AMES MOTT REPLIES TO THE OREGONIAN

Stanford University Student Has No Rights That Great Editors Are Bound to Respect

Journal.—Upon arriving home the university my attention is d to an editorial in the Oregon- of April 15 which the author ently intended as an answer to letter of March 31, which letter ained a statement of the contro- y at Stanford, and incidentally exposure of the slanderous edi- l by the same author, headed, reby at Stanford."

is with a feeling of repugnance I find myself obliged to deal ond time with this editor's lit- trash If in his attempted wer" this person had made the est effort at argument or sen- criticism, one might be able ertain some sort of respect for opinions, however absurd and thoritative. But in his latest ex- on this editor has displayed er the tactics of that pestiferous animal that inhabits our fence ers, and whose only weapon of se is the filthy stench with ch he pollutes himself and the ounding atmosphere.

s this little animal, ordinarily wn as the skunk, never makes pretense at legitimate combat, endeavors to frighten away its nsary by casting upon him some s own filthiness, so this Oregon- writer in his answer to my letter s no attempt to refute any of facts or arguments I have set , but instead, indulges in a ser- of dirty, vulgar personalities, ted out of his own fanatical apparently filthy mind.

s for the personal references by writer, under the head of "Fool- Young Mott," I shall ignore them ly, for I refuse under any cir- tances to follow the tactics of class of which this person is a

e Oregonian writer refused to sh the letter to which he refers s attack, but after it had been shed in other papers he took, e puts it, "specimen sentences" it. These sentences, which he iously selected to his own de- he corrupted, distorted, and ed into the body of his editor- and then proceeded in a weak miserable attempt, not to ans- or refute, but to ridicule them. as not answered a single state- even in the few sentences he quoted.

my letter of March 31 I said student drunkenness as such not, and never had existed at ford. The brilliant Oregonian ing retorts that it must have ex- as something else, for, he says, t himself says that during his years of residence at Stanford as seen two students expelled drunkenness.'" This quotation, s being intentionally mislead- a direct and malicious forgery e part of the Oregonian writer, was made for the sole purpose ssing the minds of his readers. ter stating in detail the peculiar mstances under which drinking anford is reduced to a minimum tioned the fact that during my years of residence there the s committees (and there have three during this period) had able to find only two students had been drunk. These stu- were, of course, promptly sus- d. Now does this look like a record or a bad one? These the facts, which were stated in ter, and if this Oregonian butcher derives any satisfac- from claiming that this is an ad- on on my part that student kness exists at Stanford, I willing for him to enjoy it; but hould not be allowed, unchal- d, to force this brand of ille- ate satisfaction upon his read-

e Oregonian writer quotes sev- rentences together, none of h he attempts to refute. He smears over them a little of me from his diseased wit, he fondly imagines will pass tire. In this collection of es I notice a correct but ju- ly incomplete quotation from tter: "He (Jordan) gave in- ws to newspaper reporters, ing nothing even remotely re- ing the truth." The rest of the e, as I wrote it, and which Oregonian writer cleverly omits, and for which, in an instance occurred recently, he was after- forced to apologize." The knows that this is true. The iew to which I refer was published in the San Francisco papers, and the apology appeared in the Daily Palo Alto over Dr. Jordan's own signature. By such methods the Oregonian writer concludes that I have called President Jordan a wilful liar.

Throughout the editorial this writer has handled my letter in the same indecent and worse than puerile fashion. If he is going to quote at all why doesn't he do so in an honest way, and then try to answer my statements honestly? He has no excuse; the entire letter, unexpurgated was sent to him before it was published in any paper. Why doesn't he fight like a man, or else say nothing? The reason is that he possesses neither the necessary information on the subject, nor the brains to handle it if he had that information; and his action in dealing with my letter of March 31 brands him at once as not only a first-class example of the pestiferous creature I have mentioned, but as a literary prostitute, devoid of all conscience or sense of decency.

In the same way this person has treated a recent letter by Mr. Tom Bennett, '08, of Stanford. Bennett was not in the parade, and said so in his letter, yet the Oregonian did not hesitate in its comment to give the impression that this student was in it. The editor furthermore brands the paraders as a bunch of drunkards, and ridicules the statement of Bennett that the men in the parade were not drunk. He then proceeds to try to intimidate Mr. Bennett, after the fashion of the blackmailing villian in a ten-cent melodrama. "Does this callow youth," he writes, "believe for a moment that his foolish statement will be accepted against the word of President Jordan and the faculty of the university?"

Now, the faculty of the university has never made any statement whatever concerning the recent demonstration, and the "word of President Jordan" which the Oregonian writer makes so much of has been condemned as erroneous, not only by the student body and the San Francisco alumni, but also by the former president of the Student Temperance league, who is a personal friend of Dr. Jordan, and who together with other members of the Temperance league, was himself in the parade.

What are we to do with a writer of this stamp; one who intentionally misrepresents facts, and refuses to enter into legitimate discussion, but who, under the cover of an editorial "we" sets up men of straw to knock down, who plays his disreputable game with loaded dice, and tries by every indecent means at his command to polute the characters of all who object to his libelous utterances?

In his second editorial he has again accused us of everything from drunkenness to buncombe. It is to correct this impression, which may still be lurking in the minds of some Oregonian readers, that I submit a statement by C. H. Green, former president of the Stanford Temperance league. This statement was published in the Daily Palo Alto, the student paper, on April 16. The Oregonian writer has undoubtedly seen it by this time but has, of course, after his habitual tactics, refused to publish it.

It should be borne in mind that Mr. Green is one of the most ardent prohibitionists in the vicinity of the university. He is a personal friend and co-worker with Dr. Jordan and with Chairman Clark, the prohibition mayor of Mayfield and new head of the Student Affairs committee. He has done more saloon fighting and other prohibition work than any other student at Stanford. He is a mature student, about thirty years of age, a senior in the law department, associate editor of the Stanford Sequoia, and one of the most prominent literary men in college. Mr. Green's statement follows;

"By the way of introduction I might say that when I was younger than I am now I enjoyed the good fellowship of the cup to some extent with the boys at home. But for several years before I came to Stanford, and ever since I have been here I have been fighting the evils of the saloon. I feel, therefore, I can appreciate the view-point of both sides of the drinking question.

"While the remote cause of the present bad relationship existing between the faculty and students may have some connection with the drinking evil, the parade was not a demonstration for drunkenness, nor were the paraders all drinking men. Many fine young men were caught up in the true spirit of the protest, and have now been branded by the committee as drinking fellows, as far as their parents, friends and the outside world may see the matter.

"I have been a teacher myself for several years—long enough to appreciate the value of firm discipline. On the other hand, however, I have always insisted that disciplinary regulations must be reasonable, adapted to the occasion, and furthermore, the penalty attached must be appropriate and in proportion to the offense.

"The parade of March 12 was a protest against the unsympathetic, ambigious and unreasonable edict of the committee. For the three breaches of university discipline which the committee claims occurred the student body and the paraders separately apologized. The mere matter of parading has long been a custom here and had never been frowned upon before. Therefore, when twelve men were indiscriminately selected for suspension, the parade petition of 247 names, (including my own), was also a protest against the unreasonable punishment which the committee had meted out. Next to expulsion, this suspension was the severest penalty within the power of the committee. It was certainly inappropriate to the offense, and its injustice clearly apparent.

"When thirty-four more names were added to the list by the committee, who wholly disregarded all efforts made by the student body to bring about a sympathetic, kindly human relationship, we felt that the committee was heaping insult upon injury, and this fact gives us good and ample grounds to continue our protests until a better feeling, a closer bond of sympathy and unity are brought about for the honor and good name of Stanford.

"We who have come to know Dr. Jordan hold him in high esteem, and we feel that means should be devised whereby he may come into closer touch with the larger body of students. We further feel most strongly that he should appoint men on the student affairs committee who regard the men and women who compose the student body, not as mere sticks and stones, but as real, live, flesh and blood human beings, with natural tastes, desires, appetites, passions and frailties, yet withal with hearts and souls. This the present committee has absolutely failed to do. Furthermore, the action of the committee and Dr. Jordan's statement have worked irreparable injury to many of the men suspended. They have been branded as being "fired" from a great American university for drunkenness, which is absolutely false. Nevertheless, these men must go out into the future handicapped, and blighted in their careers; heart-broken mothers must receive their

(Continued on page six.)

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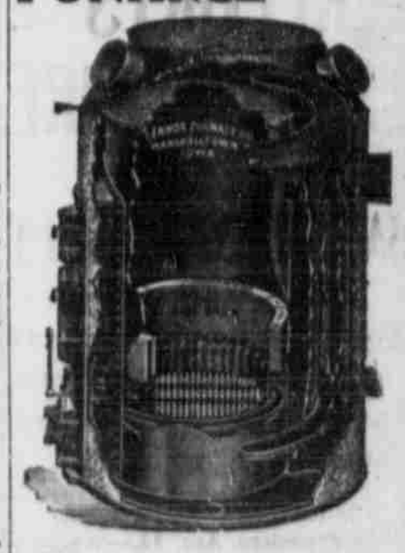

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