

# The Vidette - Reporter.

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NO. 65

## College-High School.

ADDRESS BY ALBERT E. EGGE, AT  
STATE TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION,  
DES MOINES, DEC. 26-28.

*Continued from last issue.*

So far I have mentioned the studies which, in my opinion, ought to be included in every high school course, and have touched briefly on some of the main principles on which the methods of instruction ought to be based, all of which may perhaps seem to be beside the question.

To come nearer to the subject in hand. As far as the high school is preparatory to the college, the college should have the power to prescribe the studies required for that purpose, beyond those I have mentioned, as well as to fix the minimum limit to which each study should be carried.

(By college I mean the Collegiate Department of the State University of Iowa and other colleges in the state of as high a standard. But as the University is a public school, and the other colleges are private, it follows that as far as laying down rules for the public high schools is concerned, the University, which is at the head of the public school system of the state, should have the final decision in this matter).

The University of Missouri has recently published a "Revised Course of Study" for the "approved schools" of that state, and something of a similar nature is needed in Iowa.

A uniform scheme of studies ought to be made out by the University and the department of public instruction, and every high school, intending to fit pupils for entering the University should conform to this scheme. Everything else—the length of the high school curriculum beyond a certain limit, the number of courses in the curriculum, the number of studies in any one course beyond those required for entrance to the University—is clearly a matter to be left to the decision of each local board.

At present graduates of high schools are admitted to the University on certificate. This might be a good practice if all high schools brought their pupils up to a certain minimum standard in the studies required. But as far as at least as English is concerned the practice is not very satisfactory. As any one can see by examining a few catalogues, the work prescribed in the college preparatory course of the various high schools differs greatly. In some there is less than one year's work in English, in others English is a full study through the whole or nearly the whole course. Similar discrepancies are found also as regards Latin and other studies. Besides, it may be taken for granted that not all the high schools carry out conscientiously all the work outlined in their schedules, and the efficiency of the teachers may also vary. At any rate the difference in the ability to write English among the hundred and thirty or more Freshmen we get every year, is incredibly great. A large number miss-spell such common words as too, their, until, and have only very dim notions as to the use of the comma, the period, and

other marks of punctuation, and other marks of punctuation, and hardly more than half can be said to write with clearness and approximate correctness on even very simple themes. Yet they are all admitted on equal terms and consequently put into the same class, the teacher trying to do his best for all. The result is that the well prepared, of whom there are some every year, do not get work adapted to their level, and the poorest are quite as badly off, for the University does not pretend to and cannot undertake to do the work that should have been done in the grammar grades. Every pupil who passes through the grammar school should be better prepared in English, at least in spelling, punctuating and capitalizing than are many of the students who apply for admission to the University; and there are schools in the state doing better work in the grammar grades than others do in the higher grades.

It is therefore evident that it would be to the best interests of all concerned that the University require all high schools to bring their pupils up to a certain minimum limit in the studies necessary for entrance, and that until this is realized, if not longer, no high school graduate be admitted to the University, except by examination. This would be fairer to the graduates of high schools doing excellent work, as they would not have to take over again studies in which they might already be sufficiently grounded, and it would also tend to bring the other schools up to a high standard. But even if the present practice of admitting on certificate graduates of all high schools having a three years' college preparatory course be continued, it seems that it would be well, at least, to require all Freshmen to pass an examination in English, whereby capable and well-prepared students might escape being put into the same class with the common crowd, for whom much of the work in Freshman English is designed. The matter, of course belongs exclusively under the control of the University, yet it may be of enough public interest to deserve public comment.

To recapitulate: Every graduate of a high school course should have received a adequate instruction in all the studies essential to a practical education. As far as the high school curriculum or any of its courses is intended to prepare pupils for entrance to college, the college should have the exclusive right to determine, not only what further studies shall be considered requisite for that purpose, but also to fix the minimum degree to which each shall be pursued.

As far as the high school curriculum is not preparatory for entrance to college, the college has of course nothing to say in the matter of arranging courses except to give advice.

In the present state of the case there is urgent need for the University to prepare a uniform scheme of studies and to require all the high schools to conform to that scheme if they wish to prepare pupils for entrance to the University.

In conclusion it may be well to call

attention to Professor W. F. Cramer's suggestion that the state ought to provide for the proper instruction of high schools. This supervision ought to be made under the auspices of the department of public instruction, or of the State University, or of both in conjunction.

## Baconian.

Lieutenant Vogdes read the paper of Friday evening of last week on the subject, "An Historical Sketch of Infantry Tactics." The essayist began his history with the introduction of the musket, for up to that time foot-soldiers were of little use in actual battle, the fighting being done chiefly by horsemen. Strategy, in its essential features, remains unchanged since the earliest times, but new conditions, such as changes in the character of weapons, alter the tactics employed. Before the introduction of the musket, the infantry, even those armed with the cross-bow, were held in disrepute, and little dependence was placed upon them. They were employed in masses and heavy formations.

In 1528 the musket replaced the cross-bow, but the weapon of that date was a clumsy affair weighing 16 or 17 pounds, and had to be fired from a rest. It was not until the middle of the 16th century that this arm acquired any degree of prominence.

About this time it was found necessary to change the formation of the troops in action, as the dense columns afforded a target for cannon fire. The musket fire was slow, and pikemen were retained with the infantry for shock action, which was still depended on at the critical moment.

Gustavus Adolphus, 1611-1622, introduced many improvements in organization, among them that of firing by ranks, one rank retiring through the intervals in the other to load. The wheel lock now replaced the match-lock, but was also a very clumsy weapon, requiring 94 movements to load.

After the Thirty Years' War the line formation in four ranks was adopted by European armies. In 1700 the flint lock and bayonet were introduced.

Frederick the Great departed still further from the mass formation by reducing the ranks to three. His forces were disposed in two lines, 300 paces apart, the second line becoming involved in the action very soon after the first. His armies were encamped and marched in battle formation.

In 1743 the "front into line" movement was invented, enabling troops to be brought into line of battle from column. Skirmishers were first employed during the American Revolution. The idea originated in the sending forward of men who, though unskilled as soldiers, were accurate marksmen, to harass the enemy and to draw their fire. The value of this principle was appreciated by the French officers in America at the time, and was by them introduced into France, where the principle was fully developed.

Napoleon again revolutionized the tactics of European armies, evolving the system of perpendicular tactics,

which he used so persistently. The army with him was the integer and the battalion the chief subdivision. The change was retrograde, however, from extension to concentration. Shock action in heavy columns with the bayonet, preceded by heavy fire of artillery, was depended on. Though successful for a time this system proved disastrous in the Crimean War.

In the American War of Secession, military science made rapid advances. Among the important principles then evolved were: First, the attack by rushes, first used by Morgan L. Smith, at Donelson; second, the employment of skirmishers armed with effective rifles; third, the introduction of the breech-loading rifle, and fourth, the use of hasty entrenchments.

In the Franco-Prussian war both armies were provided with breech-loading rifles, those of the French being superior. Less reliance was placed upon the principle of shock action and more upon fire action. The German armies were formed in line of company columns, supported by company or battalion columns in the second line. The enemy's position was virtually carried by swarms of skirmishers continually reinforced.

The present tendency is toward the extended order and accurate fire. Improvements in the rifle, and the invention of smokeless powder, tend to still further modify the tactics. The use of smokeless powder will conceal the position of batteries, and prevent both parties from finding the range. The moral effect upon men of seeing comrades falling around them without being able to locate the source of the fire, must also be considered.

Professor McBride offered a voluntary report on a novel pocket camera which he introduced.

## Commencement.

The various commencement exercises, next week, will be held as follows:

Dental Department—On Monday, March 11, at 7:30 p. m. Professor C. S. Chase, of Waterloo, will deliver the address, on "Good Citizenship."

Homeopathic Medical Department—Tuesday, March 12, at 8 o'clock p. m. Address by Rev. Dr. S. N. Watson, subject, "The Ethics of the Profession."

Medical Department—Wednesday, March 13, at 7 o'clock p. m. Address by Hon. James H. Trewin, of Lansing, Iowa.

Pharmaceutical Department—Wednesday evening, March 13.

## Notice.

There will be a very important meeting of the art amateurs of the University at the new Dental building, Monday, March 11th, at 4 p. m. You are cordially invited to attend.

At the meeting of the Germania a paper "Wilhelm Meister," was read by Miss Houser, and an illustrated report, "Star-fish and Serpent-stars," was given by Mr. Ditzen. Mr. Radasch was elected president, Mr. Page vice-president, and Mr. Ditzen secretary and treasurer. This was the last meeting of the term.



Iowa City Station as follows:  
Train for Cedar Rapids, 7:15 a.m.  
Train for Des Moines, 7:30 a.m.  
Train for Burlington, 9:30 a.m.  
Train for Riverside, 10:30 a.m.  
Train for Elmira, Cedar Rapids, 10:50 a.m.  
Train for Clinton, 11:30 a.m.  
Train for Davenport, 12:05 p.m.  
Train for Muscatine, 1:30 p.m.  
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By the end of next week the majority of the Medical and Dental students will have left us. Their presence will be missed among the students, as their number has reached such proportions as to make them a prominent part of the student body. It has been said in years past that the students of these departments took no interest in affairs which did not concern their departments, but the same cannot be said to-day. They have shown an equal interest with the other students in every worthy University concern. We hope that next year will bring them back in increased numbers.

The concert given by the Glee Club the other evening demonstrated the fact that there was good musical talent in the University, and that sufficient practice would bring it out. We have several times urged the organizing of a permanent glee club in the University, believing that the best results can only be obtained by having a permanent organization. We believe that if some persons who will be here next year were put at the head of such an organization, and efforts were made early in the season, a very respectable glee club could be developed by the holiday season. Such an entertainment given at that time of the year would in all probabilities draw a much better house than at the present time. Unfortunately the audience at the entertainment the other evening was not as large as it should have been, but it was due to no fault of the glee club. Furthermore the audience, although small, was composed of people whose presence are appreciated at such an entertainment. It is to be hoped that the members will not feel discouraged at the financial success of their recent attempt. We believe that such an organization can be carried on successfully financially as well as otherwise.

**Schedule of Examinations.**

The following is a schedule of the examinations for the winter term:

**THURSDAY, MARCH 14.**

1:30-3:30 p. m. Greek I, Roman Hist. (Plum), 8 o'clock division, German II A, French II, Calculus XI, Railway Location, Physics IX, Systematic Zoology, English IX, German I A, Special Mathematics, Politics IV, V and 2.

3:30-5:30.—Latin 3, English I, 8 o'clock division, English III, 8 o'clock division, Med. Hist. (Wilcox), French III.

**FRIDAY, MARCH 15.**

8-10 a. m.—Latin 2, Geology V, English X, Psychology, German II 2 B, French I A, Mathematics I A, Greek 3, English I, 9 o'clock division, Limes and Cements, German I B, Astronomy XVII.

10-12 m.—English III, 9 o'clock division, and IV, Drawing, Engineering, 9-12 division.

1:30-3:30.—Greek 2, Geology II, English V, Steam Engine, German I C, French I B, Mathematics I B, Pedagogy II, Latin I A, Eng. Hist. 3, Med. and Mod. Philosophy, German II C, Analytical Geom. VII, Calculus VIII.

**MONDAY, MARCH 18.**

8-10 a. m.—Greek Poets, English I, 11 o'clock division, German III, French I C, Applied Mechanics, Economics 3 and 4, Currency and Banking, Cl. Pol. Econ., Latin I B, San. Engineering, German I D, Physics II, Mathematics I C.

10-12 m.—German IV 4, Latin Phil B 2, History of Education IV.

1:30-3:30 p. m.—U. S. History, An. Morphol., Chemistry (1:30 5:30), Mathematics I D, Botany III, Roman History (Plum).

**TUESDAY, MARCH 19**

8-10 a. m.—Hist. Europe 19th Century, Mathematics I E, Latin Phil. B I, Engineering 1:30-4:20 division, English III A.

The regular daily recitations and lectures, as also the chapel exercises and drill, will end Thursday 12 m.

The legal fraternity of Phi Delta Phi initiated Judge Ryan as an honorary member last Wednesday night. After the ceremony, in which Judges Kinne and Robinson of the Supreme Court, and Professors McClain and Rohbach presided, a banquet was served, at which Judge Wade acted as toastmaster. Judge Ryan is conducting a Moot court for the Senior Law class, and adds another popular personage to the Faculty of that department.

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Fact and Rumor.  
Chas. S. Aldrich is enjoying a visit from his sister.  
Jeff Sayers, '97, is confined to his home with illness.  
The Phi Psis had their picture taken Wednesday.  
Miss Amy Zimmerman is receiving a visit from her sister.  
Missionary Circle will meet at Close Hall to-morrow at 3 o'clock.  
If the weather is fair Monday there will probably be dress parade.  
Miss Mary Russell, of Tipton, spent Thursday with friends in the city.  
Warren Miller, Law '94, has been elected city attorney of Independence.  
Dr. Gilchrist was unable to give his examinations Thursday on account of sickness.  
B F. Thomas was confined to his room the latter part of this week by sickness.  
"Dad" Moulton is back ready for work. Collins, the professional runner, is with him.  
Geo. A. Fracker is having a week's vacation from teaching, and is spending it in the city.  
The Medical and Dental banquets to be given next week promise to be brilliant social events.  
The Junior Laws will be examined in Sales on next Saturday and in Torts on the following Tuesday.

LATEST STYLE HATS AND FURNISHING GOODS AT BLOOM & MAYERS.

Judge Kinne and Judge Robinson, of the Supreme Court, were present at the Phi Delta Phi initiation Wednesday evening.

The last Y. W. C. A. business meeting of the term was held Wednesday evening at 7 o'clock, and followed by a sociable and tea.

Mrs. Jennie L. Wilson, Law '93, who has recently been practicing law in Des Moines, is now travelling for the Hatch Hotel Directory Co.

Dr. T. L. Hazard will address the Young Men's Meeting in Close Hall to-morrow afternoon at 4 o'clock. An urgent invitation is given to all young men to be present.

Polygon initiated Messrs. Hardman, Shorett, and Miss Safford, Thursday evening. A delightful spread was given in honor of Messrs. Hanson and Moon and the new members.

The article which appears in this paper written by Dr. Egge was an address given at the State Teachers' Association, at Des Moines, last December, and not last week, as stated in our last issue.

The Hesperian Society elected the following officers for the spring term: Pres., Gertrude Howell; Vice-Pres., Ella Jones; Rec. Sec., Margaret Van Meter; Cor. Sec., Mary Hornbrook; Critic, Pearl Collins. Marion Davies was elected as June Orator.

**Documentary Material Relating to the History of Iowa.**

Benjamin F. Shambaugh, A. M. '93, whose work on the early institutional history of Iowa we have had occasion to notice favorably before in these columns, is now collecting and editing, in a series of bulletins which are being published by the State Historical Society, the "Documentary Material Relating to the History of Iowa." Number one has just reached us, and contains the treaty by which the United States acquired Louisiana, the act authorizing the President to take possession, Governor Clairborne's proclamation and address, the act dividing Louisiana into two territories, and providing for their temporary government, and the laws enacted by the governor and judges of the Territory of Indiana for the District of Louisiana.

The general nature of the publication can thus be seen from the number just issued to be not unlike that of Stubbs' "Select Charters" or Preston's "Documents Illustrative of American History." To those who are acquainted with these latter works comment as to the future value for Iowa of such a collection is unnecessary. Such collections must form the foundation and the framework of the history of the countries to which they refer.

The knowledge of Iowa's history has heretofore been confined to "merely antiquarian or geneological efforts, or to the presentation of interesting reminiscences," "economic and industrial development, the growth of institutions, principles of political organization, the content of administration, finance, etc." have been neglected. It is to remedy this that this collection is being made. As the author admirably states it: "In order to economize time and energy and avoid bad methods, this preliminary work in American Politics must begin at the right point. The histories of the states must be read before their political institutions can be studied to the best advantage. This does not mean that the inductions of history

will or can contribute directly to the science of Politics; it simply aims to emphasize the thought that constitutions and statutes are not the whole government, and that history is an aid in grasping and interpreting political phenomena."

The State of Iowa owes a debt to Mr. Shambaugh for the work he is doing toward preserving and making accessible to us the facts of her early history. We hope the series of which this is the first may be issued without unnecessary delay, and that it will not be the last work which he will attempt along this line. His preparation has admirably fitted him for the prosecution of this work, a work which should be done while the materials are still available.



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No. 49. Freight for Cedar Rapids, 3:00 p.m.  
No. 39. Passenger for Elmira, Cedar Rapids and West Liberty, 6:32 p.m.  
No. 41. Passenger for Cedar Rapids, Minneapolis and St. Paul; also for Columbus Junction & Burlington, 9:30 p.m.  
No. 34. Passenger for Riverside, What Cheer and Montezuma, arrives at 8:40 a.m. and leaves at 9:25 a.m.  
No. 37. Passenger arrives from Riverside and Muscatine, 10:50 p.m.  
No. 40. Passenger arrives from Cedar Rapids and Clinton, 10:30 p.m.  
No. 48. Freight for Riverside leaves 10:50 a.m.  
No. 4. Passenger for Burlington and St. Louis leaves 4:00 p.m.  
No. 38. Passenger for Clinton, Cedar Rapids and Davenport arrives 7:30 p.m.  
No. 36. Passenger for Muscatine and Riverside leaves 5:25 p.m.  
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**Some Results of the Expedition**

[The following article was for the Junior Annual:]

The sketch of the Bahama Expedition which given the readers of the year served not only to certain extent the desire students for information this undertaking and its successful completion, but stimulate an interest among know something of the results of this trip for the gation of a most interestingly, little known fact science to be permanented by this immense collection can it be used in an educational and to what extent is of the University to be included.

The mass of material sorted out into appropriate arranged for study, is so this part of the work engaged the greater portion of the museum force since ception of the collections ago—and yet probably than one half of this has done. Every new lot of examined brings to light were hitherto unnoticed with which they were hunched while on board where, while dredging progress, the one engrossing for the preparation of the future study, since they were numerous to permit in more than a general survey day's work. Now that it been fairly made in this several large groups have over in a preliminary manner comes the task of identifying species, comparing them taken by other expeditions and tabulating the results data in geographical and cal distribution, and, in fitting and arranging both men and the facts regarding that both may be of eas students, whether of the or of some special branch alone; the former of them may be attained by approved museum methods lectures, but the scientific large can be reached only medium of publications, a our Natural History Bureau takes high rank.

There is now passing press, as a volume of this work by Professor Nuttin pedition as a whole—a relating not only to the waters and island through or over, but giving tails of equipment and which helped make our success, and pointing out as should be avoided or w poor service. In addition survey of the material in each locality separately notes on its geography, people, and peculiarities of flora—the whole forming tion to science which is interest to all, and must ticularly so to a traveler