

# The Vidette - Reporter.

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

VOL. 29.

IOWA CITY, IOWA, SATURDAY, APRIL 3, 1897.

NO. 69

## BACONIAN.

PAPER OF THE EVENING BY PROFESSOR NUTTING.

"The Fur Seal and the Seal Islands" was the subject upon which Professor Nutting entertained the Baconian Club last evening. The subject, and also the speaker's pleasing delivery, made the lecture exceptionally enjoyable.

The group to which the seal belongs is divided into two sub-groups, one of which includes the eared seal and the other the common seal of our eastern coast, without an external ear. The former is properly called the sea-lion, but the name "seal" has become so firmly fixed to it that it is impossible to rectify the wrong use of language. This sea-lion or fur seal has at present only two principal regions for breeding: one near the Kamchatkan coast and the other on the St. Paul and St. George Islands of the Pribilof group in the Bering sea. The nomenclature that is used in regard to the seal is badly mixed, and a peculiar one. The adult male is called a "bull," the adult female a "cow," the young seal a "pup," a three-year old male a "bachelor;" the females gathered together are called a "harem," and where the seals all congregate a "rookery."

Seal life at the islands is highly interesting. The period from March 1st to May 15th is signalized by the arrival of the "bachelors;" they have been spending the winter at sea in feeding. They go up on the "hauling grounds," not being allowed in the "rookeries." It is, indeed, the "bachelors" that have to suffer all around, for they are the ones that are killed for fur. Then the old males make their appearance; they are called "beach-masters." They take their station beside the beach and await the arrival of the females. Having taken their station, they remain there, without eating or drinking, for about three months. When the females come in June and July, each beach-master seizes by the neck as many of them as he can and puts them in his territory. This struggle after a harem causes a very rigid kind of selection to operate among the beach-masters; the result has been a survival of the fittest—the strongest. This explains the striking difference in size between the male and female. Professor Nutting told many other interesting facts about seal life, and the methods of killing the animals, but lack of space prevents an extended report.

Professor Rockwood reported on the danger of contracting disease by the use of unboiled milk as food. His remarks ought to make those who drink milk feel rather uneasy.

Professor Calvin told about a certain island off the coast of Greece, where there is a large river, which flows from the sea inland and disappears in the rocks—just the reverse of other rivers.

The University of California now has 35 scholarships, each of which are worth \$2,500, and are the gifts of private individuals. One man established 14 of them.

## Irving.

A good sized audience greeted the Irvings last night at their first meeting of the spring term. The ceremony of the installation of the new president was impressive, retiring-president Briggs turning over the gavel to President A. W. Hamann.

"College Oil Cans" was the subject of the first declamation by M. F. Clements, who fully brought out the pathos of the selection.

Under the title "Freaks in Legislation," Startman discussed the wave which has recently passed over the country causing legislators to propose such foolish measures as the compulsory painting of all freight cars red, and so on.

International bimetalism was the subject of debate, Henderson and Iverson maintaining that the United States should support it, Rue and Curtis disagreeing. The debate was well prepared, and the subject is one of the few in economics about which everyone knows enough to understand a discussion. In the opinion of two of the three judges, the United States should not support international bimetalism.

A humorous declamation by Loomis "The Frenchman's Flea-powder," and an oration by Ralph Otto, "Home," both excellently given, completed the program.

## The Forum.

After the installation of the following new officers, last night, the usual literary program was rendered: Pres., C. J. Lynch; Vice-Pres., A. Yonker; Rec. Sec., J. Watt; Cor. Sec., L. W. Dutcher; Treas., J. A. Hindman; Censor, E. A. Maxwell; Critic, M. Hilsinger; Sgt.-at-Arms, R. Cobb.

E. W. Smith presented the incoming president with the gavel, and he thanked the society for the honor conferred.

An "Eulogy of Wendell Phillips" was the subject of J. C. Hall's declamation.

The debate was as follows: "Resolved, that the general tendency to minimize competition through monopolies is an evil." Affirmed by Warner and Smith; denied by Durbin and Lynch.

"Prospects of the silver party in 1900" was the subject of the extemporaneous speech by O'Calligan.

The Cretan question was thoroughly handled by Mr. Cobb.

The debate was decided in favor of the negative.

In the annual debate between Yale and Harvard, last week, Yale was victorious. The debate was held at Cambridge, and Harvard's defeat was the second she has sustained in the history of debates between the two universities. The question for debate was chosen by Harvard, and Yale had the choice of sides. The question was: "Resolved, that the United States should adopt definitely the single gold standard, and should decline to enter a bimetallic league, even if Great Britain, France and Germany should be willing to enter such a league." The Yale debaters took the negative, and were greatly aided by William J. Bryau, who loaned them all of the literature and manuscript he had on the subject.

## Law Department.

E. M. Probosco, '97, is back at school this term.

E. O. Lewis, '97, spent his vacation with relatives in Vinton.

Frank Marquis, of Waterloo, has entered the Junior Law class.

Senior Laws will soon go through the ordeal of having their pictures taken.

J. B. Newman, '97, has recovered from his recent illness and is again at classes.

A number of the members of the Senior class are still spending their vacation.

The Junior Law class has made a number of acquisitions in the way of new students.

Rollins, L. '98, will not be in school this term. He is engaged in an office at Des Moines.

Judge Wade is giving his entertaining course of lectures to the Juniors. A goodly number of Seniors are present as visitors.

Several Collegiate students are finding it profitable to attend Chancellor McClain's instructive course of lectures in Constitutional Law.

The subjects at present considered by the Laws are: Seniors—Constitutional Law and Partnership. Juniors—Probate Law, Bills and Notes and Evidence.

## Zetagathian.

A fairly large audience assembled at Zet Hall on Friday evening. The program was opened by an appreciative vocal solo. President Crone, with a few timely remarks, then introduced president-elect R. G. Popham, whose inaugural address was a literary treat.

The following program was then rendered:

Declamation ..... McCord  
"Patriotism of 1776."

Debate—"Resolved, that the United States Senators should be elected by a direct vote of the people." Affirmative, Moody and Lovell; negative, Barth and Ogden.

Oration ..... Saunders  
"Greece."

Declamation ..... Speers  
"Leadville Jim."

Instrumental solo ..... Miss Switzer

## Notice.

Dr. Emerson E. White will give his eloquent and able lecture on "Prayer in the Light of Reason," in the Presbyterian Church next Sunday evening. Dr. White is one of the most interesting and powerful public speakers in the country. This lecture is one of his best. Students are cordially invited.

## Notice.

The Tennis Association will hold its annual election of officers next Monday evening at Close Hall at 7:30 o'clock. The buttons for the continuous tournament will be distributed at that time, and other important business will be transacted. All those interested in the future of tennis in the University should not fail to be present at this meeting.

HUGH H. SHEPARD, Treas.

## Interstate Debating.

The last number of the Nebraskan contained the following, bearing on a proposed plan for an Interstate Debating League:

"The policy of the University always has been and we trust always will be, to remain at the fore in college undertakings. The latest move on the part of the University is the steps taken by the local debating association to perfect an interstate debating league between the Universities of Minnesota, Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska. The officers of our debating association are taking the lead in this matter, and they hope to carry their plan to completion before the close of the college year. The prospects are very favorable to organizing a league, as the above named universities have taken kindly to the proposal. The league will be formed on a plan similar to that between Harvard, Yale and Princeton Universities. The latter have been carrying on a series of discussions which have aroused a great deal of enthusiasm and have merited the attention of leading educators as well as the praise of the press. The New England public speaks highly of the debates, and it certainly has given a great impulse to encourage them among other universities. College debating is gradually supplanting oratory. It is the friendly, social and intellectual rivalry of the future. The necessity of cultivating it is apparent. In truth many of the foremost universities devote no less to it than to any other course of study. It is indeed fitting that western universities should rank along side of Harvard and Yale in the practice of this art. Every effort should be made to perfect such a league."

A suggestion was recently made by the Student Record of the U. of N. that college papers should form some kind of association for the purpose of discussing college and economic questions. The idea is that the president assign a subject and then in a certain issue that it be discussed by the different papers. The idea appears to be an excellent one. There are colleges scattered over the whole United States, and by general discussion of any subject the thought peculiar to each locality can be brought out for examination by the students of other parts. Such a condition would tend to draw college journals together and decrease the tendency for each paper to spend its thoughts and make its comments on subjects of its own school exclusively. Besides that, and most important of all, it would be the means of drawing out deeper, more serious thought than ordinary college journals are accustomed to express. College journals should give the home news to the student, but we think they should also give them something to think earnestly about.—Ex

The date of the athletic meet and carnival to be held at Chicago has been changed from April 19 to 24 inclusive, to the first or second week in May. A definite date will be decided upon soon by the Chicago Athletic Association, under whose management the affair is to be held.

**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,  
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Too often when partial success has been achieved we are wont to cease striving as earnestly as before. Those who have the satisfaction of knowing that they made good grades during the fall and winter terms need remember that the year is not yet finished, and that the possibility of a poor year's work is still open.

We are glad to note the enthusiastic manner in which our base ball team has been working in order to perfect itself for the coming season. The schedule of games is without doubt the best that has ever been made here, and our team promises to be fully as strong as any that ever represented us. During the vacation week the team has been practicing on the Athletic Park, but owing to the numerous rains they will be compelled to meet Knox College with very little field practice. It is not likely that the Knox team has had any better advantages in field work than has our own. At any rate, we know that our team is going to be a good one, and we hope to see the first game realized as a victory for our own players and for us. We would like to see the reputation for winning established in this first game and see it continued with each subsequent game throughout the season.

As seen elsewhere in our columns a movement has been inaugurated at the University of Nebraska to perfect an interstate debating league. We do not know of any communication to that effect having been received here. It certainly would not be consistent with our policy during the past to frown down such a proposition. The reprinted article says "College debating is gradually supplanting oratory."

This is true, and Iowa's record in debating shows plainly that she is keeping a firm hold upon the tendencies of the times. We would advocate the advisability of fostering and cultivating the growth of this forensic ability not merely because Harvard, Yale, and other schools of the east are doing so, but because we can see for ourselves that the development of this capacity is invaluable to the leading men of to-day. It is, in fact, one of the features that characterizes their leadership. Iowa has demonstrated that she can stand as high or above the largest schools in the west, when it comes to the clash of arguments in intercollegiate debate. Our young ladies were refused an opportunity to measure mental strength with the young ladies of Wisconsin. It is not likely that Iowa will refuse to take a hand in the formation of an interstate league as proposed, though a part of her debating talent is already absorbed in administering an annual defeat to both the Chicago University and the University of Minnesota.

The officers of the Athletic Union have made arrangements, according to which every student in the University will be approached on the matter of a contribution toward lifting their indebtedness. It is intended to be a thorough canvass. Every student, male or female, is expected to give something. The subscriptions are provisional, that is, no one will be held as debtor for his subscribed amount unless a certain aggregate sum is obtained. Eleven men have already agreed to give five dollars apiece, providing twenty can be found who will give that amount.

This matter is imperative and must be settled at once, for this reason: We have a game of base ball scheduled for April 12. We have been told that no athletic team will be allowed to appear as a representative University organization until assurance is given that the debt will be paid.

We know that the statements of several members of the Faculty that if the students take up these subscription lists favorably, and manifest enough interest to contribute something toward removing the present barrier, they, and other members of the Faculty as well, will contribute toward the same cause themselves. But until the interest in and the desire for representation on the athletic field this spring become more general among the students, they do not feel it their duty to subscribe from their own means toward removing the debt which the students themselves have incurred.

Let every one who is approached be considerate of the real condition of affairs. Don't put your canvasser off until some other time. One time is just as good as another, and if you are kind and generous enough to give anything, give it the first time you are asked.

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**Fact and Rumor.**

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

Zets initiated Hawk, '99, last night. Irvings initiated Phillips last evening.

Ethel Charlton, '96, has returned for a short visit.

Sopha Moore entertained the Kappas Thursday night.

Misses Swalm and Loring spent their vacation in Oskaloosa.

Drill will be at 1:15 to 2:15 this term, the same as the fall term.

Robert Johnson, '00, was unable to be in school during the winter term, has returned.

Owing to the present high water it will be some time before the track will be in condition.

Margaret Safely, '00, was unable to return at the beginning of the term, on account of sickness.

The Erodolphians and Hesperians will hold a joint literary contest Saturday evening, April 10.

Irvings elected Lester E. Switzer, and Zetagathians, Frank Wells, as Freshman members of the Lecture Bureau.

T. G. McDermott, L. '96, now practicing in Mason City, writes that he has complied with the Chancellor's instructions and "won his first case."

The Omaha Evening World-Herald, of April 1, contains an extensive review of college athletics in Iowa. It praises S. U. I's new association, and speaks favorably of her chances of winning the cup at the meet at Des Moines.

**CALL ON BLOOM & MAYER FOR CLOTHING AND HATS.**

Mary Alford, '95, one of Waterloo's efficient teacher, is in the city, the guest of her sister Della.

Polygon gave a very pleasing and enjoyable spread in the Zetagathian Hall on Thursday evening.

Dr. J. W. Cunningham, M. '97, has left for his new location in Franklin county, Iowa, after a brief visit here, having stopped off on his way from Letts.

John V. Crum has issued a neat booklet, copies of which have been received from the capital by some of his old University friends in this city. It contains numerous testimonials in regard to the virtue of Johnny's great remedy, "Rub Out." "Among the many testimonials contained in its pages appear such familiar names as "Dad" Moulton and Frank Gunsolus.

The campus looked like old times yesterday. Despite the hard rain of the day before the officers of the battalion found the ground firm enough to walk upon, so the four companies, which have been cooped up in narrow quarters through the winter months, had the pleasure of executing company movements, the first time this year. The two batteries also joined in the play, though they, as usual, were more modest, and were satisfied to have the buildings conceal their more cumbersome manouvres.

The Iowa Historical Record for April is an excellent number. Among the most interesting articles of this number is a sketch, founded on fact, by Professor T. H. McBride, entitled "Building the First School House." Still another valuable article is "The First Home of the University, written by Dr. J. L. Pickard. This is but a condensed statement of facts, but it embodies in a page and three-quarters answers to numerous questions which have been asked by curious people recently with regard to the old Mercy Hospital, the "Home" referring to that recently destroyed landmark.

Michigan has just offered a six-year combined literary course. The literary course contains a little law and considerable work in Economics and history, and the last two years are devoted to law exclusively.

The old Washington Hall in Durham, which is supposed by some to have been the seat of George Washington's ancestors, has been bought by an American for only \$2,000. It is picturesque and full of rheumatism.

The University of Illinois and Beloit College are in a wrangle over the payment of a guarantee. The Illinois ball team played at Beloit last spring; the game broke up, and Beloit refused to pay the guarantee of gate money to the visiting team. The matter was referred to Caspar Whitney, whose decision favored Illinois. Beloit promised to pay in case the decision was against it, but has failed to do so.-Ex.

**Deafness Cannot be Cured**

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