

# The Vidette - Reporter.

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

VOL. 29.

IOWA CITY, IOWA, SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 1897.

NO 61.

## ORATORICAL CONTEST.

THE TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL CONTEST WON BY H. W. HANSON.

A good sized audience assembled last evening at the Opera House to hear the contest which would decide who should represent S. U. I. in the final contest of the Northern Oratorical League, to be held at Ann Arbor, sometime next May.



H. W. HANSON.

According to the constitution of the League, the winners of second and third places, Messrs. Lynch and Copeland, will accompany Mr. Hanson to the final contest as alternates.

At 8:20 Rev. C. S. Brown delivered an invocation, and immediately after a song and encore by the Quartette, Ralph H. Otto, President of the local Oratorical Association, announced the first speaker on the program, E. G. Copeland.

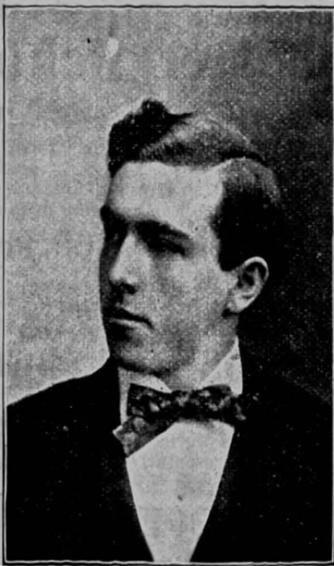
The title of Mr. Copeland's oration was "Mars Hill." It was smoothly written, and smoothly delivered. Mr. Copeland has a pleasant appearance upon the platform and is the possessor of a good voice. He spoke clearly, easily, and forcibly. There was a reserve and dignity in his bearing, and he was closely followed by his audience.

H. W. Hanson then followed with an oration: "The Right of Revolution." His delivery was very well adapted to the subject matter of his oration. He spoke deliberately, his articulation was exceptionally distinct. He was easy and graceful, appearing at home on the platform. There was a kind of magnetism about his bearing. The modulations of his voice were excellent. With the true art of oratory he led his audience where he wished; he first interested them, then fascinated them, and at times, in the most dramatic parts of his oration, he actually thrilled his listeners.

After Mr. Hanson's oration, Miss Wood varied the program by rendering a vocal solo, with violin obligato, in such a winning manner as to elicit an urgent call for an encore.

The third speaker on the program was Wesley Holt. His subject was "The World State." His voice though

strong and clear, did not possess the range of inflection that some others did, however his delivery was characterized by an earnestness that surpassed the efforts of any of his competitors. Like Mr. Hanson he spoke as if he thoroughly believed everything he had to say, and was making an honest endeavor to lead the audience to believe as he did.



C. J. LYNCH.

Charles J. Lynch was born in 1877, at Blairtown, Ia., which has always been his home. He graduated from the high school in 1892, and entered Cornell College in the fall of the same year, where he remained three years. During the year of '95-'96 he acted as principal of the Luzerne schools. Last fall he entered the University, taking both the Senior Collegiate and Junior Law work. He intends to take up the Law profession as a life work.

The next oration was "Abraham Lincoln," by R. G. Popham. With a voice a trifle deeper and heavier than any of his rivals, Mr. Popham gave a clear-cut conception of the character and sterling worth of our great hero, in an impressive manner. He spoke loudly and clearly as though he meant what he said to be heard and believed.



E. G. COPELAND.

Mr. Copeland took a full course at Iowa State Normal School, finishing in '95. He served a year as Principal of the Public Schools at Brighton, Ia. He entered S. U. I. last September, and is a Junior Collegiate. He intends to take up evangelical work.

After a well received violin solo by Professor Berryhill, Charles J. Lynch

(continued on fourth page.)

## MERCY HOSPITAL.

THE UNIVERSITY'S BIRTHPLACE SOON TO BE TORN AWAY.

The old building now known as Mercy Hospital, is the one in which the first exercises of our University took place. All who are in any way acquainted with the early history of the institution know that in 1847 a bill was passed by the General Assembly which made the State University of Iowa a legally incorporated institution. Certain public land was set aside, the revenue of which was to support the University. Not until 1855 did this revenue become great enough to insure a meagre beginning.

Amos Dean, LL. D., was the first Chancellor of the University, but he did little work, in fact was seldom here. The real organization of classes was made by Professor Alexander Johnson, in September of 1855. He was president, professor, and principal part of the Faculty during that term. Professor Johnston's classes met in the old building above named. Previous to this time it had been used as a school house and was then known as Mechanics' Academy. Before the year was up there was added to the Faculty Professor Henry S. Welton, E. M. Guffin, and John Van Valenberg. Two others, James Hall and J. D. Whiting are named among the Faculty, but they were employed in the State Geological Survey and conducted no classes in the University.

For the first few months all recitations were held in one room, but in the winter the use of another room was secured, the larger one was divided into two by a partition, and so with these three small rooms for all the University exercises our institution entered upon a course which, although not without many backsets, has proved on the whole to be one of steady growth and development.

A bell belonging to the old stone church—on Burlington street opposite the present Baptist Church—was purchased by the University and hung in the belfry on the Mechanics' Academy. This served to tell the students their hours for recitations. Sometime after the University vacated this building the bell was sold, and unfortunately the whereabouts of this old relic is now unknown.

The University Library then consisted of about 150 volumes, and these were arranged in shelves in a little room about four feet square, over the north stairway in this same building.

From the fall of 1855 to the spring of 1858 all the exercises of the University were conducted in the birthplace really of our institution.

At one time during this period, owing to a lack of funds, all the departments except the Normal department were closed. When at this precarious stage, Professor Wells, then known as Professor of Theory and Practice of Teaching—now designated Pedagogy—procured a sign bearing the words "Normal Department of the State University," and fastened it to the front of the building.

In the year 1857 the seat of the government was transferred to Des-

Moines, and the old capitol, the present Central building, became the seat of the University. Necessary repairs, however, postponed the date of occupation until late in the following year.

Several years after moving into their new quarters the University purchased the Mechanics' Academy and has retained possession to this day. It is to be torn away soon to make room for the spacious new hospital which is to be erected on the same site.

We are not indebted to books for the above information. It has been furnished us through the kindness of Mr. M. W. Lathrop, Curator of the State Historical Society. The statements have been produced from his memory. He was chairman of the committee which organized the University for its first year's work, and was treasurer of the first Board of Trustees, hence he is qualified to know.

## Resolutions of Respect.

TO HIS DEAR ONES:

Carl Treimer was our teacher and our friend; words can not express our sorrow at his death. But God is love, and He worketh all things for the best. Let not your hearts be troubled for death is certain, yet death is life; and even now, perhaps, our loved one is looking down from the choir of angels blessing those who reverence him, and offering supplications in our behalf. We know he was a true and faithful friend, a conscientious worker, and a noble man; therefore we are certain that he was a dutiful son and a loving brother.

We, the undersigned, a committee appointed from the members of the West Des Moines High School, hereby extend to you in their behalf, the most heartfelt sympathy in our power.

We recommend the publication of these resolutions in the papers of Des Moines, Iowa City and Dixon.

ERNEST R. CRAFT, '98, Ch'r'm.

GRACE MYRICK, '00,

MINNIE JOSEPH, '97,

EARL M. GALBRAETH, '99,

Committee.

Whereas, Carl Treimer, an honored and trusted member of Polygon, has departed this life during his college course, and was an active worker in this organization, and an inspiration to his co-workers.

Be it resolved, that we, its members, hereby express our sorrow at his untimely death, and recognize the irreparable loss to our organization, and further

Resolved, that we hereby extend to his bereaved family our heartfelt sympathy.

COMMITTEE.

## Notice.

There will be a meeting of the Oratorical Association in Irving Hall, Wednesday, March 10th, at 3:30. A full attendance is desired.

RALPH OTTO, Pres.

## Notice.

The members of the Senior Collegiate class are requested to report at Luscombe's studio as soon as possible to have their negatives taken.

COMMITTEE.

**The Vidette-Reporter**

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TUESDAY, THURSDAY AND SATURDAY during the Collegiate Year at the University of Iowa

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THE VIDETTE-REPORTER,  
Iowa City, Iowa.

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

We have received several "communications" which we have not published. It is not through any partiality that we have published some of these and held others unpublished. They have not appeared in our columns simply because they were not accompanied by the name of the writer.

We are never responsible for the sentiments expressed in articles headed "communication" or "to the editor." We would much prefer to publish under the communication the name of its writer. However, if the writer so desires, we will withhold his name from the public. Our paper is a University organ, and we invite the students who would have something to say to our student body to communicate it through our columns, providing he sends his name with his communication.

In to-day's issue we publish a few of the facts, or perhaps more properly called, traditions of the infancy of our great institution. The Mercy Hospital has a long history, but we have touched upon it lightly only wherein it has a direct relation to the beginning of our University. There are only meager records of this period of University history, and the statements we have given stand verified only by memory, but by the memory of a man who took an active part in the development of that time. Enough is known from records subsequent to these few years, to assure us that we make no mistake in looking upon this old building as the pioneer home of education in this section of the country.

We certainly rejoice that our University has grown so rapidly, has so nobly achieved success. We hope that she may ever be found among the "marching on," but it is not without

a tinge of regret or pathos at least, that we will see the old walls torn asunder which echoed to the footsteps and ringing voices of her students forty years ago; those old walls which saw her joys and sorrows; which beheld her, battling with adversities, come off victor.

The old bell which used to call the students to their classes, long since silenced, has disappeared. And now the old home, which knew the childhood of the University; which by its traditions and time-worn aspect, remains alone, the most symbolic of her infant days;—alas it too must go. While we keep in mind our superior facilities of to-day, let us pause and feel for a moment the pathos of passing things.

**Reception to Students.**

The Y. M. and Y. W. Christian Associations are to give a reception for the professional students, at Close Hall, Tuesday evening, March 9th. Everybody is welcome. Come and have a good time. A competitive production of two farces will be the feature of the evening. One will be put on by the cabinet members of the two organizations. College songs will be sung. You are especially requested to come early, as early as 7:30, for some of the students are in the midst of examinations. We are sure there will be a good time for all. We want the whole institution to help in giving the professional students a first-class send off.

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**Fact and Rumor.**

EDITORS.—Louise Boesche, Chas. O. Giese.

Irving's had a meeting Friday noon. Zoology students had a quiz Thursday.

The Kappas gave a supper at their hall Friday evening.

Miss Lucy Strayer, Ph. '98, is enjoying a visit from her sister.

Arthur Bailey will lead the meeting Sunday afternoon at Close Hall.

Biology classes commenced the study of animal tissues this week.

Sophomore Hesperians will present a special program Saturday evening.

Junior students will receive no examinations in tactics at the end of this term.

The Y. W.'s had a spread and royal good time at their business meeting Wednesday evening.

The second annual Junior Promenade will be given the second Friday after Easter, April 30th.

Many falls and tumbles which might have proven serious have been taken during the last few days.

Cora Eicher will lead the Y. W. C. A. meeting Sunday afternoon, subject, "Little Kindnesses."

Professor McConnell did not meet his pedagogy class on Friday, as he was out of town on business.

The orator who will represent Northwestern University in the Northern Orterical League Contest, is Samuel Fegtly, of Nevada, Iowa. The subject of his oration in "Kenan's Charge." He is an Iowa man, but we hope Mr. Hanson will defeat him.

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The class in U. S. History will receive part of its final examination on next Friday at the regular lecture hour.

The Seniors will give another social Thursday evening, the boys of the class presenting a farce as entertainment.

The Junior Dents met for their final examination to-day. They will come up before the State Board next week.

The lecture at the Unitarian church next Sunday evening will be by Professor A. G. Smith. His subject is "Pantheism."

The question at the Hesperian annex this evening will be "Resolved, that contest is the best means of attaining the best results."

W. C. Sensibaugh, of the Dental Department, was called to his home, yesterday afternoon, by a telegram announcing the serious illness of his father.

At a meeting of Irving Institute yesterday noon, A. W. Hamann was elected to fill the vacancy on the Minnesota debate caused by the resignation of John Hanks.

In the death of Instructor Treimer the University has lost an able man who was unusually well prepared for his work. As a teacher he eagerly sought to perform his duties conscientiously and well. He had a rare nobility of character, a high sense of moral duty and a sensitive consideration for the feelings of a fellow-being. —Republican.

**Social Reforms in Fiction.**

In the Unitarian Church, last Sunday evening, Mr. F. D. Merritt delivered an interesting lecture on what writers of fiction have advocated in the way of social reforms. The speaker first sketched the industrial progress since the middle ages, and the effect of this on social conditions. He also touched upon the history of social reforms. Then he gave an account of some fiction writers, such as Dickens, Kingsley, Carlyle and George Eliot. Dickens exposed the evils of the English school system, and no man ever struck more vigorous blows for prison reform. Kingsley portrayed the conditions of the lower classes. The most complete presentation of social reforms is found in Besant's "All Sorts and Conditions of Men." Mr. Merritt then considered some of the views held by these writers in regard to social reform. Social reform should be less concerned about the government than about the quality of the life served under that government; the real source of evil is not in our institutions but in ourselves. The social idea is not exactly the economic idea; wealth alone is not capable of producing welfare. Finally, Mr. Merritt turned to some of the prophecies of these novelists as to coming society. Future society will not be one that deprecates wealth. It will be co-operative. It is certain that religion must be the mainspring of action in future society.

**Notice.**

Extra copies of the latest issue of the VIDETTE REPORTER are always on sale at the book stores and at Hohenschuh & Wieneke's. Back numbers may also be ordered at the same places.

Fred Stone, of the Chicago Athletic Club, says that John V. Crum's "Rub Out" is the best thing he ever used.

(continued from first page.)

delivered his oration, "John Brown." There was a shade of pathos in the beginning which clung to the listener throughout the entire length of the oration. Mr. Lynch was apparently not perfectly at ease on the stage, but he was perfectly natural. The fact that in his delivery he was simple and unaffected throughout was a telling quality.

Despite the slight disadvantage of being the last speaker on a long program, John W. Ham, with an oration entitled "Humanity's Unrest," held the attention of the audience to the end. The sentence structure of his oration was rather long and involved, for a terse and forcible delivery, but he was decidedly in earnest, and his enunciation was clear and distinct.

While the judges markings were being summed up the quartette sang, sang again, and still again were called upon the stage. The ranks awarded by the judges gave Mr. Hanson first place, Mr. Lynch second place, and Mr. Copeland third place.

The contest was a very interesting one indeed. A certain person who has heard a great many oratorical contests said that, taken as a whole the voices of the contestants were better than at any contest he ever attended.

Taken altogether the quality of the orations hardly came up to the standard. Some of them contained a number of defects in unity and strict coherence of parts.

The following are the markings:

	THOUGHT AND COMPOSITION.			Total.
	Green.	Dawson.	Dolliver.	
Copeland	4	9	2	15
Hanson	2	1	5	8
Holt	3	4	3	10
Popham	1	7	3	11
Lynch	8	2	1	11
Ham	4	6	5	15

**DELIVERY.**

	Beardshear.	Loveland.	Seetley.	Total.
	Copeland	3	2	
Hanson	1	1	1	3
Holt	4	6	6	16
Popham	6	5	4	15
Lynch	2	3	2	7
Ham	5	4	5	14

**FINAL RANK.**

Hanson 1st, Lynch 2d, Copeland 3d, Holt and Popham tie for 4th, Ham 5th.

**Law Department.**

Law Bulletin number twenty-two will soon be out.

Brady, L. '97, was called to his home at Dunlap, Wednesday, on account of illness in his family.

Judge Kinne, of the Supreme Court, is lecturing to the Seniors on "Master and Servant," and to the Juniors on "Domestic Relations."

Chancellor McClain spent part of the week in Des Moines on business connected with the new Iowa Code.

Chas. Watkins, '97, enjoyed a pleasant visit at Fort Madison this week.

B. A. Goodspeed, L. '98, was elected city solicitor of Atlantic last Tuesday.

Jesse F. Newhauser, ex-'97, expects to be back in school next term.

A. C. Mueller, '97, spent several days of this week at his home in Daventryport.

Professor Rohbach is kindly giving the Seniors a number of instructive quizzes in Corporation.

At a meeting of the Senior class, held on Wednesday afternoon, the class decided, by a large vote, to have their commencement pictures taken at Luscombe's. A couple of inquisitive Juniors, who endeavored to attend the meeting, discovered that brawn as well as brain was an element in a Senior's make-up:



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