

The Vidette - Reporter.

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

VOL. 30.

IOWA CITY, IOWA, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1898.

NO. 50

Mass Meeting To-night. Close Hall at 6:30 Sharp.

The object of this meeting is to ascertain the sentiment of the student body relative to the recent suspensions in the Sophomore Class. Every student in every department in the University is urgently requested to attend.

ATHLETIC UNION.

ENTHUSIASTIC MEETING AT CLOSE HALL.

Last Saturday evening the largest and most enthusiastic meeting since the organization of the Athletic Union was held at Close Hall.

The auditorium was well filled when President Frailey called the meeting to order. Treasurer O'Connor made a report on the financial condition of the Union, stating that with the membership fees already collected, and those which they were certain of obtaining, would liquidate the last fall's debt, and that plans were on foot for paying a share of the old debt.

"Joe" Meyers was unanimously elected President of the State Athletic Union, and in response to the cries for "speech," made a neat address on athletic prospects at S. U. I. Munger, L. '99, McKee, L. '99, and McCutchen, '00, were the candidates for manager of next year's foot ball team. The first ballot resulted in the election of Mr. Munger.

A committee was appointed to amend the Constitution to provide for assistant managers.

Mr. W. H. Bremner, who has so efficiently represented S. U. I. at Des Moines, was elected to make arrangements for the State Field Meet, to be held there this spring.

Communication.

EDITOR VIDETTE-REPORTER:

In behalf of the students of S. U. I. let me, an outside observer, say a few words about the recent expulsion.

A crowd of students, mostly Sophs, hired a rig and took a couple of young women students for a ride. There were some others who wanted to go but couldn't; there wasn't room. Nobody was hurt, everybody had a good time, there was no drinking or carousing of any kind, and the Freshmen got safely back and are the "heroes" of the hour. They are "actually glad they were taken."

Some young lady students, mostly Sophs, hired a rig and took a couple of young women students for a ride. There were some others who wanted to go, but there wasn't room. By an accident, owing entirely to an outside cause, one of the young ladies was very badly injured, so severely that she has been obliged to keep to the house. The doctor has prophesied that she will be well in a short time. She has received innumerable boxes of candies, flowers, etc., from her friends, and been given every expression of sympathy they have for her welfare. She herself complains not.

Now, where does the trouble arise? It arises from the uncle of the in-

jured girl, and two professors and one instructor in the University. The result is this: a crowd of young students, every one of them under 21 years of age, are suspended.

In the large Eastern colleges the Freshman banquet is an immense affair. I will venture to say that if this article comes to the eye of an Eastern college president or graduate, and he sees on what "very insignificant" grounds these students are suspended, a smile will come to him. If the Eastern schools expelled students on such "very insignificant" grounds, there would be "no school."

And now in closing let me ask you was this suspension? Was it needed? Did it do any good? The reason is this: There is so little excitement in this small city that when anything does happen, it is looked at with enlarged eyes, and that is the reason that these students are made to go home disgraced, possibly for life.

A GRADUATE OF S. U. I.

Erodelphians Entertain.

The Erodelphians received the members of the other literary societies of the Collegiate and Law departments Saturday evening. The two halls were attractively decorated with the Society colors—apple green and pink, and large bouquets of carnations presented by Rev. Gordon. The Faculty and wives; the resident alumni, Erodelphians and Forums were first received; then the Hesperians, Zetaphians and Philomatheans came, and in turn were followed by the Hammonds and Irvings. Dainty refreshments were served throughout the evening.

The Erodelphians showed themselves to be delightful entertainers, and everyone regretted the approach of the hour when they were to leave, and many lingered over their time, and departed wishing that such gatherings were more frequent occurrences in the 'Varsity.

Philomathean.

The following excellent program was rendered by Philo, Friday evening:

Music.....Guitar and Mandolin Solo
Miss Morgan and Mrs. Lenz.

Declamation.....W F Beard
"The Editor's Gas."

Speech.....C W Humphrey
"Fiction."

Debate: "Resolved, that Hawaii should be annexed to the United States immediately."

Affirmative: H A Angus, C W Soesbe; negative, P A Bond, F S Bailey.

Declamation.....C W Jarvis
"The Aged Stranger."

Music.

This was Mr. Soesbe's first appearance. He promises to make a valuable member.

NEW FOOT BALL RULES.

OPINION OF SEVERAL COLLEGE PAPERS ON THE SUBJECT.

The following is what the Brown Daily Herald thinks of the changes in the foot ball rules:

"The revision of foot ball rules in either the east or west, without reference to the country as a whole, it seems to us, is unfortunate. Seven universities in the west have under consideration certain altered rules of the game, and while the changes are not sweeping, they are not in accord with the eastern rules. No doubt before many seasons there will have to be a conference of all American colleges in the interests of uniformity."

The Harvard Crimson says: "Revised western foot ball rules, prepared by Professors A. A. Stagg of Chicago University, and A. P. Everett of the University of Illinois, were sent out recently. The rules must now be submitted to the seven universities which united in appointing the committee. Alterations in the rules are less sweeping than many expected. The vital change is that radically altering the present system of scoring. The goal after a touchdown is fixed to count for only one additional point, the drop kick for four, the place kick for three and the safety for two. There is no requirement for seven men in the line, but it is provided that if two linemen are drawn back of the line, they shall be outside of the line of scrimmage. Another safeguard against roughness is that imposing a distance penalty for laying hands on opponents before the ball is put into play. An important alteration also is that permitting to the side scored on the choice of kick-off."

The Wisconsin Cardinal says editorially, in regard to the new foot ball rules: "It is not likely that Wisconsin will take cognizance of the foot ball rules as laid out by Stagg and Everett, except in so far as they agree with the results of the eastern conference which will be held in New York on February 12. As we predicted, the attempts on the part of Chicago to establish in the west, rules different from those in the east has failed. While there are some good points in the new rules, the revision as a whole is incompetent, and will not prove acceptable to most western colleges. North-western has already expressed her disapproval of the revision, while the antagonism of Wisconsin and Michigan to any strictly western rules is well known. Without the support of these three important institutions the rules will never go into effect. Wisconsin maintains that there is no need of separate rules for the west, and will wait for, and abide by the eastern rules."

Baconian.

The session was devoted to voluntary reports of associate members, and for two hours or more they came "voluntarily" from all quarters making one of the most interesting programs of the year.

Dr. Bullock led with a talk on "The George, Junior Republic," a venture begun by Mr. W. S. George, of New York, in 1891, and directed toward the improvement of the youth of New York, by giving actual practical experience in those things which pertain to American citizenship—self government, business, religious observances, and educational institutions all managed by the colony of 200 boys and girls. The Doctor characterized it as an experiment in Penology, Charity, Pedagogy and Business.

Miss Ethel Golden followed with an interesting sketch of the life and work of Linnie Hagnewood, the blind mute of Vinton, Ia., who has been considerably talked of lately.

Dr. Barrett then spoke of the recent discovery of an ancient Babylonian manuscript giving a story of the deluge, written in cuneiform characters, and dated about 2140 B. C., and is itself in turn a copy of a still more antiquated record of the story. The story essentially agrees with that of the Bible. The Doctor's talk was highly appreciated.

P. C. Myers reported on "Photomicrography," explaining the combination recently used by Professor Gates, whereby he obtained a magnification of 350,000 diameter. Mr. Meyer showed a blood corpuscle magnified 3000 diameters.

Mr. Lorenz, of the physical laboratory, showed some interesting methods of producing rotary motion by alternating electric currents. This subject is highly interesting because of its possibilities, and is the scheme now in use in the great motor plant at Niagara Falls for using its power at a distance.

T. E. Savage next entertainingly told of his experiences while collecting, last summer, in the vicinity of Ironton and Pilot Knob, Missouri. He also gave much of interest of the botanical life and geology of the region which is peculiar in many respects.

Dr. Shambaugh followed with a talk on "The Latest Original Package Case," which was recently decided in Cedar Rapids.

H. E. Kelly closed the program with a report on "The Harvard English Reports," which is of interest because it calls attention to a serious shortcoming in our preparatory schools.

Taken in all, the program by the "associates was a decided success."

The Vidette - Reporter

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The Faculty and the Sophomores.

The decision finally arrived at by the Faculty in the Freshman banquet affair, and the consequent indefinite suspension of twenty-three members of the Sophomore class have long ere now become a common topic of discussion, not only in the University, but throughout the entire state.

That the whole matter was thoroughly considered by the Faculty before any action was taken, and that the offenders implicated merited some sort of a reprimand or punishment, are both undeniable facts. But it is impossible for us to see in any light that the offense of the Sophomores called for the penalty inflicted upon them.

The acts for which the present suspensions occurred are no worse than those that have annually taken place in the past. True, there were a number of suspensions growing out of the Freshman banquet in 1895, but in that year matters were carried to a degree incomparably worse. Outside of a deplorable accident that was nothing more than an ACCIDENT, nothing of a really serious nature resulted in this affair. The persons "kidnapped," "abducted," "frozen to death," and "generally maltreated," are the very ones that have no complaint to make. The entire fiasco, with all its cheap notoriety and tempest-in-the-teapot spectacularism, is the result of the unscrupulous misrepresentations of a certain portion of the local press that delights in nothing so much as to exaggerate and place in a false light any occurrence that can embarrass the welfare of the University.

As a result of these false reports sent all over the state, the Faculty probably felt forced into some decis-

ive action. That the action taken was decisive is certainly true, but that it will result in any permanent good or in any sentiment of respect for college discipline, is seriously to be questioned.

We do not desire to be understood as not believing that some punishment should have been meted out, but student sentiment, at least, does not, and can not regard a policy rushing to the utmost extreme of radicalism as a wise or an acceptable one. If the culprits were guilty, punish them as their crime deserved, but to "butcher them to make a Roman holiday," to "make an example," and to appease a certain class of calamity howlers throughout the state, is not fair to the students concerned, nor just on the part of the Faculty. We desire to repeat again, that we do not believe that such drastic and unreasonable measures as this will ever increase or facilitate a better discipline among any students that are thinking men and women.

Above all, the influence of the Faculty's decision upon those personally affected by it, is harmful beyond computation. To most of these it means a forced abandonment of future University connection, and in many cases will change the entire course of their lives. It means a loss to this University of the services and friendships of many that it can ill afford to lose, and in return, we gain nothing except a most enviable newspaper advertising and "fame."

We do not doubt that the Faculty believed that its decision was in accordance with public sentiment in this state. But we are convinced that public opinion does not call for this decision, and that not only student sentiment but that of the thinking classes of all Iowa would gladly welcome a mitigation in the severity of the Faculty's action.

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sale will be continued for two weeks,
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FACT AND RUMOR.

Professor Veblen is again able to
meet his Physics class.

Mrs. Ridgway is cataloging the
books in the Medical library.

Miss Plum, '01, is unable to attend
classes on account of sickness.

Miss Loner, of Mt. Vernon, was the
guest of Miss Foster, Monday.

Miss Rhodes, of Burlington, has
been visiting Miss Schultz, the past
week.

Fred Horton, D. '97, now located in
Tama, spent Sunday and Monday in
the city.

The Glee and Mandolin Clubs will
give their concert Monday evening,
Feb. 21.

The petition to mitigate the sen-
tence of the Sophomores has over 500
signers.

The class in Economics had a final
examination in Dunbar's Banking,
Monday.

A small company of students drove
out to the home of Ferson on Satur-
day evening.

The Pi Phi's will give the other
ladies' fraternities a sleighing party
this evening.

Furnished rooms for rent. Furnace
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The Freshmen and Sophomores both
held meetings yesterday to consider
the recent Faculty action. They de-
cided to all attend the mass meeting
to-night.

CALL ON BLOOM & MAYER FOR CLOTHING AND HATS.

Miss Bessie Parker will give on next Saturday evening the entertainment which was postponed from last term. Admission 25c.

J. L. Quinn, L. '97, has formed a partnership with R. J. Wells, at Sioux Falls, S. D. The Argus-Leader of that city says: "The firm of Wells & Quinn is now one of the strongest in the city."

Base Ball Schedule.

Base ball men will be governed by the following schedule for "gym" work:

- Monday, 1 to 2.30.
Reynolds, Phillips, Johnson, Sheuerman, Thorn, Dye, Webber.
- Tuesday, 1 to 2.30.
Remley, Phillips, Johnson, McKee, Yates, Sargent, Hampson, Munger, Dye.
- Wednesday, 1 to 2.
Lovell, Sargent, Meister, Hamson, Thorn, Munger, Webber.
- Thursday, 1 to 2.
Larrabee, Dykins, Sheuerman, McGuire, Hearst, Williams.
- Friday, 1 to 2.
Reynolds, Remley, Yates, Dye.
- Saturday, 1st hour.
Reynolds, Remley, Lovell, Sheuerman, McKee, Hearst, Williams, Meister.
- 2d hour.
Larrabee, Dykins, McGuire, Sargent, Hampson, Munger.
- Saturday hours to be announced later.
- Practice Hours — Optional.
Goodeough, Lowry (Medic), Lowry (Dent), Fairall.

The above are all the names which have been handed in up to this time. There are many more candidates in the University, and they are requested to hand in their names at once, and get their assignments for practice.

Those students who have laboratory work and recitations during practice hours can use their own option as to time of practice. Their hour is designated as "optional" in the list of assignments.

F. A. O'CONNOR, Capt.

The Forum.

The following program was presented last Friday evening by the Forum Society, to an attentive and appreciative audience:

- "Present Conditions in China," Mr. Edson
 - "Physical Culture Among Women," Miss E. M. Rigby
 - Debate: "Are the benefits of party government greater than the evils?"
Affirmative, Messrs. Phillips and Watts Negative, Messrs. Blackmore and Dilley.
 - Vocal Solo W. A. Smith
 - "History of Equity Jurisprudence," Mr. Hackler
- Each number was deserving of the greatest praise, not only for the thoroughness of preparation, but also for the easy and natural manner in which it was given.

The Forum in the two years of its existence has grown to be one of the best societies in the University, and it numbers among its members men and women whose ambition it is to be noted public speakers, and whose ability will carry them to the goal of their ambition. It is an interesting fact that this society has more college graduates than any other society, and indeed probably more than all other societies in the University combined.



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