

# The Vidette - Reporter.

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

VOL. 31.

IOWA CITY IOWA, TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 1899.

NO. 72.

## SOUTHEASTERN TEACHERS.

WILL MEET IN IOWA CITY APRIL 6TH, 7TH, AND 8TH.

The fifth annual convention of the Southeastern Iowa Teacher's Association will hold its session in Iowa City, April 6th, 7th, and 8th. A splendid program and a hearty reception has been planned for all who attend.

Following are excerpts of the program that will prove of interest to University readers:

Thursday evening, First Presbyterian Church:—Address, The Problems of Educational Progress, H. H. Seerley, C. '79.

Friday morning, April 7th, Opera House:—Address, The Teacher as Seen by a Layman, Gov. Leslie M. Shaw; address, History and Literature, Professor Wm. C. Wilcox.

Friday at 4:30 p. m.—S. U. I. Battalion drills in review and dress parade.

Friday evening—Reception at Smith's Armory, given by Faculty of the State University to all visiting teachers.

Saturday morning, April 8th, Opera House:—Address, Educational Socialism, Henry Sabin, Regent of the University.

Friday afternoon:—College Section, Central building, Professor J. J. McConnell, presiding: Paper, The Place of Mathematics in a Liberal Education, Professor L. G. Weld.

High School Section, Dental building, Discussion on Athletics, Its Use and Abuse, Principal Roy Hanson, Winfield.

The April number of the Midland Schools, a monthly published at Des Moines, contains an excellent program of the meetings of the Association, and gives some excellent half-tone cuts of Professor J. J. McConnell, Principal Geo. C. Fracker, Principal F. C. Ensign, and Superintendent S. K. Stevenson. It also presents scenes in the University Library and the Science Building. H. A. Mueller, C. '99, contributes an informative article on the "Kansas Sea Serpent, a recent acquisition to the University Museum.

In an article on "The State University of Iowa," the Midland says: "The University is the largest and best equipped educational institution in the state. There is much to see and feel and hear in and about an institution like this that can be experienced in no other place in this state. \* \* \* But the greatest thing about a great school is not its museums or the products of its laboratories. The greatest thing in our navy is not our warships, but the men that manage them. The greatest thing in the University is the men who make it what it is. Acquaintance with such people is in itself a liberal education. \* \* \* Wherever you go, you find the best of treatment. The time would fail us to tell of the professors you will meet in your trip about the University, and who will make you indebted to them for the courtesies shown. We might speak of Currier and Loos, and McConnell, Calvin, Macbride or Shimek, of Mrs. Ridgeway, in the library, not forgetting our true friends Jimmy and George, but we want you all to go and meet them, and you will have a pleasant and profitable visit."

Concerning Iowa City's well-known hospitality, it says: "Those who are acquainted with the place, know what Iowa City cordiality means. The people get the habit from having a large number of strangers coming and going as students. However, students do not continue strangers long unless they wish to."

## Y. M. C. A.

PROGRESS OF THE PAST YEAR REVIEWED.

The new officers of the Y. M. C. A. were inaugurated last Sunday, with appropriate ceremonies. The outgoing president, Mr. J. J. Louis, in giving a short report of last year's work, was privileged to recount many triumphs and permanent advances made during the last administration. Among other things, he mentioned the large increase in membership, the greatly increased interest in the gymnasium, and in the Sunday afternoon meetings. The tower rooms have also been furnished this year, thus giving new space for the work. During the past year a goodly number of sociables have been given, and a record established for giving social entertainments second to none in the Varsity.

The greatest good, however, of the past year, lies in the increased respect for the Y. M. C. A. on the part of outsiders, and a growing love and devotion on the part of the members for the future prosperity of the Association.

In replying to Mr. Louis' report, and outlining the policy of the coming year, the new president, Mr. M. E. Weldy, congratulated the Y. M. C. A. that during the past year a large increase in attendance both in the Bible and Mission Study classes has been secured; that a feeling of fellowship and hearty goodwill has sprung up within the Association, and in other lines great progress has been made. But still much remains to be done. Mr. Weldy in brief mapped out the policy of the coming year, saying that a sincere effort will be made to keep up the good record of the past year, and add to it in certain respects, if possible. The financial policy for the coming year will contain an important addition to what has been done in the past, whereby the work will be extended in new lines. In closing Mr. Weldy earnestly asked all to be faithful, ready to do anything when called upon. In this way old debts will be paid. Over \$800 has been paid the past year. New members will be secured, and added inspiration will come to the lives of many.

The University of Michigan's Oratorical Association has from 900 to 1,000 members.

On next Friday, April 7th, Chicago and Michigan meet in the final contest of the Central Debating League. The question is the income tax, on which subject Michigan has the affirmative.

According to the "Minerva," edited at Strassburg, Germany, and recognized as the standard work on the universities of the world, the following is the order grade of the ten highest institutions in the United States: Harvard, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Yale, Minnesota, California, Columbia, Chicago, Colorado, and Cornell.

## HESPERIANS RECEIVE.

LITERARY SOCIETIES AND MEMBERS OF THE FACULTY ARE ENTERTAINED.

Saturday evening, from 7 to 12, the Hesperians were "at home" to the literary societies and to the members of the Faculty. Both North and South Halls were tastefully decorated with the colors of the Society, while several cozy looking alcoves, arranged in the corners, gave urgent invitation to some to enjoy their luxury. Music was furnished on the piano, and by a magnificent Regina music box.

As the guests arrived they were given a very pleasant reception and greeting by the charming hostesses, and then ushered into the midst of the gay and festive throng; there lending their wit and humor to the occasion, and deepening the acquaintance with their fellow-students and instructors.

Dainty refreshments were served in North Hall, and here also the carefully planned arrangements were no less pleasing than the other features of the entertainment. Later in the evening games were introduced, some of them devised with especial reference to call attention to the fact that it was the first day of April, in other words, April Fool's Day.

The departing guests carried away with them the recollection of one of the most pleasant social gatherings of the year, and the Hesperians are to be congratulated on the success which attended their "at home." An event of this kind is a source of profit, as well as pleasure, to all who attend, as it gives opportunity for a meeting of students and instructors on other than classroom grounds.

## The Normal Eye on Plagiarism.

The interest which has been aroused here by charges of plagiarism which were preferred against one of the orations submitted for the home oratorical contest (the oration being acquitted of the charge by President Currier, but not being deemed of sufficient merit by the judges to place it in the contest Wednesday evening,) justifies the insertion of extracts from an article in the Normal Eye on plagiarism:

"That plagiarism is a polite name for literary theft is generally recognized, but the boundaries of the field in which this stealing is done, are not well defined. When Webster says that to plagiarize is 'to appropriate without due acknowledgment the ideas or expressions of others,' he suggests that there are two main divisions of the subject, the stealing of words and the stealing of thoughts.

"The one who uses the exact words of another without indicating that they are not his own, is the one upon whom this crime is usually fixed. The student who inserts in his oration page after page from well known books or who hands in for his society work cuttings from current magazines, or from the great essayists, whether detected or not, is surely self-condemned. Some have been known to say that they do not understand why this is not all right, but it is difficult to believe that anyone, not self-deceived, can honestly say that he sees no harm in claiming credits for work he has done.

"Dishonest as he is, the one who uses the words of another, because of the very openness of his action, is to be placed above the one who takes ideas, but changes words.

"The third way in which one may plagiarize is really intermediate between the other two, less easily detected than the first, yet more potent than the second; it is that in which thoughts are taken bodily, and most of the words retained, a few having synonyms used for them, the whole thus becoming a paraphrase of the original. The intention to deceive being so manifest, this form certainly deserves no less censure than the others.

"How then may one who desires to do honest work, avoid the danger of plagiarizing? First of all, he must make up his mind to keep within the limits of his own power, though he may not thereby win as much applause as he might otherwise do. He must choose an available subject, narrow it down to his compass, and then seek to gather material upon it. He may ascertain the contents of his mind on the subject, talk with others about it, read and study all he pleases, but when he writes he must free himself of all notes and express the view that has been formed, the composite result of all his reading and thought, now moulded into a form original with him. 'Let him that stole, steal no more, but rather let him labor' to express his own thought and thus to avoid even the appearance of plagiarism."

## Philomathian.

In spite of the manifest lack of interest and counter attractions, the Philomathian society rendered a good program last Friday evening.

Mr. Rankin opened the program with a declamation, "The Engineer's Ride."

Otto Brackett gave an interesting speech on recent inventions for navigation on the sea bottom.

The debate, "Resolved, that the U. S. government should establish Postal Savings Banks," was very interesting, and showed good preparation.

Mr. Albert and E. J. Louis ably defended the system, while Mr. Baker not only upheld his own part, but also that of his absent colleague.

The program was closed with a recitation by Mr. H. A. Mueller, entitled "The Telephone."

## Engineering Society.

The Engineering Society held its regular meeting on Saturday evening, April 1st, in the Engineering lecture room.

There being no paper for the evening, the time was spent in hearing reports by N. B. Barber on "The Burning of the Windsor Hotel," and on "Typhoid Fever in Newark, N. J., and Philadelphia, W. F. Seymour on "Tile Making," and C. H. Beach on "Liquid Air."

Dr. W. R. Whiteis met with quite a severe accident, Sunday afternoon. While tending his furnace, he opened the fire door. A blast of hot air rushed out blowing fire and cinders into Mr. Whiteis face. His entire face was singed and several cinders flew into his left eye. The wounds were immediately dressed by a physician, and no permanent injury is expected from the accident.

# The Vidette - Reporter

Issued from the Republican office on Washington Street every

**TUESDAY, THURSDAY AND SATURDAY**

during the Collegiate Year at the University of Iowa.

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**Wisconsin's Library Building.**

The University of Wisconsin is to have a fine, large, new library building, which will be the depository, not only of the University library, but also of the library of the State Historical Society, which latter consists of some 100,000 volumes or more. While congratulating the University of Wisconsin, we of Iowa University can with difficulty keep envy out of our hearts. When the Legislature of the State of Iowa comes to the realization that to the students of Iowa is due some provision for an adequate library with a decent building in which to situate the same, then we may not find it so difficult to take pride in our home institution. And it may be that at that same time some few of the hundreds of Iowa students who are now compelled to go abroad for their University work, will see that it is to their interest to associate themselves with their own State institution.

**The Drill Hour.**

We are confronted with a problem whose wise or unwise solution will lead to one of three results—the total abolition of drill, a change in the drill-hour, or the death of track athletics in the Varsity. The Faculty last week considered a petition for releasing the track athletes from drill duty during the season. The request was not granted for the reason that the number in the battalion is already near the minimum limit, by reason of excuses for physical and other disability. One more attempt will be made to arrange the matter, so that Iowa may have a track team. A petition will be circulated requesting a change in the drill period to a more convenient hour. If this shall fail to be carried through, or shall not be granted, it is safe to say that there will be no track team, as by far the greater number of the athletes are subject to drill

duty. There should be little objection to the change desired, as a more inconvenient hour than the present one could scarcely be found.

**"In His Own Country."**

An article in the Midland Schools, which we copy in another column, makes mention of two salient points about our University which, through long association, are often but slightly contemplated by those of us who do not happen to be philosophically disposed.

"The greatest thing about a great thing is not its museums or the products of its laboratories. \* \* \* The greatest thing in the University is the men who make it what it is. Acquaintance with such people is in itself a liberal education." Nothing could be truer than that the spirit, the underlying character-shaping influence of a university, depends upon its corps of professors. And that not upon the Faculty as a body, but upon the individual professors. The professor's chair wields the greatest influence in the university, and a university training is valuable because of the spirit with which alma mater imbues her sons. It is because of this, and because we recognize that in our Faculty we have the best and the greatest influence, both mentally and morally, in our student life; it is because of this, we repeat, that we honor our professors and esteem our Faculty one of the best Faculties in the country.

Another point which the Midland notices is the hospitable spirit ever shown by the people of Iowa City. In no college town of our acquaintance does such a cordial feeling exist between the students and the citizens. As the writer of the article referred to says: "students do not continue strangers long unless they wish to."

The people of Iowa City have always treated the sojourners in their midst in the kindest possible manner. We, as students, owe them a debt of gratitude, which we feel more and more as we go out from Iowa City, and remembrance is all that is left of the happy days which passed so swiftly in Iowa City.

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**Otis Skinner.**

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cited by the announcement of Otis  
Skinner's presentation of the beautiful  
comedy of "Rosemary," is any indica-  
tion, this popular actor is certain to  
play to the largest house that has ever  
assembled for his performances in this  
city. "Rosemary" has recently had  
unusually long runs in both Lon-  
don and New York and Mr Skinner,  
through an arrangement with Charles  
Frohman, will give the play with a  
handsome mounting of scenery and cos-  
tumes and a specially selected New  
York company, headed by Gretchen  
Lyon, and including Frank Sylvester,  
John Malone, E A Eberle, Alfred Ed-  
wards, Henry Battin, Frank Lewis,  
Ruth Holt, Lizzie Montgomery, Clara  
Everett, and others. As Sir Jasper  
Thorndyke, Mr Skinner has been mak-  
ing his life hit elsewhere, and the  
papers of the various cities of the south  
have accorded him really a remark-  
able praise. The engagement is for  
Tuesday night only and promises to be  
the social event of this year's theatri-  
cals. Sale of seats opens Monday  
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the same and the same workmen at the  
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**FACT AND RUMOR.**

Tau Delts dance this evening.

Frank Wells, C. '00, is sick with the  
measles.

Della Northy, C. '98, is visiting friends  
in the University.

E. B. Soper, L. '99, returned from  
Emmetsburg yesterday.

The Seniors will hold regular meet-  
ings every Tuesday at 4:30 p. m.

John Thompson, L. '99, returned Mon-  
day morning from his home in Marion.

R. B. Crone, C. '97, principal of the  
Fonda High School, is visiting his Alma  
Mater.

Miss Hartley has accepted a position  
in the High School at Colton, Cal., for  
next year.

Della Northey, C. '98, an instructor in  
the Dubuque schools, is visiting friends  
this week.

S. C. Smith, C. '96, L. '97, was chosen  
city solicitor of Winterset at the last  
city election.

J. J. Crossley, C. '91, is candidate for  
nomination for state senator from the  
16th Senatorial District.

Miss Katherine Barber, C. '92, who is  
teaching in Iowa Falls, is spending her  
spring vacation in Iowa City.

The Friday evening meeting of the  
Southeastern Teacher's Association will  
be held in the Opera House.

Welch, L. '00, will not return to the  
city for some time, being detained at  
home by an attack of the measles.

W. B. Guthrie, C. '95, had charge of  
History and Civil Government at the  
Buchanan County Teacher's Institute,  
held in Independence, last week.

LATEST STYLE HATS AND FURNISHING GOODS AT BLOOM & MAYERS.

**Sophomore Cotillion Friday evening, April 14th.**

Beta Theta Pi initiated John McGee, Gordon Harkness, Albert Currier, and L. D. Butler, last Friday evening.

Ira Hawk, C. '99, who has been confined to his room by sickness the past few days, is again attending classes.

Chancellor Craig, of Drake University, filled the pulpit of F. P. Williams, C. '98, at Tiffin, last Sunday morning.

Cards are out for the wedding of Miss Madge Spurrier, ex-C. '01, to Mr. Eugene Forbes, in Des Moines, Wednesday, April 12th.

F. C. Wheat, Isaac Nervig, and J. M. Tallman, of S. U. I., spent a few days this week renewing Cornell acquaintances.—Cornellian.

Steve Rawden, L. '98, of Davenport, left, Monday morning, for his home, after an over-Sunday visit with old friends in the University and city.

Messrs. L. J. Flynn and L. R. White left for Lincoln, Neb., last evening. They represent the local chapter in the Phi Kappa Psi convention to be held at that place.

A large number of specimens of the drawing and manual training departments of the Iowa City school will be on exhibition in the lobby and tower rooms of Close Hall, beginning Wednesday morning. The exhibits are from the various grades from the primary rooms to the High School. The occasion of their exhibition is the coming teacher's convention.

Professor Veblen is busy securing finger prints for use in his lecture, which he will give next Monday evening, at the Armory. The subject is a novel one, and at once arouses one's interest. Everybody knows the interesting story of "Puddin'head" Wilson, a collector and student of thumb prints. Wilson one day secures impressions of the thumbs of two babies, the one the son of a slave, the other the son of the master of the plantation. Roxy, the slave who nurses the master's son, exchanges the babies. The white boy grows up a slave, while the slave boy is educated as the rich man's son. Years afterward the usurper is charged with murder. Through "Puddin'head" Wilson's thumb-prints, the fraudulent exchange of the children is brought to light, and the true heir comes to his own.

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**A Notable Attraction Coming.**

Sol Smith Russell and his new play, "Hon. John Grigsby," will be seen at Greene's opera house, Cedar Rapids, Ia., Wednesday, April 12th. The engagements of Mr. Russell are always a delight, and a refreshing dramatic morsal. Chas. Klein is the author. It is said that this new comedy is by far the best work this prolific and clever writer has yet turned out. The character of "Hon. John Grigsby" is said to fit Mr. Russell perfectly. A very superior company of artists accompany Mr. Russell, and the play has been given a complete production in the way of scenery, properties, and elaborate costumes. Sale opens Monday, April 10th. Seats may be secured by addressing Mr. Geo. Peck, Business Manager, Cedar Rapids, Ia.

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