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MONDAY, - - - MARCH 31, 1902

The Debating Team. The try-out has been held and the debaters have been selected to represent the University of Oregon in the third annual debate this spring with the University of Washington. That our team is composed of capable men is quite certain. Though none of them have ever had a chance for an inter-collegiate debate, they are all thorough, hard-working students, and have always manifested great interest in debating and literary work. The opportunity to get on the team was open to all students in the University, and the try-out was merely the weeding out process to get choice men. If there are any better debaters in school, they have failed to make themselves manifest.

This year the debate will not occur at home, but, notwithstanding this fact, it is the duty of every student to show his appreciation of the debaters and to encourage them in every possible way. The importance of these debates cannot be overestimated in their benefit to the University and in their value for training men. That the members of our team will do all that is expected of them, may be relied upon, but it remains for the students to give them a loyal support. It is coming to be one of the recognized facts over this whole country that colleges and universities fail to recognize and reward their representatives in debating as fully as they do members of various other teams. The preparatory work for a debate is tremendous as compared with the compensation or

honor. Those who are successful have to make stunts for the try-outs, and then make further preparation for the finals. And moreover, this kind of work has to be done even at the cost of school work. The men may fall behind in their class work, but this they cannot neglect. It is true that some universities are granting two or three hours work in the curriculum to members of debating teams, but the custom is by no means wide spread, and does not prevail among us. Since this is the case, about all the compensation our debaters can get is in the form of consolation from individually expressed encouragement. Come, then, let us give them all we have, and share in the honor they win.

Track Work. With the promise of good weather, the track men have begun work in earnest. Their hard work and trials are all before them, but likewise their victories. If you want them to win, you will have to get out and support them in their efforts to gain honors for the Varsity. Watch them practice if you are not able to do anything better, and show them that you are interested. Work up a little spirit and arouse some class enthusiasm by shouting a bit for your favorites. Oregon is going to have a good track team this year, one that she will be proud of abroad, and one that will merit unstinted support. And, furthermore, this team is going to win. But this will not come easily. Every man in the university should consider the welfare of the team. If one thinks he is unable to do anything himself, let him get out and be an example to somebody else. If a man who can't do much gets out, perhaps that other fellow will say, "I can beat him," and thus be drawn into the work. Many a good runner has been brought out in this very way. Enthusiasm is the medicine to stir up the laggards and give renewed energy to the discouraged. A full measure of real feeling and loyalty will overcome petty bickerings and make victories possible.

An article appears on the third page concerning the use of cigarettes. It is printed merely to show what is going on in other places where this habit prevails. This custom does not obtain at the University of Oregon, and never has. But this can not be said of all institutions. If there are any who have different views on the subject, these columns stand open for them at any time.

THE WEEKLY will not be issued on April 7, on account of the spring vacation. The calendar is omitted this week for the same reason, but the usual events will occur about as usual.

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