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"PAT" McARTHUR ANSWERS

Recent Editorial in Oregon Weekly on
"An Unwise Move"—His Side
of Case Presented

Portland, Or., Jan. 21.—(To the editor)—Although there is a general feeling on the campus that the Oregon-O. A. C. football game should remain as a campus game, there is a feeling among a great many alumni and friends of the University that the game should be played in Portland.

In the first place, Portland presents a neutral field, affording a fair chance and no favors for either team, and eliminating the aftermath of bickering that has followed every Oregon-O. A. C. game with the single late exception.

In the second place, Portland can feed and house the large crowds that attend the game. Neither Eugene nor Corvallis can do this, as we know. In 1904 when the game was played at Corvallis, the crowd stood in a pouring rain. Under present conditions it is not possible for either Eugene or Corvallis to seat more than 1000 people. This is about the limit for other campus games, but the Oregon-O. A. C. game of 1907 drew 3000 people, and future games will draw even larger crowds. Why then should each of these institutions spend thousands of dollars upon bleachers and grandstands to be used only one day every two years? Multnomah's new grandstand, which will be finished by June first, will seat 4000 people and there will be bleachers for about 2000 more.

Because of the character of the game good excursion rates can be arranged and the event placed within the reach of even the poorest students of the two institutions, as well as the towns-people of Eugene and Corvallis. The trip from Eugene to Portland and return will cost very little more than the trip from Eugene to Corvallis and return. Portland is centrally located,

is the most accessible so far as the State at large is concerned.

Portland pays 31 per cent of the state taxes that go to support the two schools and is entitled to see at least one of our big athletic events each year.

The fact that the institutions are located in Eugene and Corvallis does not mean that they belong exclusively to those cities. They should be State-wide in their influence. Eugene and Corvallis derive a great amount of benefit because of the location of the two State institutions, and they ought to be willing to share this benefit, at least in a small way, with the rest of the state.

If O. A. C. desires to play in Portland and if Oregon should decline to do so, but should arrange Portland games with other colleges, what inference will O. A. C. and her friends draw from Oregon's attitude? Any argument in favor of Oregon playing an outside college team in Portland applies with enormously augmented force in favor of the Oregon-O. A. C. game.

Wont it be better all around for Oregon and O. A. C. to work together and to use their strength as big-sportsmanlike rivals, than for them to drift apart and play their Portland games with other college teams?

The charge that the transfer of the game to Portland will have a bad effect on our college spirit is a very flimsy charge; this college spirit is not confined to the students alone; it exists among the hundreds of alumni and former students of Oregon and O. A. C. who live in all parts of the state. A great many of these old students live in and around Portland, and most of them are too busy to get away from their work to visit Eugene or Corvallis for the annual football game.

The removal of the big game to Portland does not mean that there will be a dearth of games in Eugene.

The Oregon-Idaho game, and the Oregon-O. A. C. freshman game will be played in Eugene in 1909, and biennially thereafter. There may be a game with Whitworth college in Eugene every year and there will be more second team contests, beside a regular freshman schedule. This arrangement will give us plenty of campus games and will keep college spirit on its present high plane.

Last but not least, I wish to point out the financial advantages that would follow the playing of the game in Portland. The first time the game is played here it will net more than \$2000 for each institution. If Oregon expects to win in football and baseball she must put money into firstclass coaches. If we expect to retain our present efficient trainer we should raise his salary at the end of this year. Our Glee Club and Debating Teams and other similar enterprises demand money. The Portland game will settle all these questions and will also permit us to employ a competent graduate manager of athletics.

Few of the students realize that our lease on Kincaid field will expire this year, and that the chances for securing these grounds for another term of years are very slim indeed. It will be up to the Associated Students to provide a new athletic field; perhaps not this year, but in the not distant future. How can we make the money easier than by playing our game with the O. A. C. in Portland?

Yours sincerely,
C. N. McARTHUR, '01.

The final tryout for Interstate Orators will take place on Friday, February 21. Those who will compete at that time are Bert W. Prescott, R. D. McCarty, Cecil K. Lyans, Clarence L. Whealdon, Jesse H. Bond and A. C. Marsters.

Many students attended the "Charity Ball" at the Armory Friday night.

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