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MONDAY, - - - - MARCH 17, 1902

The Contest. The students of the eight colleges throughout Oregon are trying to figure out how it happened. There seems but one conclusion on which all are agreed, namely, that it did happen. The University of Oregon has never felt more confident of victory than on Friday evening, when her orator, J. Arthur Gamber, appeared in contest against the representatives of the other schools of the State Oratorical Association. He did not receive the decision of the judges, but he received that which the University prizes more highly and would not exchange for any decision—the clear title of standard-bearer of Oregon's oratorical ideal. Whatever we may separately think of the decision, we are unanimous that the work of Mr. Gamber was satisfactory. His paper was thoughtful, original, rhetorically strong, logically sound and pointed. His delivery suited his oration, being straightforward, earnest and graceful. It possessed fire, but back of that fire was great reserve force. There was no rant, no bloody appeals to mark his manner, but only the frank, sincere endeavor of a man to give his listeners the deep conviction of his mind and heart. Such was his work that its character could not be modified by the decision of the judges, and therein lies our victory.

To Pacific University our congratulations are due, and they are not tinged with any resentment or disappointment. The aggressive little college which has just claimed the decision of the judges through Mr. Hale, is in a position to be congratulated, and may the day never

come when Oregon, in her disappointment, shall withhold the hand of congratulation from a school which has received a decision over her in a contest.

The University of Oregon feels that her representative deserved the decision at the State contest, but her failure to secure it will only stimulate her to stand by the high standard that Mr. Gamber has upheld, and to carry it forward in the hope that it will receive the recognition which we earnestly believe it merits.

Manual Superintendent Acker-Training. man, in his lecture Tuesday evening, touched upon a phase of educational work too often neglected by our teachers, but the lack of which the people of our country already feel keenly. Prof. Ackerman's plea was for manual or industrial training.

For some reason or other, the average youth of the West is looking for a snap—which may in itself be legitimate enough, but the way he goes about it is objectionable. One of the first life principles which the free and independent youth adopts is to avoid work with his hands, so while the promising lad is telling his classmates why $x+y=z$, his mother is doing a neighbor's washing to get Johnny some new stand-up collars.

Such a process often keeps up until Johnny is through college and ready for his life's work. With a light heart and confident air he steps out into the world, anxious to do anything. He feels that his advantages have fitted him for anything—which, he does not realize, is the equivalent of nothing. He finds the papers full of advertisements for men, but the demand seems to be for some physical work, and Johnny is by nature and education more fitted for clerical labor, but there seems to be no demand for that—or rather the supply much exceeds the demand. A year passes, in which nothing has turned up, nor has Johnny turned up anything, so he goes back home for a much needed vacation. But here some good old neighbors open up a path of hope for him. He is offered a position in a school about thirty miles in the country, with a salary of \$20 per month and "board around." All that is required is that he pass the examination for a certificate. At sixteen he passed such a test, now it is very difficult; but Johnny, who is a good student, does it by hard labor and settles down to his life's work, in a few years to be known for ten miles around as Professor J. Washington Smith.

Of course, all who fail to use their hands do not end up like

Johnny; many are even more disappointed,—but all need to learn that living is dependent upon work. If a man gets out of work it signifies that some one else is doing it for him, and more, it should be observed that in this country the great majority have to use their hands, and this well applies to both sexes. The time comes to most women when it is more im-

portant to know how to get a good meal than to conjugate an irregular Latin verb. The time comes to most men when to be able to build a bench for the washtub is more important than to demonstrate a theorem from Euclid, but the glory of the American is that the latter need not be sacrificed for the former, although the reverse often happens.

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