

BOYS' CLUB, BETA SIGMA MU

Club of Sixty Boys Given Instruction, Mental and Physical, by Y. M. C. A. Members

Every up-to-date city Young Men's Christian Association throughout the country, has a lively well organized boys' department. The officers and directors of the Associations, who have studied the matter, have found that the average boy at the age of thirteen or thereabouts, begins to look on the Sunday School as a place for girls or "sissy" boys. For the next five or six years he will attend only spasmodically, if at all, and will never enthuse over his Sunday School. What the boy wants at that age is to get in with a crowd of fellows of his own age who will play ball with him after school, go on hikes with him on Saturdays, and have occasional feeds with him. This is what the boys' department of the Young Men's Christian Association is holding out to the boys of today. This is what the Young Men's Christian Association of the University of Oregon holds out to the boys of Eugene between the ages of twelve and seventeen.

On December 9, 1906, Gen. Sec. Stone, of the Portland Association addressed a boys' meeting at the Methodist church. After appealing to the boys to lead clean, moral lives, it was suggested by Mr. Clark, of the Portland Association, that the boys present form a Bible club to meet once a week and take up one of the regular Bible study courses. The first meeting was held on the following Wednesday, and some sixty boys signed the roll. Since that date there has been a meeting every Wednesday evening, with but one exception, and the boys have all taken a great interest in the work, primary purpose of which is to gain a more thorough knowledge of the Bible so they may be able to lead manly, upright lives. The work is carried on by a committee appointed by the U. of O. Association, who help the boys in all their enterprises.

While the spiritual side is made the most important part of the work, the physical and mental sides have also found a place in this boys' department.

Field meets, Saturday hikes, cross-country runs, and relay races are some of the athletic stunts that have held

the interest of the boys. They are now planning for a summer camp to be held some time in June.

Another feature of the work is the practical discussion held every week and led by one of the committee-men. Such questions as, "Shall we smoke? If so, why so? If not, why not?" "Personal purity," and "Indifference" have been brought up and discussed with interest and enthusiasm.

The committee having this work in charge set out with some definite plans and while some have failed to materialize, others have gone far beyond our expectations, and we believe that the work has been of some practical good to the boys, and that, in another year, Eugene will have a well equipped and well organized boys' department.

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from the University of Oregon was able to attend this Conference. This one delegate brought back with her a store of enthusiasm, however, and the Association was at a loss because more delegates were not able to go.

At the opening of the fall term of the University this year, 1907, only fifteen Y. W. C. A. members returned. As the result of the work of the Membership Committee, however, the membership was more than doubled and there are at present about 33 girls enrolled on the Y. W. C. A. book.

The membership Committee met the new students at the train, and helped them to find comfortable rooms and board. With the help of the Social Committee the Membership Committee gave a reception for all the girls at the home of Mrs. Stafford.

At the opening of the University year the work of the Social Committee is about the most important of any in the Association. Last fall the Social Committees of the Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. gave a reception for all the students of the University. Later in the year the committee gave a reception for the new members at the Klosche Tillacum house. All Y. W. C. A. members and the advisory board members were invited. At this meeting the new members were formally received in the Association.

The only prominent speaker that addressed the Association this year was Rev. Mr. John Marvin Dean, of Seattle, who spoke at a special meeting of the Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. The subject of Mr. Dean's address was "What constitutes a missionary call?"

HENDERSON AT Y. M. C. A.

At the regular Friday night meeting of the association, Mr. Harry F. Henderson, State Student Secretary of California, gave a very helpful address. He pointed out the necessity for a college man to live a pure, strong, manly life. "The boundry line" between right and wrong is not very clearly defined. A man should not see how close he can live to the border and still be respectable. Don't do anything that will make you a slave to a record." Mr. Henderson called to mind some men of public note whose records had stood the most critical examination.

Mr. Henderson is on his way north to make arrangements for the Fifth Northwest Student Conference, which meets at Gearhart Park June 15-24. Gearhart Park is located on the beach near the mouth of the Columbia River and is an ideal place for such a gathering. Everything points to the largest and most helpful conference in the history of the movement. One hundred and twenty-five students are expected from the states of Montana, Idaho, Washington and Oregon.

Among the many speakers and leaders of note, a number are fairly well known to Oregon students.

Fred B. Smith, of the International Committee who addressed the students of the University last year, will have a part of the work in charge. Bishop Scadding and Rev. J. M. Dean, who have also given us interesting talks, will be in attendance. Other leaders who are more or less familiar are Chas. D. Hurrey, of the International Committee; S. B. L. Penrose, President of Whitman College; Rev. Wm. H. Foulkes, of the First Presbyterian Church of Portland; H. W. Stone, Gen. Sec., Portland; T. H. Billings, Student Secretary, University of Washington; Chas. W. Petit, formerly General Sec. at University of Kansas; and I. B. Rhodes, State Sec. for Oregon and Idaho. No student should miss the conference who can possibly go. It may mean a sacrifice in the way of time and money, but few things worth while can be had without sacrifice. Mr. Henderson said that his first conference meant more to him in the things which go to make character than any year in college. While this may seem to be putting the matter a little too strong, many who have had the privilege of attending a Gearhart Conference can give the same testimony.