

The Vidette - Reporter.

A Tri-weekly Newspaper Published by Students of the State University of Iowa.

VOL. 28.

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NO. 78

Athletic Honor.

The Athletic Committee of the University of Pennsylvania has taken a step forward in the direction of pure athletics which deserves the highest praise and commendation by adopting the rules published by the Press recently. Drawn with minute care, like a legal document, intended to keep men from cheating each other, the new rules exclude several forms of "professionalism."

Yet it is a matter of deep regret that these elaborate precautions are needed. "Professionalism" is lying. In its essence it is cheating. College men in college contests are on their honor as gentlemen that they are not and have not in their lives ever trained for or entered an athletic contest except for honor. No reward, direct or indirect, they pledge themselves as gentlemen, has ever crossed their palms. This pledge of honor should be enough. It is not. The presence of these rules, each year more elaborate, proves it.

In English university contests no such rules exist. The men trust each other. They have no worry over "graduate" and "undergraduate" rules. It is not considered "good form" for a man to row too long, or too many years, or to row at all, unless he is a fair, bona-fide member of a college, as are other men in the crews. This has proved in practice enough. The two university crews in England practice in sight of each other. There are no secrets about their condition. There is no elaborate lying intended to make betting profitable. Men engaged in university contests mix freely with each other. Why not? They are all gentlemen, and gentlemen can trust each other in all matters of sport.

The London Athenaeum and other English papers, in reviewing one of Mr. Casper Whitney's books on college sports a year ago, expressed great surprise that in this country so many rules, so much concealment and so much suspicion existed in college sports. It makes a patriotic American hot in the face to learn that our educated young men have to be fenced in with elaborate rules in their athletic contests, while in England college young men can be left to their sense of honor.

This ought not to be so. It really rests with the alumni to reform this thing. The students will respond to their position and principle. If the alumni will all be more anxious to have the team and its members act honorably than to win, the boys will be all right. Nothing is more needed in college athletics to-day than a standard of honor and truth so high that these cumbersome rules and regulations will be no longer needed. There is very little use in either education or athletics unless truth, honor and fair dealing are its first fruits.

The first necessity is to establish the principle and practice that it is a thousand times better that the University of Pennsylvania should be beaten in all its athletic contests than that a shadow of a shade of suspicion should rest anywhere that in any manner there had been the faintest departure from pellucid honor, in-

tegrity and truth as between gentlemen. No gentleman ever stretches a rule in his own favor or has anything to conceal from an antagonist in sport. Why should a university?—Philadelphia Press.

Foot Ball Casualties.

In the November number of the Ladies' Home Journal Edward W. Bok gave a short editorial talk on foot ball in which he took occasion to announce that "as a matter of fact there is no sport practiced by any civilized nation which can equal a record of forty-six deaths within a short period of four months." Mr. Bok asserted that "carefully computed" figures showed that this number of deaths was directly traceable to one season of foot ball. This alarming display of ignorance called forth any number of refutations, and the latest of these is from Caspar Whitney. This gentleman wrote to Mr. Bok, asking for the details of his sickening story. Mr. Bok replied that the "carefully computed" figures had been carelessly lost soon after the publication of his foot ball talk. But this did not satisfy Mr. Whitney. He immediately appointed himself a committee of investigation, and here is his report:

"I should like to record here now that during the months of January and February, 1896, I made a tour of the United States, going from the Atlantic to the Pacific, from the Canadian to the Mexican boundary lines; that I visited the important centres of amateur sport; that I made diligent inquiry concerning the Journal's statement, and that I heard of just three deaths that might, by so ignorant and biased a critic as the Ladies' Home Journal, be said to have resulted from foot ball. One of these boys fell on a stone on the foot ball field, injuring his stomach, and dying from inflammation of the bowels. Another broke his leg in a scrimmage—blood-poisoning set in and killed him. The third had heart disease—had been forbidden by his physician to play, disobeyed, went into a scrimmage, and dropped dead. It is possible to be viciously good."—U. of M. Daily.

A subject which inspires us by the sublimity of the thing considered, one which gives us new ideas of the universe and one in which our imagination may wander without restraint and at the same time not go beyond the limit, is one which is certainly very pleasant to study and speculate upon. Such a subject is astronomy. Although one of the very oldest of sciences, and one which has in all ages occupied the attention of the very ablest minds, still it has not been exhausted, but on the contrary presents many problems for solution as difficult and perhaps as important as any which have yet been solved. When we think of the universe and the many mysteries connected with it we wonder to what extent man's finite mind will ever be able to comprehend it, or indeed, if it were ever intended that it should be comprehended. In the solution of these problems the science of mathematics has been an invaluable aid and the results at-

tained are truly wonderful. A mathematician after reasoning upon various and complicated processes for days and even months, finally gets a result. This result tells him that if a telescope is pointed to a certain spot in the sky, a world hitherto unknown to us, and one, too, of our own family of planets, will be seen, and the result is proven by actual observation. Only a few are permitted to go this far into the subject. There are numerous practical problems, however, with which all should be familiar. How to find our position on the earth and how to find the exact time, are questions among many others which may be mentioned in this connection. This information, which is as important from its many practical applications, should be given by all our best schools and colleges. This necessitates, if properly understood, the use of astronomical instruments and the taking of data sufficient for the solution of the problem at hand. Such work is excellent training for the student. Precision is absolutely necessary. In addition, this introduction would prompt many to continue the study of the subject who otherwise would have never given it much thought. This subject of astronomy seems to be much neglected by the schools and colleges of Iowa. We think that something ought to be done to revive the interest in this grand old science.—The Cosmos.

The following occurs in the April number of the American Historical Review:

"Dr. B. F. Shambaugh, instructor in the State University of Iowa, has begun the publication, through the State Historical Society, at Iowa City, of a series of pamphlets entitled 'Documentary Material Relating to the History of Iowa.' It were much to be wished that some such collection were accessible to students of history of each of the western states. The three numbers thus far published contain the fundamental documents respecting the acquisition and organization of Louisiana, and those acts of congress and of territorial legislatures which, relating to the territories of Louisiana, Missouri, Indiana, and Michigan, lies at the basis of the constitutional history of Iowa. Care has been expended upon the editing, which has been done with good judgment and completeness."

Then the reviewer, failing to appreciate the peculiar function of him who edits historical documents—which duty is to make an exact and literal reprint of the original—remarks that this work is not free from typographical errors. Our fore-fathers were not all college bred men; their rhetoric and orthography were some times faulty, therefore the absurdity of such criticism will be evident to any one who, having read the introduction, remembers that he is reading original documents, as near the original as types can make them.

W. B. Fellerman broke the University of Pennsylvania record in the mile walk, last week, covering the distance easily in 7m. 7s., in spite of the poor condition of the track.

College Notes.

Yale's Law School nine will play with the Pennsylvania Freshmen, June 13.

Stevenson, Quimby, Redington and Carter, all of Yale, will play with the Chicago Athletic Club this summer.

The trial heats of the inter-collegiate bicycle race this spring will be held at Manhattan Beach in the latter part of May.

Forty-three colleges and schools have entered the relay races to take place at the University of Pennsylvania on April 25.

The students of West Virginia University are compelled to attend chapel under penalty of expulsion for three absences without excuse.

The Young Men's Christian Association, of Harvard, is at present endeavoring to raise funds to support a sailors' reading room, which it intends to offer to seamen for an evening resort.

The bicycle race at the Olympic games on Wednesday of last week, over a course of 100 kilometers (about 62 miles) was won by Fiamant, a Frenchman, in 3 hours 8 minutes. Boletti, the Greek contestant, was second.

The Cornell faculty has determined to improve the quality of English used by the students. A resolution has been passed recommending that every examiner reject any paper containing bad spelling or faults of expression.

A recent number of the University of Chicago Weekly contains a biographical sketch of Professor Von Holst, author of the only large work that can be distinctly designated as a constitutional history of the United States.

The directors of the National University, which is an enterprise of the Masonic fraternity, have purchased 132 acres of land at Beaver, Penn., on the Ohio river, about twenty miles from Pittsburg, to be used as a site for the proposed university, which will cost altogether about \$5,000,000.

The trustees of Cornell University have decided to establish a college of architecture, offering the degree of Bachelor of Architecture at the end of a four years course, a degree hitherto not conferred in America.

The Harvard foot ball squad, consisting of about twenty men, has been practicing regularly for the past ten days. The men are being coached by Captain Wrightington and several University players. Practice will continue about four weeks.

The Boston league team had an easy time with the Princeton college last Saturday, defeating them by a score of 13 to 4. The tigers hit safely seven times, and Altman distinguished himself by securing a double and a triple off the professional pitchers.

The candidates for the shot-put at the University of Pennsylvania are being coached by A. A. Knipe, the captain of the '94 foot ball team. Arrangements have also been made for J. S. Mitchell, the champion shot-putter, to spend a week with the men and give them some valuable points.

The Vidette-Reporter.

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during the Collegiate Year at the
University of Iowa.

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The decision relating to the holding of the State Field Meet at Marshalltown from a financial point of view is undoubtedly a wise one, and no matter what other considerations may weigh certainly the matter of finance is important. Other things being equal it is probable that most of those concerned would prefer a college town and in that respect the removal might appear unjustified, but for the fact mentioned above. It seems, however, that there should be some definite arrangement as to place to avoid the complications which otherwise are pretty sure to arise.

So far as the University is concerned the arrangements seem satisfactory. Indications now point to our sending a good team to represent us, and the place chosen is quite as good as any other.

We are pleased to note the quality of work being done at the park during the past few days. With the time well employed there is small chance of our being beaten, and the time is being well employed. There are many times, of course, elements of surprise in the issue of all contests, and it is impossible to foretell what prodigies some of our competitors may produce; it is true, however, that we can calculate with certainty that the records will be exceeding good if our men be beaten.

The time is now approaching when the prospect of our success in the State Field Meet is becoming a matter of intense interest. This is an affair in which all in the University are equally interested, but to the minds of the underclassmen the reputation of their class should be the point of vital interest. In as much as this desire is but conducive to success in the greater meet, it should be highly commended.

Some years ago, in order to arouse

this athletic spirit among the underclassmen, and especially the Freshmen, the Sophomore-Freshman Field Meet was introduced as one of the annual athletic events of the year. As a consequence the Freshmen, in order to remunerate for the ill treatment during the fall term, have put forth all possible energy to come off victorious upon the field, and in a majority of cases they have achieved this end. This year's Freshman class even took a step farther and came out victorious in the last fall field meet. As a consequence they look upon the coming contest with the Sophs as an easy victory, yet we earnestly hope that the Sophomore's will revive a sufficient amount of energy to make this event a matter of keen interest, and that each successive class in the future will put forth all possible effort to be victorious over their predecessors.

The fullest and most reliable account of the Cuban insurrection that has yet found its way into periodical literature appears in the April Review of Reviews from the pen of that veteran journalist and war correspondent, Murat Halstead, who has only recently returned from an extended sojourn in Cuba. Mr. Halstead's article embodies much fresh and important material of the greatest interest—for example, the proclamation made by General Gomez in December last, General Weyler's statement in reply to questions of Mr. Halstead concerning Spanish policy in Cuba, and specimens of the work of the press censor, being a vast amount of statistical data impossible to obtain except by personal visitation and inquiry. Mr. Halstead has had access to all the sources of trustworthy information on both sides of the present contest, and has utilized the knowledge thus gained with the skill of the practiced writer of current history. An interesting account is given of the industrial relief work now being done among the Armenians of Van under the supervision of Dr. Grace Kimball, an American medical missionary, who has profitably expended more than \$12,000 for this purpose, much of which has been contributed in the United States.

John Hands has an elegant gold-lined silver cup on display which he intends to give as a prize for some special event on field day.

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Fact and Rumor.

Phi Kappa Psi will give a party
this evening.

Beta Theta Pi gave a very pleasant
party last evening.

Miss Sawyer, of Muscatine, is visit-
ing University friends.

Mrs. Emma Lockwood, of Harlan,
is the guest of Clyde Cobb.

Harry Blunt is spending a few days
at his home in Maquoketa.

Roy Mosnat, '99, is enjoying a visit
from his father and mother.

The field day medals are on display
in the window at Coover's studio.

Kitty Martin was voted into Hes-
perian at their last business meeting.

Erving Cowperthwaite is greeting
his many University friends this
week.

C. E. Luce, '98, has left school to ac-
cept a position in a bank at Nashua,
Iowa.

F. E. Farwell, L. '96, has returned
to the University to finish with his
class.

H. D. Page, ex-'97, is in the city
visiting friends and will remain over
Sunday.

J. Habeggar has been elected a rep-
resentative to the Republican State
Convention of Nebraska.

Phi Delta Phi initiated H. A. Re-
herd, L. '97, and Charles G. Burling,
C. '96, L. '97, last evening.

The Junior Promenade will occur
Friday evening, and extensive prepa-
rations are being made to make this,
the first event of the kind, a most
enjoyable one.

Mabel Cook will return home with her mother who has been spending several days here, for a short visit.

The ladies' gymnasium exhibition has been postponed until Tuesday p. m. on account of the ball game Saturday.

The Senior Laws have completed the course in Partnership and will have examination on the subject Friday.

C. G. Burling complains of the unwarranted familiarity of some unknown party who in his absence appropriated his room to the detriment of its usual orderly appearance. Such unwonted liberty will be promptly repressed in the future.

Following are the positions of the players in the game between the Cedar Rapids and S. U. I. nines, which is being played at the park this afternoon: Cedar Rapids — Barnes, r. f.; Marcum, l. b.; Van Buren, l. f.; Bromhill, c. f.; Keing, s. s.; Risley, 2 b.; Hill, 3 b.; Young, c.; Carrish, p.; sub. Myers, Clark, Cox. S. U. I.—Matum, p.; Griffin, l. f.; Thomas, l. b.; Lindsay r. f.; Ingham, c.; Larrabee, 3 b.; Brown, s. s.; Arey, c. f.; Bailey, 2 b.; Leighton, Hood, sub.

The following is from the Des Moines Register's editorial column: "John C. Prall, of the University of Iowa, seems to be possessed of a fine sense of honor and is entitled to a Washington hatchet. The rules of amateur athletic meets exclude those who have ever taken part in a race for a money prize. He is a sprinter and would have been on the University team in its contest with Grinnell except from the fact that he admits that when 17 years old, on Fourth of July, he ran in a race for \$1. It savors somewhat of extreme technicality when rules debar a contestant under such circumstances.

The Iowa State Medical Society will hold its forty-fifth annual convention at Des Moines this week. The meeting opened Wednesday morning, and will continue through Friday. Drs. Harriman and Mullin are the delegates from Iowa City, though the latter will not attend. Iowa City is well represented on the program. Dr. E. F. Clapp is the committee on necrology from the second district, and Dr. C. M. Hobby is a member of the committee on ethics. Dr. J. C. Shrader will read a paper on "The Etiology and Pathology of Ovarian Neurosis," and Dr. L. W. Littig will treat of "Cardiac Stimulants in the Treatment of Fevers." Dr. W. L. Bierring is on the program for a paper on "Pathological Histology of Chronic Bright's Disease," the discussion of which Dr. Woods Hutchinson will open.—Republican.

'96 Meeting.

There will be an important meeting of the Senior class at Close Hall, Saturday evening at 7 o'clock. All committees should be prepared to report. CHAS. G. BURLING, President.

Band Program.

Following is the program for the band concert Friday, April 17:
 Among the Ovatures Coffin
 Good Night Beloved—Brass Quartette—Dedicated to Lieutenant Vodges Gaines
 Brunswick Ovature Rolbinson
 Sounds from Home } Gung L.
 Tyrolean Airs }



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 No. 49. Freight for Cedar Rapids, 3:00 p.m.
 No. 39. Passenger for Elmira, Cedar Rapids and West Liberty, - - - 6:32 p.m.
 No. 41. Passenger for Cedar Rapids, Minneapolis and St Paul; also for Columbus Junction & Burlington, 9:00 p.m.
 No. 34. Passg'r for Riverside, What Cheer and Montezuma, arriv.s at 8:30 a.m. and leaves at - - - 9:10 a.m.
 No. 37. Passenger arrives from Riverside and Muscatine - - - 10:35 p.m.
 No. 40. Passenger arrives from Cedar Rapids and Clinton - - - 10:10 p. m.
 No. 48. Freight for Riverside leaves 10:35 a.m.
 No. 4. Passenger for Burlington and St. Louis leaves - - - 4:00 p.m.
 No. 38. Passenger from Clinton, Cedar Rapids and Davenport arrives, 7:30 p.m.
 No. 36. Passenger for Muscatine and Riverside leaves, - - - 5:15 p.m.
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