

A Challenge

Does Oregon's Greek System Have the Courage of Its Convictions

University President Arthur S. Flemming in his release to the Emerald concerning discrimination in fraternities and sororities was in essence saying that if fraternities and sororities pledge non-Christian or non-caucasian members, and because of this run into difficulties with their national organizations, the University will stand behind the local chapters 100 per cent.

The president obviously is in favor of independent and autonomous local chapters, able to make their own decisions and stand by them.

He is aware that many national organizations have removed the clause in their constitutions that prohibits non-caucasian members, and have merely substituted unwritten clauses. He is urging local chapters to have the courage and conviction to test these unwritten clauses to the utmost.

But the president is in no way saying that fraternities and sororities must pledge non-caucasians or non-Christians. He recognizes that greek organizations by their very nature are selective.

President Flemming himself, probably made his stand clearest in his final paragraph: "I urge that, consistent with the concept of the dignity and worth of each human being, the living groups on the University of Oregon campus consider persons for membership solely on their merits and without regard to their race, color, nationality, or creed. Groups that act in this manner will have the complete support of the University if they are subjected to any pressure from the outside to follow a contrary policy."

We cannot think of a better time for the president to have made his stand. There will be many groups on this campus facing just such a decision this week. We hope that they will realize that the president has spoken to them, to each of them. We agree with President Flemming, that if they do not realize this and demonstrate that they realize it, "they are standing in the way of this University's achieving its highest potential."

The Long, Slow Line

At one time people thought that registration by IBM machine, although efficient, was a thing to avoid because it tended to "dehumanize" the student.

Wednesday's line of students waiting at McArthur Court to register for English courses has adequately demonstrated that long lines also have a dehumanizing influence and cause a great deal of trouble as well.

Now, the main cause for concern should be whether Wednesday's confusion will be repeated before an IBM or other efficient system can be adopted.

Those who have the unenviable job of planning registration procedures expect that things will get better. Winter and spring terms should not cause trouble, they be-

lieve, because reservations will be made for students who desire to continue a sequence in the same section. Students then won't have to fight for available class places.

Next Fall shouldn't be too rough either, because many freshmen will register during the summer and most other students probably will have registered the preceding spring.

These are still sort of stop-gap plans, however, as officials work towards the ultimate goal of complete registration and scheduling by using IBM machines. According to Dean of Students Donald DuShane, students may some day come to the University Sunday night and start classes the following Monday morning.

By then, we suppose, there will probably be lines for something else.

Our Universities OK

The following editorial is reprinted from the Oregonian, Saturday, September 15.

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What gripes Dr. Robley William, the University of California's faculty representative, who says the Oregon universities must adjust their entrance requirements before seeking membership in the "Big Six," is that so many good California athletes come to the Oregon schools.

In the early days of the Pacific Coast Conference, when the California universities had not yet been forced by the great numbers of college applicants to tighten up their own requirements, and when those schools constantly clobbered the smaller Northwest schools, there was no concern about our entrance requirements. Later the tremendous population growth in California made necessary the creation of an extensive state college and junior college system. The universities had to limit their student bodies and this they did by making it more difficult to enter.

Washington has also developed a state

college and junior college system to provide advanced education for those who may not be able or may not wish to attend its two universities. Less populous Oregon is just beginning to organize community colleges to meet this same problem. Meanwhile, our universities are constantly revising entrance requirements and performance standards. Students who can't keep up with the stiff curriculum are soon flunked out. This applies to athletes as well as to other students.

The football tramp no longer exists. The California youths who come to Oregon, where the opportunity to play against the country's topflight teams is greater, are intelligent, though brawny. So are the athletes from Oregon and other states who enroll here. Their scholastic records prove this, as does the performance in business and the professions of a great number of them after graduation. The Oregon universities provide an excellent education, regardless of the snide remarks of persons such as Dr. Williams.

Little Man on Campus



"I JUST WANT TO MAKE SURE HE GRADES HIS OWN EXAMS I NEVER SEEM TO DO WELL ON MACHINE SCORED TESTS."

Letters to the Editor

SORORITY RULES

Emerald Editor:

In reply to the editorial (Silly Sorority Rules), the facts were basically correct. The slant of the editorial, however, distorted these facts.

True, Panhellenic Council members may not participate in rush. This is so, first, because the rushees must have someone who is impartial to bring their questions to and to guide them. Secondly, council members simply do not have time to rush.

It is also true that council members are to sleep in Gerlinger Hall during this rush. This must be regarded as a safety measure above all, which the girls requested since they do not finish their work until the late hours. Incidents involving unescorted girls late at night have occurred on many campuses.

The statement that silly sorority rules and a drop in the number of rushees have a correlation should not have been made without some closer examination of other factors. The fact that all girls with stanines of 4 have been eliminated from rush (until these girls have proven their ability to do college work) certainly accounts for a smaller number of girls rushing.

It does not seem likely that the number of girls rushing depends upon where Panhellenic council members sleep.

Dulcy Moran
Panhellenic Publicity
Chairman

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CAMPUS CLIMBING

Emerald Editor:

At the very outset, this year, the Alpine Club would like to make known its policy regarding a popular campus sport. The activity in question is the climbing of campus buildings. The club will, in the future, refuse to recognize any climb which does not adhere to the following rules.

1. Ropes may be used for protection against falls only.

Footnotes

The old gag turned up again Sunday as a new student apparently in all seriousness asked a Student Union employee "Is this the University of Oregon?"

Informed that it was, the student cheerfully replied, "Fine! Where do I register?"

"Downstairs," was the answer, "But have you applied for admission?"

"I sure hope so!" responded the prospective student, and off he went.

2. No climbs may be made during mid-terms or finals; the administration might suspect burglary.
3. Be careful of the girders on the new Science building — the material with which they are covered crumbles easily.
4. Climbs on sororities and girl's dormitories must be adequately chaperoned.
5. Do not drive bolts or pitons in conspicuous places.
6. Please do not establish base camps on the fire escapes.
7. Do not break windows to secure handholds.
8. Do not drop bricks, rucksacks, or ice axes on the campus policemen — they mean well, in their own way.
9. Remove crampons before treading on the tar-covered "summits."
10. Coeducational climbing is encouraged — no overnight climbs, however.

Modification and/or enforcement procedures relating to these rules will be discussed at the first meeting of the season next Wednesday at 6:45 p.m. in room 30 science. We will also plan group climbs and other activities for the year, such as the New Year's party on the North Sister. All are welcome at the meeting.

David L. Smith
Vice-President,
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