

THE OREGON WEEKLY

Published every Monday during the college year by the students of the UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

Entered at Eugene postoffice at Eugene, Oregon, as second class matter.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

One year, by mail\$1.00
Single copy\$.05

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Monday, October 12, 1908.

CLASS DANCES

Anyone who has attended, during the past two years, those crowded affairs known as class "hops," will welcome the effort now being made at a salutary limiting of the attendance at two of these functions. A movement is on foot to limit the attendance at the Freshman Glee and the Sophomore Hop to students, ex-students, faculty and alumni of the University of Oregon. The growth of the social life of the University and its connection with the social life of Portland and the various preparatory schools of the state has brought it to pass in recent years that the student balls are attended invariably by a multitude of out-of-town people. The crowd is often so large that it is impossible for the class to provide comfortably for the guests. No one can doubt that the University should give at least one party during the year to which all of its friends are welcomed. But it is a perversion of original intent to transform class dances into receptions.

The solution of the matter suggested last week by members of the junior class seems to be adequate. Briefly it is to make the sophomore and freshman parties strictly University affairs. This will decrease the burden of taxation on the two lower classes, and give students a chance to enjoy themselves thoroughly at the first two parties. Then let the Junior Prom, at the close of the Junior Week-end, be the culminating social function of the year. The efforts now made three times annually could be concentrated into making this ball a grand success. Friends and prospective students of the University could be invited, the prom could be featured in Portland papers. Each class in turn would bear the burden, and no class would have to bear

it for three consecutive years as at present.

The junior class, always anxious to contribute to the success of the traditional Week-end will be found ready to accept this burden. The sophomores and freshmen should concede it to them, in the expectation of doing the honors worthily in years to come.

COOPERATIVE STORE

News items announce the establishment of student bookstores at Washington State College and O. A. C. The University of Washington has long had such a store, or as it is called, a "Co-op" or "Coop." All the large Universities of the east have them. The store is generally owned and managed, either by the student body or by a corporation in which students own stock. Profits are divided among the students. Books and classroom supplies, as well as all kinds of distinctively college goods, such as pennants, pillows, views of the campus, and posters are sold to students much more cheaply than they can be secured in an establishment that is run for gain. The store is always located somewhere on the campus, where there is no rent to be figured and where students will find it convenient. The saving which such an institution will make in a year to a body of 500 to 1000 students can hardly be estimated.

For several years past there has been talk of establishing a "co-op" at Oregon, but like many other desirable innovations, it has been put off from time to time. At present the time is most opportune. There is no possibility of loss in the institution of such a store as the goods handled never become dead stock, do not readily become shopworn, and offer an opportunity for ample profit to secure a good rate of interest on the money invested. It is a matter in which every student, if he will but realize it, has a direct pecuniary interest. A co-operative store might be started on a very slight outlay by the student body or by a corporation in which the students are given a chance to subscribe the stock. A business in pennants and post cards has already been worked up by the finance department of the Y. M. C. A. which might readily be diverted to a student store. There is nothing theoretical or fanciful about the matter; it is intensely practical and merely awaits the man or group of men who shall have the time and the love for Alma Mater to make it a reality.

TAKING THE CAKE

A practice already begun this year which has no place in University life is the stealing of refreshments at parties.

It may be a very good practical joke for one class or literary society to steal the ice-cream provided by a rival organization for its members or guests. Classes and literary societies always expect an attempt of the sort and are prepared. Members of the

Eutaxian Society still remember how they lost their cake at the joint meeting in the gym. The class of 1909 still laughs at the recollection of how class 1908 stole from them two large freezers full of rocks. Such purloining may perhaps be considered pardonable.

Surely no one can defend the taking of refreshments provided for purely private affairs. Such is stealing, theft or burglary, pure and simple. Last spring, the practice became very common, and an item in this issue of the Weekly would indicate that it has begun again. Whether it is done by students or others it is to be condemned. The jokers should be apprehended, if possible, and dealt with as common offenders.

THAT YELL CONTEST

Songs and yells in considerable number have been submitted in competition for the prize offered in the Oregon Weekly last week for the composition best suited for use by the rooters. It is desired to have at least fifty more competitors in the contest as only by effort on the part of many can any number of meritorious songs and yells be produced. The prize will probably be increased this week. It is worth striving for, and the winner will have the additional satisfaction of having done a service to the University.

JUNIOR ANNUAL

The juniors are showing commendable energy in getting to work early on the annual. A meeting is called Tuesday to elect officers for the publication. The experience of previous classes has demonstrated clearly that the plan of having a managing editor is a flat failure. Only where there is an editor and a manager, each free to do his own work, are the best results obtained.

This system undoubtedly promoted oftentimes a good deal of disagreement between editor and manager, but this disagreement generally results in a better annual. There is no danger that the work either of manager or editor will be slighted when each department has a head.

The treasurer, or some other officer of the class of 1911, has instituted a novel and ingenious system of blackmail, by posting notices bidding members of the class, "pay dues at once or be posted."

On account of the press of office work, the University Steward is adhering strictly to his office hours, nine to twelve in the morning and one to three in the afternoon.

One of the trees on the campus was defaced this week with a placard announcing a meeting of the Y. M. C. A. The bulletin boards are the places for such notices.

The University Bulletin for November will be edited by Prof. E. E. Decou and will tell of the work of the Oregon High School Debating League.