

The Vidette - Reporter.

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

VOL. 28.

IOWA CITY, IOWA, SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 1896

NO. 100

Declamatory Contest.

At the Opera House on Thursday evening was held the fourth annual Freshman Girls' Declamatory Contest. The S. U. I. Band furnished music on the street until 8:15, when Professor Wauchope, as presiding officer, called the meeting to order.

After the invocation by Rev. Elinor E. Gordon, Georgia Adams opened the literary program with "Sorab and Rustum." Miss Adams was confronted with the usual difficulties attending the first speaker, but she overcame them easily, and although her selection was not particularly attractive in itself, she held the close attention of the audience throughout. Her manner was especially graceful and her appearance in general quite enviable.

Agnes Hayes followed with "The Steeple Chase 'Under two Flags.'" The selection was interesting and it was rendered in a way wholly worthy. The impersonation at the exciting point of the race was especially good.

Act IV, Scenes 2 and 3, of "Romeo and Juliet" was next declaimed by Mabel Foster. This was undoubtedly the most difficult selection on the entire program. Dramatic in the extreme, and necessitating sudden changes of expression, it was handled in a way thoroughly satisfactory. Miss Foster certainly possesses remarkable ability as an actress.

Miss Graff followed with "Odin's Sacrifice." For clearness of voice and distinctness of delivery this speaker certainly ranked high. A slight monotone, however, marred the impression.

Music failing to appear the program was continued by Erza Owen, who rendered "A Sister's Plea for a Brother's Life" in a way well suited to the nature of the piece. The appearance showed much study and skill, particularly the pathetic passages.

"Massacre of Zorvaster" was next presented by Glenna Mann. Miss Mann's gestures were perfect and she deserves to feel proud of her appearance.

C. Ethel Perkins next rendered "Trial Scene from 'The Graysons,'" in an appreciative manner. This selection, which was largely colloquial, was kept before the audience in a way which demanded and received attention. A slight hesitation injured the effect somewhat.

The program was closed by Libbie Howard with her selection "Teen." Little or no remark need be made upon this appearance, as the decision of the judges only verified the old saying that "Good things are slow in coming." However, the effort was splendid and the honor merited.

While the awards were being made a pantomime entitled "The Raven" was given by eight young ladies. This assuredly represented as much time and work as some of the more conspicuous parts of the program.

Professor Wauchope then announced the successful contestants: Miss Howard first, Miss Foster second, and Miss Mann third.

As a whole the contest was an excellent one and creditable to the department it represented.

The audience departed well pleased with this, one of the most pleasant features of our Commencement.

Intercollegiate Debating.

The conference on intercollegiate debating was held in New Haven last week, Harvard, Yale and Princeton being represented. The dates for the intercollegiate debates of 1896-97 will be the Harvard-Princeton debate at Princeton, Dec. 5; Harvard-Yale debate at Cambridge, March 26; and the Yale-Princeton debate at New Haven, May 6.

In the future the question for the debate shall be proposed seven weeks before the date upon which the debate is to occur, and the university choosing the side shall announce its decision five weeks before the same date. The list of judges shall contain not less than twenty names and must be proposed at least six weeks before the debate, and the university to which the list is sent shall return it within one week with the names to which it objects stricken out. No man shall act as judge at any intercollegiate debate who is a graduate of either of the universities participating in the debate.

Owing to several misunderstandings that have occurred in the past it was voted to instruct the judges to give their decision upon the merits of the discussion alone, regardless of the relative strength of the two sides of the question. Each of the six speakers shall have twelve minutes for his first speech and five minutes for rebuttal. These arrangements were agreed to unanimously by the members of the conference.

There were two other points upon which, after long discussion, the delegates were unable to agree. It was the opinion of the Harvard and Princeton representatives that assistance from members of the faculty and persons outside the university should be limited to the giving of information, while the Yale delegates did not believe that criticism of practice debates by members of the faculty was any more objectionable. The delegates agreed, however, that there was a possibility of abuse in faculty coaching that should be guarded against.

It was the opinion of the Yale and Princeton representatives that no man should be allowed to take part in an intercollegiate debate who is pursuing any other than a regular undergraduate course as candidate for a bachelor's degree in arts, sciences or philosophy, or who has received a degree from any other college. The Harvard delegates held that the debates should be open to all members of the universities.—Harvard Crimson.

Anniversary of Literary Societies.

The annual graduating exercises of the literary societies was held last night at the Opera House. Professor Wauchope acted as general president, and introduced the presiding officer of each organization in turn.

Chancellor McClain presided for the Zetagathians and was first introduced. He introduced Mr. Jefferson Sayers, who delivered the Zetagathian

oration entitled "The Problem of the City." This gentleman, it will be remembered, was awarded first place in thought and composition in the contest last winter. His oration last night in that respect was fully equal to his effort last winter. The delivery, while good, was not so good as the oration deserved.

After the presentation of diplomas J. G. McAlvin responded in a short and characteristic address.

Dr. Wauchope next introduced Miss Susan Paxon, president for the Erodophians, who introduced Miss Louise Boesche, the Erodophian orator. The subject of the oration was "Sentiment the Complement of Reason." It would not be strictly in accordance with truth to say the composition was oratorical, but the thought was expressed clearly and with due precision. The delivery was good, and altogether this speech was probably one of the best. Miss Butler responded on behalf of the Seniors after the presentation of class pin.

Hon. A. O. Byington was introduced as the Irving chairman. B. C. Keeler, our recent champion in the N. O. L. contest, appeared as orator. His subject was "Grant in the Civil War." In some respects, more especially in delivery, Mr. Keeler was undoubtedly superior to the other speakers. The training he received during the recent "campaign" at Chicago has profited him to a considerable degree. W. T. Evans made the address in response to the presentation of diplomas.

The Hesperian president was Mrs. W. D. Cannon. Miss Margaret Van Metre was introduced to represent the Hesperians as orator. Her subject, "Newspaper Personalities," was treated in a very interesting manner, and her delivery was graceful and clear. She seemed to have the control of herself, which to some extent was lacking in some of the other speakers. Miss Amy Zimmerman responded for the graduates after the society pin was presented.

Professor Potter was introduced and presided at the first graduating exercises of the Philomathean Society. The orator, O. N. Oleson, spoke on "The Great Emancipator." His eulogy of Lincoln was excellent. Mr. Oleson has a good voice, and understands the rhetorical value of variation in composition. The first appearance of the Philomatheans was one worthy of an older society. E. C. Bowersox gave the response for the graduating Philos.

The program was quite long but of high merit. The music furnished was excellent and contributed to the success of the entertainment. The audience, however, was disappointing; the Opera House could have easily seated as many more. It is a poor compliment to the interest which we had hoped was developing in literary work to report half the seats vacant at such an entertainment. No doubt the extreme heat and threatening storm kept many from coming.

This closes the work of the societies for this year. The past nine months have witnessed the prosperous issue of many undertakings due to the enterprise and energy of the young men

and women composing these organizations. The victories won over Chicago and Minnesota Universities are particularly to the credit of the two older mens' societies, but the rest have done their share. The contests held between the ladies' societies have advanced the standard of excellence in that direction, and the Philomatheans have established a reputation for work and ability which no doubt will tell in increased support next year.

Work of the character done in these societies can hardly be done elsewhere. No doubt much benefit is derived from attending the lectures and public speaking which is furnished throughout the year, but that will not suffice to the development of speakers. That power, so far as it can be acquired at all, is the product of practice.

The societies at present are in a prosperous condition. They depend upon themselves for support and are not disappointed. Though sometimes the contractors of large debts they possess the business ability and organization which keeps their credit good, and to-day they are models in that respect. The University has been a gainer more than once through the competent organization of these societies, and it is to be hoped in a short time will be able to furnish them more suitable support in the matter of apartments.

The Alumni Dinner.

The annual alumni dinner will be given at Smith's armory, Tuesday, at 6 p. m. All alumni of the University are invited to be present and bring their friends. The charge will be one dollar a plate, which also makes a graduate a member of the Alumni Association. An intellectual and musical feast has been provided for the occasion. Governor Drake Superintendent Sabin, John Teeters, '86, Julia Rogers, '92, and other prominent alumni and friends of the University will respond to toasts. It will undoubtedly prove a very pleasant event for the alumni and their friends.

"Caprice."

Following is the cast of characters for the Senior play, which is to be given at the Opera House, Monday evening:

Jack Henderson C. H. Stempel
(In love with Mercy.)
Harry Woodthorpe.. Chas. G. Burling
(Jack's friend.)
Mr. Ohylander Potts .. Earl Tompkins
(Professor if you please.)
Mr. Baxter J. G. McAlvin
(Mercy's dad.)
Wally Henderson Roy Palmeter
(A college boy.)
Jake Baxter..... W. H. Clark
(A pesky critter.)
Mercy Baxter..... Miss Harriet Holt
(A mountain girl.)
Edith Henderson. Miss Helen Currier
Mrs. Henderson Miss Mary Colson
Miss Emma Watson.....
..... Miss Marion Davies
(Not youthful.)

Invitations are out for the commencement hop.

The Vidette-Reporter.

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during the Collegiate Year at the
University of Iowa.

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Iowa City, Iowa.

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Commencement week is now a period of considerable importance and the entertainments provided are such, no doubt, as are calculated for the enjoyment of those who are likely to be present. It would seem, if the usual round of programs is to be executed each year, that a good deal of the work made necessary might be done at an earlier time, thus allowing of more deliberation in the final preparation. To those who have had experience in writing orations the time allowed this year seems too short even if it had been utilized to the best advantage. It would seem that there should be some means adopted of appointing speakers at a date early enough to allow the writing to be done without interfering with regular work.

The Class Day exercises should be attended to and provided for at an earlier date also. If a play is to be given, and that seems to have become a custom, steps should be taken to prepare for it early enough so that it will require no such abandoning of regular work during the last few weeks, as is now usual.

This is a matter in which succeeding classes may profit from the experience of those of former years. Next year's graduates should see to it that preparations are made, so far as the class is concerned, far enough in advance to warrant complete success.

Through the kindness of Henry Wieneke the University herbarium receives from Wm. Demuth & Co., of New York, a magnificent specimen of so-called "briar-root," the material so largely used in the manufacture of tobacco-pipes. The wood comes in great nodes or tubers, which seem to be formed underground as a product of a small tree belonging to the heath family, the family that includes the heather of course, and such plants as wintergreen, blueberry, huckleberry, etc., and even our Indian pipe. The

plants are native to France and Southern Europe, and the name, briar root, appears to be a corruption of the French name bruyere, heath.—Republican.

Notice.

All persons who have purchased railroad tickets to Iowa City and have taken receipts for them, should call at the President's office and have them signed by the railroad secretary, otherwise they will be useless. Also persons who have purchased tickets and have neglected to take receipts from them should call on railroad secretary or some member of the Executive Committee of the Alumni Association at once, and an effort will be made to secure the receipt and thus enable the visitors to return to their homes on one-third fare.

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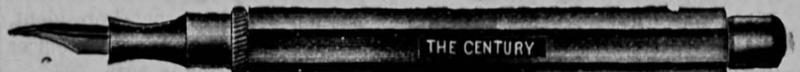
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to hear both sides discussed by these
masters of logic and wit. The day
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Latter Eloquence of Puritanism." In
the evening an illustrated lecture on
India will be given by F. R. Rober-
son. The music for this day will be
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Fact and Rumor.

Frank Neff, ex-'96, is a visitor.

W. T. Chantland, C. '93' L. '94, of
Ft. Dodge, is renewing old time joys
of the University.

Charles C. Clark, of the firm of
Seerly & Clark, of Burlington, is a
commencement visitor.

W. H. Clark, '96, has been chosen
for the position of science teacher in
the Webster City high school.

Jake Hess, L. '95, is shaking hands
with his many friends. He is enjoy-
ing a good practice in Council Bluffs.

Frank C. Neff is in the city for com-
mencement. He has been studying
medicine at his home in Kansas City.

Ralph Bolton, a former University
student, now a prosperous manager of
the Des Moines soap works, in a com-
mencement visitor.

Cards are out announcing the mar-
riage of George Samuel Coon, C.'90, H.
M. '91, and Miss Louise Bracksmith,
at Louisville, Ky., June 23.

Miss Florence Zerwick, ex-'97, is
visiting with Mary Colson. Her many
friends are pleased to learn that she
expects to re-enter the University
next fall.

The competitive prize drill, yester-
day, resulted in the first place being
awarded Comdany B. This company
will be given the new equipments
next year.

Taxidermist Ridgway, of the muse-
um, has finished mounting one of
Frank Russell's specimens of the
musk ox. The specimen is finely
mounted, and shows the work of an
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The reception to be tendered to Harry E. Blunt, to-night, at Close Hall, from 8 to 10, promises to be a most enjoyable affair. Come out and give Mr. Blunt God speed as he leaves S. U. I.

The Senior class play, "Caprice," which will be given at the Opera House Monday night, is the great four act play which Minnie Maddern Fiske made famous. A strong cast has been secured and a pleasing program may be expected.

The game of ball yesterday afternoon between a made up nine of University players and Rush Medical College, was won by the doctors by a score of 6 to 0. Rush Medical has a strong team, having defeated Western and Cornell in games this week.

Associated Press dispatches this morning report that the State Agricultural College Athletic Association has been suspended from the Iowa Intercollegiate Athletic Association. Two charges were brought against that association, appropriating state association funds, and violating the constitution in taking the Meet to Marshalltown.

North American Review.

The North American Review for June opens with a most suggestive and practical paper by Mr. Andrew Carnegie, entitled, "The Ship of State Adrift," in which he points out the deterioration since 1890, of the United States in national wealth and commercial prosperity, and in plain, logical, and convincing statements, shows why such a state of things exist.

Dr. Joseph H. Senner, U. S. Commissioner of Immigration at Ellis Island, contributes a thoughtful article on "Immigration from Italy." Dr. Senner discusses the means at present employed to prevent danger from immigration, and from his store of actual and practical experience derives what he considers the final solution of the "immigration problem."

"Policy and Power of the A. P. A.," is graphically outlined by W. J. H. Traynor, the President of this well known Association. No organization in the history of the American Republic, Mr. Traynor declares, ever had so spontaneous a birth, so remarkable a career, or so radical an effect upon American politics.

The necessity for a court of criminal appeals in the United States is, in the opinion of the Hon. I. C. Parker, Judge of the U. S. District Court for the Western District of Arkansas, of the most urgent character, his reasons being clearly and forcibly presented under the title of "How to Arrest the Increase of Homicides in America."

A special timeliness attaches itself to "The Outlook for Silver," by Dr. Otto Arendt in this number. The chances of bimetalism in Europe and America are freely considered by this distinguished member of the Prussian House of Deputies, and the acknowledged leader of the bimetalists in the German Silver Convention of 1894.

The Hon. Hannis Taylor, United States Minister to Spain, furnishes an elaborate review of "England's Colonial Empire." The varied forms of government exercised by Great Britain toward her dependencies, and the distinguishing features of each, are treated by Mr. Taylor in a most attractive style.



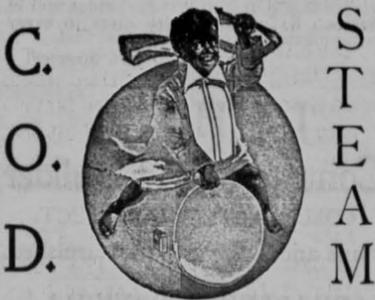
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