The Vidette - Reporter.

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

VOL. 29. IOWA CITY, IOWA, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1897. NO. 52

NEW DEBATING LEAGUE.

THE "BIG FOUR" DEBATING LEAGUE FORMED.

The so-called "Big Four" debating league is at last an accomplished fact. Last week the final arrangements were completed at Chicago that give to this organization an official life. As yet its constitution has not been made public.

The new league comprises the Universities of Michigan, Wisconsin, Chicago and Northwestern. The new compact is to go into effect in 1898, as at present all the principals are connected with other debating leagues.

All arrangents and details were finally completed at a conference composed of Professor Trueblood of Michigan, Professor J. S. Clark of Northwestern, Professor D. B. Frankenbergor of Wisconsin and Professor S. H Clark of Chicago.

In arranging questions for debate it is proposed to have what will be called "debating boards" at the several universities, to be composed of five professors and four students. The different boards are to send two subjects each to a graduate council composed of two alumdi from each school and a chairman, who is to be a graduate of some eastern university. This graduate council will select three out of the eight questions proposed, two to be used in the semi finals and one question in the final debate. In the semi-finals the visiting university will always have the choice of sides, and in the final debate it will be determined by lot. Each debating board will also send to the graduate council the names of ten men whom they are willing to have for judges. By this system the semi-final debates will be held on the second Friday in January. It is probable that in these debates Michigan will meet Chicago and Wisconsin oppose Northwestern. At least, this is the present arrangement. After these semi-finals, the two victorious universities will meet in the final debate on the second Friday of April of each year.

Fred W. Peck and Alexander H. Revell will give cash prizes amounting to $200. One hundred dollars will go to the best individual debater on either side in the final debate.

In a conversation with Professor Trueblood of Michigan, just before the final closing of this compact, a VIDETTE - REPORTER representative gleaned some additional and very interesting facts. The Professor stated that one reason the league had not been sooner consummated was because all the participants except Chicago were desirous of excluding post-graduate students, but that this latter institution took such a stand on this subject that nothing further could be accomplished until an understanding was reached with Chicago. It is probable, therefore, that the new constitution will furnish some interesting clauses in regard to post-graduates.

The Professor also ingeniously explained that, in the formation of this very select organization, there was no idea or intention of excluding "any other institutions," and that the "Big Four" very charitably had no desire to destroy any existing leagues. In the fulness of his heart and the overflowing generosity of his nature he kindly advised S. U. I to follow the example thus worthily set, and form a similar league "with the western universities," explaining that Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska and Kansas could very conveniently imitate this great creation of a master brain. As yet the State University of Iowa has not followed out Professor Trueblood's advice.

Baconian.

Owing to illness, Dr. Littig was unable to read his paper on "Quarantine and Tuberculosis," as announced. The following voluntary reports were given:

Professor Houser spoke on the evolution of the thyroid gland—the two lobed body lying beside the larynx. The organ of which this is the vestige is found in the amphyoxus, the lowest form of vertebrates. The cilia of the digestive tract of this animal cause a current of water to flow into the pharynx and out again through the gill-slits. Since these slits are of considerable size, the food particles contained in the water would be carried out again, were it not for a beautiful device. At the bottom of the pharynx is a plate, the endostyle, composed of a great number of cells. Of these a certain group is glanular, which sends a mucous substance into the pharyx, where the food particles stick to it. Thus they are prevented from passing out with the water. By a long series of degenerating processes, these cells have become the thyroid gland in man.

Mr. Bowman next presented an original and beautiful experiment. He illustrated the vibrations of diaphrams in telephones by projecting upon the wall the vibrations which his voice caused in a soap film. Different vibrations were produced not only by a different pitch, but also by sounding different vowels at the same pitch.

Professor Nutting then showed the homology between the teeth and spines of sharks. In the case of the dog-fish, the lower jaw-cartilage is covered with a membrane upon which the teeth are set. There is a perfect inter-gradation in size between the front and back teeth, the latter being small and protected by a sort of tongue. When the front teeth are worn out, the whole membrane moves forward, putting new teeth in place. This membrane, after passing over the edge of the jaw, becomes the skin of the animal, and the spines which you feel are simply modifications of the worn out teeth.

Professor Rockwood gave a "report of progress" on the investigations by the Department of Agriculture upon the subject of food supply. It is an important subject, considering that one-half the expense of a family is for food and that much of our ill-health is due to improper food. Professor Rockwood gave some statistics as to the various kinds of food used by boarding clubs at three American Universities.

BASE BALL.

PRACTICE HAS BEGUN—EIGHTEEN MEN OUT.

Our base ball team have begun practicing. Yesterday eighteen men were down in the gymnasium at work. There are many other good players in the University who will begin practicing as soon as opportunity is offered. Our present quarters are decidedly cramped for the regular practice of a large number of men, yet by a system of dividing the candidates into sections all can be accommodated.

The prospects for a strong team are very good at present. It is to be hoped that matters may run smoothly and harmoniously this season, and that S. U I. may rise to her old position in athletic circles. Still we must remember that all debts are not yet paid, and that almost one-half of those who pledged to join the Athletic Union have not paid up. A student's word SHOULD be as good as his bond

Last year when our base ball team went down to the Athletic Park to play some scheduled game, the remark was often heard—"there they go again to get beat." Our team was a fairly good one last year, but there is surely no one here who would not wish for a better team this year than we had then. The way to make the team is to begin work now. The men are in school here but have not reported as yet for practice. There ought to be four times the number who have so far reported. It is the same old story, the same difficulty that presented itself last fall when our foot ball team was training. The coach and captain succeeded in getting about thirty-five men out for practice, and the result—our team walked off with the honors. Every man in school who can play base ball at all ought to report at once to Captain Thomas or Manager Devitt Even if you can't find time for regular work at practice in the gymnasium during the rest of the term, you could stimulate the base ball interest by consulting with these men, and letting them know that you can play a little. It is not necessary that you be as expert as a professional. They do not ask for only the experienced players; they wish all who WANT to play ball to meet in the gymnasium and practice a little each day. Every other school of importance have had their base ball teams at work for some time, and they have forty or fifty candidates. We can't pick as good a team out of eighteen men as other schools can out of fifty.

A glance at the course things are taking gives us at once a glimpse of how we will end the next base ball season. If we are going to put a team into the field that will win games for us, we must work. If the men who enjoy base ball care whether our team brings home victory from each trip, or come trailing in dragging our 'Varsity "I" through defeat, let them come to the gymnasium and HELP build up a team that will do us honor wherever they go.

Hawkeye '98.

The Hawkeye '98 will be on sale Friday and Saturday, commencing Friday forenoon at 8 o'clock. Arrangements have been made so that subscribers in the Medical and Dental Departments may get their books in those buildings. Subscribers in the other departments and all others desiring books must obtain them from the general place of sale. 116 and 118 Iowa Avenue. It is requested that all subscribers either buy their Annuals or make further arrangements for their being held for them on these two days, as no effort will be made to hold books after Saturday.

E. E. HOBBY, Bus. Mgr.

Erodelphian.

The Erodelphians will present the following valentine program to-night:

Music.

Speech ..... Dora Wickersham
"Origin of Valentine Day."

Story ..... Daisy Hatch

Debate: "Resolved, that women should propose." Affirmative, Grace Finch, May Gabriel. Negative, Elena MacFarland, Bertha Barrett.

"A Bunch of Valentines," Mary Lytle

Declamation ..... Bertha Blum
"Ivy Ships."

Music, Violin and Zither—Ida Kriechbaum, May Taylor.

This is a "special" program and all are invited.

Law Department.

Rollins, L. '98, has had another sick spell.

Williams, '97, who has been quite ill with an attack of pneumonia, is rapidly improving.

Judge Seeds entertained the Senior Moot Court last Tuesday with some interesting literature.

Chancellor McClain is in Des Moines on business.

Professor Seeds is spending a few days with his family at Manchester.

Notice.

The managers of the '98 Annual Board request that all organizations not yet having paid for the publication of their cuts, do so at their earliest convenience, to any member of the Board. E. E. HOBBY.

Junior Annual '95.

A few copies for sale at 50 cents each. Contains account of Bahama Expedition, Russell Expedition, and Nicaragua Expedition. Proceeds of sales for benefit of Alumni Americana Fund. Inquire at General Library.

Notice.

Word was received to-day from Archbishop Ireland stating that owing to sickness in his family he will be unable to fill his date of Feb. 17. Some days will necessarily elapse before a new date can be announced.

Off for Independence.

The Senior Medical class left this morning on the seven o'clock train for Independence to spend a day visiting the occupants of the Insane Asylum. This privilege was secured for them through the courtesy of Dr. G. H. Hill. The party consisted of about fifty students.

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THE VIDETTE-REPORTER,
Iowa City, Iowa.

Entered at the Iowa City Post Office as second class matter.

As elsewhere announced, the '96 Hawkeye will be on sale Friday morning. We have seen this work and we can without the slightest hesitation, pronounce it a successful book. As a University exponent it does credit to our institution. Like a mirror i reflects from its pages the details of each and every phase and department, the trend and tone of our University life. The '97 Hawkeye was worthy of its many compliments, but he '98 Hawkeye surpasses it. Each member of the Board must certainly have do e his full duty, for in no respect is the '98 Hawkeye lacking The half-tone engravings are exceptionally clear O ie striking feature is the superiority of the work done by the Art Board; their etchings are all original and bring with them very pleasing connotations. The jokes are splendid and will probably make some unsuspecting personages grit heir teeth. It is a worthy work and dedicated to a most worthy man.

A number of broad minded, loyal spirited young ladies of our University have signified a willingness to be present at the next meeting of the Athletic Union, and have a voice in the election of officers who shall shape and control the course of our athletics for the school year 1897 8. To such a plan we say YES, let them come. Why should not they, as well as the men of our institution, be members of the Athletic Union? To be sure we do not expect them to play foot ball, run hurdles, throw the hammer, or do any of these things. There are a great m ny men already members of the new Union who never did, and never will, take an active part on the field itself. The chief difficulty all along has been that our athletics have been supported by the men alone who enter the events, instead of the students supporting them. This is a co-educational institution. The women are interested in our athletic teams. Then why not help support them? The you g women derive as much benefit from the success of our teams as the young men do. Why then will they not lend a helping hand when it is so much needed?

Any one who is a student of the University may become a member of the Athletic Union. We firmly believe that if the girls here realized how much it lies in their power to push our athletic interests along toward the happy goal of success they would not hesitate a moment in giving that aid. They can give it by becoming members of the Union. The Senior girls recently made a test of their capacity in journalistic work, and though comparatively inexperienced, their efforts were attended with eminent success. They published an editorial on athletics—and now they are called upon to show whether their actions will be in harmony with the views therein set forth. We hope to see the girls at the next meeting. Where is the girl who will not attend the Dual Meet with Grinnell next May? And where is the girl who would not rejoice to see our men finish first in the events of that contest? Where is the girl who would not scream for joy to see the "G" and Maltese cross of Grinnell led past the tape by our 'Varsity "I"? Now is the time for you to act, to do something toward that end, if you have any such anticipations. It is in your power to do something now that will help our boys then. Come to the meeting, your attendance will be influential; your presence will be respected; the very fact that you, the girls of our University, are taking an interest, a helping interest in our teams. will spur them on to greater efforts; and our athletics will consequently be imbued with a tone of purity that will be the envy of all our sister institutions.

Notice.

We, the undersigned, hereby present the name of F. A. Soleman as a candidate for Treasurer of the Athletic Union, for the school year 1897-8.

J. C. Prall, and fourteen others.

We, the undersigned, hereby present the name of Mortimer L. Coldren as candidate for Base Ball Manager, season of 1897-8.

Geo M. Price and fourteen others.

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Fact and Rumor.

EDITORS.—Louise Boesche, Edmund Simmons.

Mrs. Larrabee is in the city.

Miss Voss is spending the week in Davenport.

Judge Seed left for Manchester this morning.

Miss Hulsibus' brother from Burlington is visiting her.

Elinor Ashby, '00, has been unable to attend recitations since last Tuesday.

Miss Hughes received the members of Polygon Thursday evening at her home.

Miss Nina Swalm left for her home in Oskaloosa to care for her mother who is ill.

Misses Pile, Boesche, and Hubel entertained a few friends informally Thursday evening.

Miss Clara A. Slotterbec, Ph. D., A. M., is now principal of the St. Paul College of Oratory and Music.

Dr. Chase, of Waterloo, is in the city, attending to his duties in connection with the Medical Department.

John V. Crum has located in Des Moines where he will engage in the manufacture of his famous "Rub-out" liniment.

Irving Institute elected its representatives for the Freshman Contest as follows: Debaters, Moulton and Starr; orator, Eagan; declaimer, Switzer. The Zetagathian participants are: Debaters, O'Connor and Armstrong; orator, Fletcher; declaimer, Secrest.

CALL ON BLOOM & MAYER FOR CLOTHING AND HATS.

Membership tickets to the Athletic Union have been issued, and the treasurer is busily engaged in realizing on them from those who are members.

The members of the Hawkeye Board promise that the Annual will be out Friday. This is just three weeks earlier than the date of sale of the '96 Hawkeye

The second annual military ball was given last night at Smith's Armory. About thirty-five or forty couples participated and a most enjoyable time was had by all.

The Tennesseeans appeared before a large and enthusiastic audience at the M. E. Church Wednesday night. The program embraced solos, duets, quartets and choruses, and was of a high order.

Professor Shimek will lecture at the Unitarian Church, Sunday evening, on "Before the Reformation." Professor Shimek has access to special and unusual information on this subject, and his lecture promises to be very interesting.

The Y. M. C. A. meeting Sunday afternoon will be a union missionary meeting, and Mr. Ruggles will lead. There will be a few short addresses, among them one on the conditions of home-life in India and China, by Mrs. Neff. One of the features of the afternoon will be the singing of Gounod's "Unfold, Ye Portals," by the chorus choir.

Monday evening, Feb. 15, Anagarika H. Dharmapola, the official representative of the Buddhists at the Parliament of Religions, will speak in the Unitarian Church. He is in America for the purpose of encouraging a sympathetic exchange of thought between Buddhists and Christians. Dharmapola is a man of beautiful character and a philosophic mind. No admission will be charged and all are welcome.

Mrs. Dr. Schaeffer entertained the Mandolin and Glee Clubs at her home Thursday evening. A number of the Faculty were present, and also a number of our interested citizens were invited in, making a goodly company before which both clubs rendered music in a most satisfactory manner. Delightful refresements were served and all who were present report a splendid time. Both clubs pleased those who heard them beyond their highest expectations.

The Chicago Inter Ocean made the following comment on the recent Iowa-Chicago debate: "The students at the University of Chicago may be able to play foot ball, base ball or lawn tennis, but it is evident that they cannot debate. All through the last two months Professor Clark and Mr. White, of the elocution department, have labored in an earnest endeavor to get them into shape to crush by the force of their logic and by the elegance of their rhetoric, the delegation from Iowa, but without success."

The last issue of the Scarlet and Black said: "The State University is to be heartily congratulated on the victory of their debaters over the University of Chicago. They are entitled to all the more credit from the fact that individually and unitedly they had worked faithfully to make this a well earned victory. The support given the debaters by the entire school has been as enthusiastic and unflagging as that given to their athletic teams, and the honor of the debater is as highly regarded as that of an athlete."

A Correction.

In our last issue, under the head of nominations for the offices of the Athletic Union, Mr. Chase's name appeared among the nominees for President. Mr. Chase is nominated for the office of Vice-President.

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