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MONDAY, JANUARY 19, 1903

ANOTHER CONTEST TO COME

It is now reasonably certain that the inter-state oratorical association will be formed. This means that we will be called upon to furnish a representative for a contest to be held at Idaho next May. Last year arrangements were made too late in the season to give time for a local contest. Our state representative was sent to Seattle. We have plenty of time to prepare for a local contest if we begin now. This inter-state contest is destined to become more and more important. If the league is made permanent, the constitution of the Associated Students should be amended and a method of choosing our inter-state representative should be definitely fixed.

We believe that the most appropriate method would be to allow any bona fide student in the University to enter the local try-out instead of having class representatives. It may happen that one class is more bountifully supplied with orators than another and should be allowed to furnish a larger share of contestants. It may happen also that the class representative chosen by ballot is by no means the most able man in the ranks. A class favorite is not necessarily a good orator. If this new arrangement were adopted no one would be kept out of the contest simply because he is unable to control the majority of a class vote. If a new student has unusual ability he will have an opportunity to display it. He will not be forced to remain "mute and inglorious" simply because his classmates are ignorant of his qualifications. Let everyone who thinks he has ability have an opportunity to test it to

his own satisfaction. The larger the number of contestants the more certain we would be of the best representative the University can furnish.

WHERE THE BLAME LIES

Some few Freshmen, more enthusiastic than wise, recently procured a generous supply of dirty red paint and distributed it around on several buildings. Not content with defacing two of the buildings on the campus, they spread out and labelled the Divinity School "o6" and branded a neighboring hall with the same ominous characters. Members of other classes are too apt to lay the blame for such irregular acts upon the class instead of the few who wrought them, while outsiders are sure to look upon such occasional outbreaks as unmistakable signs of that irrepressible inclination to destructive devilry so often attributed to college students. We believe these recent acts of lawlessness have met with the downright disapproval of the class of 1906 and of every true student in the University.

There are in every organization some violent individuals whose ignorance or utter disregard of propriety and contempt for law make them unfit for a place in any orderly body. Almost invariably these people conceive and carry into execution their foul purposes without the knowledge, much less the encouragement of the organization to which they belong and on them as individuals rests the guilt.

A committee has been appointed from the ranks of the students to cooperate with the faculty athletic committee in the work of revising the new rules of the athletic council. We believe the students heartily approve of the general policy of management. Without reflecting on the skill or insight of those who formulated the rules, we would venture the opinion that they are defective in many parts. Such is always the case. The first draft of constitution and by-laws seldom approximates perfection. There are inaccuracies, contradictions and inadvertent omissions. With the combined effort of the student body acting through this committee, a set of regulations should be evolved which will be well nigh perfect. Students should have no hesitancy in reporting to the committee any criticism they have to make or any suggestion they have to offer. With a variety of opinions before them, the committee can begin the work of revision in an intelligent way and can rest assured that the amended rules will meet with few objections when they come up for approval.

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