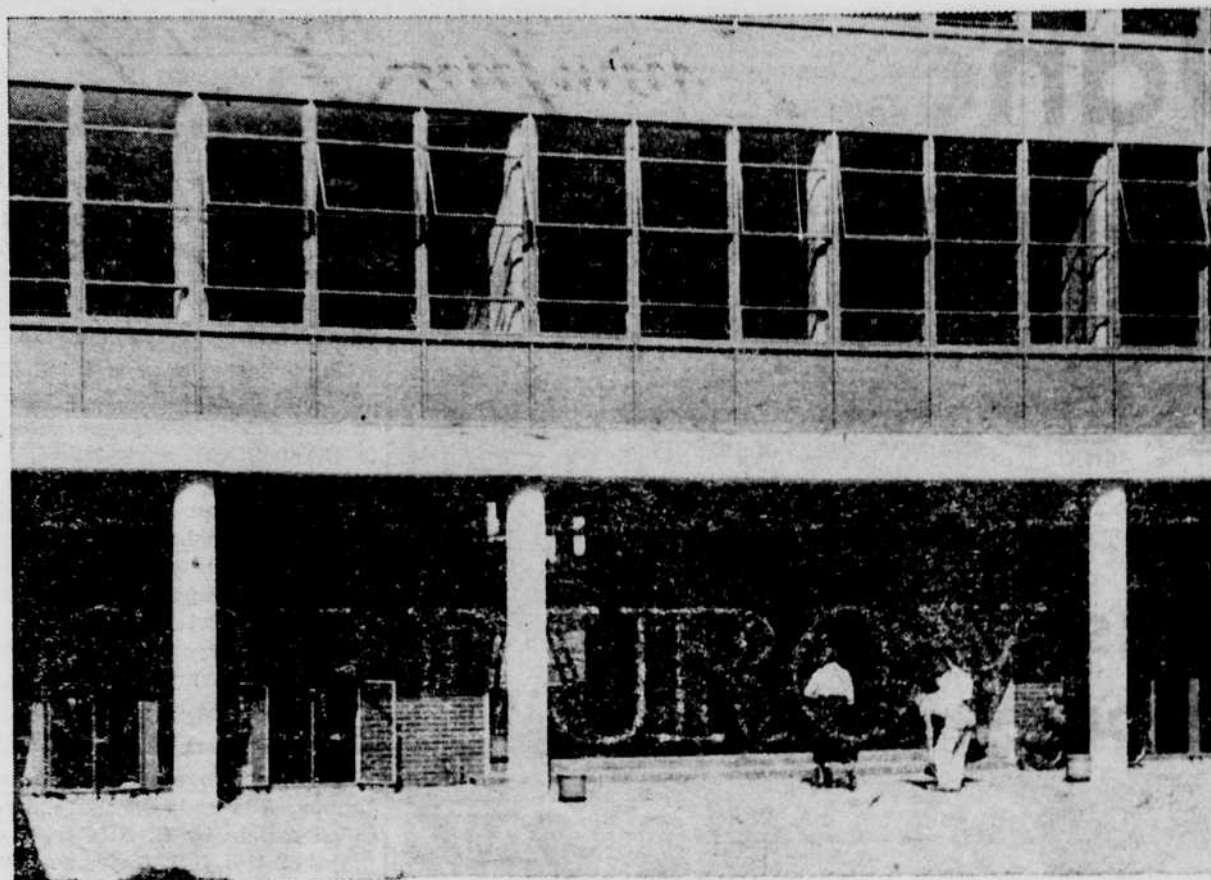
**HOMEcoming
IS PICTURE TIME**

- Noise Parade
- Oregon-WSC Game
- Homecoming Dance

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COMMONWEALTH HALL
Home for the bustling school. See story page 4

**Old Emeralds Tell of Elaborate Tale:
UO Pageant Production Plans Fail**

By Joanne Johnston
Emerald Reporter

Two blueprints tucked away in the Oregon collection stacks in the library and old stories from the 1916-17 Emerald files are the only remnants of an elaborate pageant, planned for two years as a part of University of Oregon commencement exercises, but destined to

never be presented.

A history of Oregon, including an outdoor set covering the football field and a cast of over 200, was the theme of the pageant, which was the idea of Mrs. George T. Gerlinger, former member of the University board of regents and sponsor of Gerlinger hall. Originally to have been a state affair, the pageant plans were changed to presentation on the Oregon campus in 1916. Using a campus site was mainly to enable use of a steam curtain for scene changes, pipes being necessary for it.

E. S. Bates, then head of the department of rhetoric, was producer for the pageant, assisted by director A. F. Reddie, of the public speaking department, and W. F. G. Thacher, professor of English and writing.

Mother Oregon

Principal characters in the first plan drawn up were Mother Oregon and 35 daughters of Oregon,

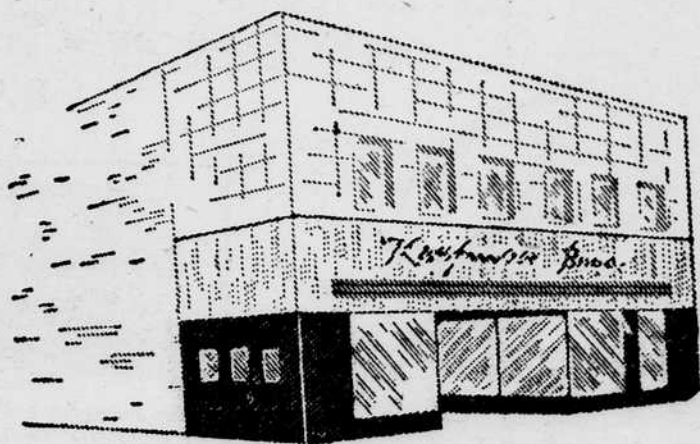
representing the counties. A dream review of the state's history made up the major portion of the program, climaxed by offerings of each county to Mother Oregon at the end.

The setting, which included trees, built-up rocks and a road, was to have been placed on Kincaid field, present site of the Oriental art museum, and bleachers to seat 3,000 were to be set up. A \$2,000 guarantee made up of contributions from faculty members and business men and a 50 cent admission charge were planned to defray expenses.

Reduced to Pageanette

Later in the year, when it proved impossible to complete the full-scale plans, the program was reduced to pageanette, but it was finally decided to wait until the next year and carry out the whole thing.

Planning continued throughout the next year, and the date for presentation was set as the Friday before commencement, 1917.



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we send affectionate greetings,
with the hope that you will find
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