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Monday, January 6, 1908.

* THE MEMBERS OF THE *
* STAFF WISH THE READERS *
* OF THE OREGON WEEKLY A *
* TRULY HAPPY NEW YEAR. *

MAKE YOUR COURSE COUNT

Every young man who enters the University of Oregon realizes the importance of a college training. He is aware that the few years of his collegiate life are an important factor in the building of mind, body and character. To all, however, at one time or another, the question "How can I get the most out of my college course?" is a source of trouble. All students, in the true sense of the word, are in college to get the greatest possible amount of benefit, and naturally this question is a puzzler.

A man in college is a fisherman. His brain is his net, which he must draw through the sea of knowledge. A fisherman learns when and where to use his net to catch different kinds of fish, and so a college man must learn to use his brain to catch the kind of knowledge which he knows will be of the greatest service to him in the great field of life after he leaves his alma mater. A fisherman keeps his net constantly in repair, ready for immediate use. In the same way the student must keep his faculties always ready to meet any emergency. It is the intention of this editorial to offer a few suggestions as to how a student may best spend the four years of his life in college.

A great many students enter college

with the determination to study hard—a very lofty ambition. A freshman, who follows out this resolution and fills his card with "A" grades during his first year in college, finds the later years of his course less difficult. If, in his early recitations, he can show real ability to his instructors, it will be more quickly recognized later on in his course than if he should do poor work in his first year. In the first place, then, a student should study consistently which is the primary object of his college course. Cheerful work for his instructors, promptness and regularity at classes, will make strong friends for him among the faculty.

It is well to keep in mind, however, that there is a great deal more to a college life than mere text book knowledge. If there were not, an education might be fully as well received through a correspondence school or private tutor. The wise student will make friends among his fellow students, as well as among the members of the faculty, and will realize that the ability to mingle with and understand men is equally as important as knowledge gained from text book study.

At the University of Oregon there are four student associations open to men, the Laurean and Philologian debating societies, the Engineering Club, and the Young Men's Christian Association. In all of these a broad field of development is open. The literary societies perhaps offer the broadest field. To those about to take up the study of law, journalism, the ministry, or a public career of any kind, the literary and debating societies offer strong inducements. Here the student learns to speak in public, which is almost an absolute necessity in this day and age.

Aside from this practice, however, the research work done in working up a question for public debate, and the practice of learning to choose the essential points from a maze of compendious reading, are very necessary educational factors. In addition to this, an intimate knowledge of current events can be obtained, since the society discussions are always upon live, up-to-date issues.

A more specific educational factor is the Engineering Club. This organization, which is composed only of members who are majoring in some department of engineering, exerts its influence, of course, upon a lesser number than the debating societies, and the knowledge gained is mainly of a technical character. It is all very practical,

and the young engineer will do well to enroll himself in the club.

If the student can spare the time he should become a member of more than one association. Naturally he will want to belong to the club which is working along his particular line, but if possible he should also join some general organization as well. Contact only with one class of men has a tendency to narrow one's views.

In order to be in perfect condition mentally one must not neglect his physical self. The many athletic activities about the University give every student an opportunity to do something in the way of physical development. If the individual is not sufficiently proficient to make one of the University athletic teams, the gymnasium is always open to him for exercise and pleasure.

It is not wise for a student to attempt to "major" in any branch of athletics. The true object of this branch of college activity should be the love of the sport, not a desire to devote all one's energies to it.

Now, it has been the object of this editorial to impress the fact that to get the most out of his college course the student should first study consistently and make friends among the faculty; secondly, he should make friends among his fellow students and get an important development through the avenues laid open to him by the Christian Association, the Literary Societies and the Engineering Club; thirdly he should devote a portion of his time to athletics and build up body as well as mind and soul. If a student does all these things he may think that he is getting the very best possible college training; but unless he has the real wholesome college spirit as well, he is not getting all that he should.

The man who loves his University, who constantly works for her advancement, who "boosts" instead of "knocking," is the ideal college man. The man who has the generous, whole-hearted spirit of good sportsmanship toward the opponents of the University representatives, whether on the athletic field or the forensic platform—the broad minded student—is usually successful in the broad field of life after college days are over. The thorough student, the genial associate, the loyal worker, with the true idea of college sportsmanship, is the man who really gets the most out of his college course.

An uneducated man is like a dull axe. He can cut his way through the world; but he will not do it so easily as if he has been well sharpened by the college educational grindstone.