

# THE OREGON WEEKLY

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Monday, June 7, 1908

## FIRST WOMAN'S EDITION

A special staff composed entirely of women herewith presents to the readers of the Weekly the first annual woman's edition. They are indebted for help and suggestions to members of the regular staff and to Prof. Carson. Being inexperienced in journalistic work they are grateful for the help given them.

In editing this number, the women are doing what is already an established custom in several universities in the country. The University of California has an annual women's day on which the girls get out an issue of the Daily Californian. The Northwestern staff resigns its position the second week in April when the women have complete charge of the paper during the whole week.

The object is to give the women an opportunity to present what is of especial interest to them, and to enter a field of college work which is new to them. The girls become alert in watching events during the time that they are gathering news for their number. No week this year has been more closely watched than the past week when the editors were on the lookout for all events in connection with the

University. Some of the reporters have done excellent work which indicates that not all good journalists in college are on the Weekly staff.

With the experience gained this year, the next annual number will be of greater interest and of greater value. The management has also gained knowledge which will serve to make next year's work easier and more effective.

## ATHLETIC NEEDS

Every student in the University knows that separate gymnasiums are needed for the men and women, but very few, even of the women themselves, recognize their great need for a woman's gymnasium with greater facilities for right physical development.

It is becoming a great problem, especially in large cities, for girls and women to get enough exercise to keep them in good health. In the eastern cities, it is the usual thing for from one third to one half of the high school girls to break down about Easter and not finish their year's work.

It is much less of a problem in the West, less in a town the size of Eugene than in the cities but it will become more of one as the population increases. It would be better, however, to provide adequate means now for keeping the girls here in good health than to wait until the problem becomes greater.

A new and well-equipped gymnasium with instructors who can devote their whole time to the girls would be a beginning. There should be a swimming tank in connection with the gymnasium where any girl who wished to learn to swim would have a chance to do so. A boat-house on the race where those who do not care to own canoes could rent them, would give many of the girls a chance to get more out-of-door exercise. If this were under the control of the University, a rule could be made preventing those not able to swim from using canoes.

Many girls would learn to play tennis if there were more courts. The court is used now mainly by those who know how to play, so that beginners do not have a chance. If some of the courts could be made in a less conspicuous place some who feel timid about trying something new before a crowd, would be more apt to play.

The gymnasium should have plenty of lockers and showers, facilities for basketball, handball, and even for indoor track work, and, of course, dumb-

bells, Indian clubs, weights and all that the gymnasium has now.

Each girl should be measured and given work according to her needs. This would insure development in the right direction and prevent the girls from overdoing.

Though such a gymnasium is, of course, beyond the present means of the University, it is to be hoped that a beginning will be made in this direction and that the University girls will never have their health seriously injured for lack of exercise.

## HELPING TO MAKE THEIR WAY

While the University question was being exploited by its friends and enemies, much was said about the men in the student body who made their own way. Not much was said about the way in which the women help themselves in getting their education. The number of those who pay all their own expenses is not large, but almost every girl in school helps more or less. Many teach school for a year or two, or for a few months at a time. Some tutor. A number do stenographic and office work. Some assist housekeepers, while a few spend a part of their time in millinery, dressmaking and needlework. Some wait on table during vacation at summer resorts. There are various other ways in which the girls earn money. In addition to the girls who help positively in meeting their expenses, there are many more, possibly including all but a very few, who help negatively—that is by doing things for themselves instead of paying others to do it. Many girls can trim their own hats, while many more make their own clothes, some being expert enough to make even their best dresses, while others attempt only simple work. Many are skillful in fine needlework such as embroidery and adorn their gowns and their houses with work from their own hands.

There are not very many girls who do not know how to cook at least one dish, while a good many can superintend and prepare a whole meal. Some have had the experience of cooking for a harvesting crew, logging or mining camp, or for shepherders. Any girl who can manage well enough to furnish a table for such a crowd of men will probably not be at a loss when it comes to preparing a meal at home, or some dish for a picnic or spread.

A large number of the girls cut down expenses by doing their own laundering, some doing both their washing