

The Vidette - Reporter

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

VOL. 31.

IOWA CITY IOWA, TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 1899.

NO. 78.

ATHLETIC RULES.

ARE RESIDENCE RULES OF VALUE—RULE OF THE W. I. A. A. A.

In a recent editorial, the Quill takes occasion to felicitate Iowa College upon the adoption by the Faculty of the following rule regulating the athletics of that institution:

"No student who enters college after the beginning of the academic year shall be permitted to enter inter-collegiate athletics until the beginning of the next academic year."

Says the Quill further: "S. U. I. should put herself on record in favor of such ethics for amateur sport. With Iowa College and S. U. I. in support of a vigorous policy for purity in athletics, would be only a matter of a short time until all the colleges in the State would be united in a movement for the elevation of athletic ideals."

We desire to call the attention of the Quill to the fact that eleven of the higher educational institutions in the State, among them S. U. I. and Iowa College, are, and have for a number of years been, banded together in a compact for the purpose of enforcing certain rules regulating amateurism in intercollegiate athletic contests.

Rules prescribing what is an amateur should not be confounded with rules for the enforcement of the prohibition of any but amateurs from contesting in intercollegiate meets. Of the latter character is the rule quoted from the I. I. A. C. of Iowa: "No person shall be allowed to compete in games of this Association who shall not have been in actual attendance at his college from the beginning of the spring term, unless he was in attendance the previous term."

Even the Western I. A. A. A., whose membership embraces nineteen educational institutions—eight of them State Universities, besides Chicago, Northwestern, and Lake Forest Universities, located in Chicago, Leland Stanford Jr. in California, and seven other colleges and universities,—even this Association, with members representing the territory from Michigan to California, finds no more stringent rules necessary for the enforcement of amateur qualifications than these:

"Rule IV. (Residence.) No person shall be allowed to compete at the championship games as the representative of different members of the Association in immediately successive years unless he shall have taken a Bachelor's degree in the meantime."

This rule, by the way, we believe to be open to criticism in that it may work injustice to innocent parties more frequently than it operates to advantage in excluding some man who may have crept in by a shady path.

The other rule, relative to student qualifications, reads thus:

"Rule V. Section 1. No person shall be allowed to compete at the championship games who has not been a student in good and regular standing at the college or university he represents since the 15th of the preceding January. (An amendment is now under consideration, to be inserted here, providing that at those institutions where the semester system is in effect, entrance must be 'not later than the sixth day after the begin-

ning of the second semester,' and 'that students who are absent by reason of sickness, shall not be rendered ineligible by such absence.'). In case a competitor's qualifications as to such regular attendance are questioned, he shall file with the secretary-treasurer, as directed in Article II, of the By Laws, a certificate signed by three members of the Faculty of the college or university he represents, stating that he regularly performs university work amounting to at least eight hours a week, and has done so since the 15th of the preceding January, and such certificate shall be conclusive.

"Sec. 2. No student, graduate or undergraduate, shall be allowed to compete at the championship games as the representative of an institution from which he receives compensation for regular instruction."

There is grave reason for doubting the efficacy of any residence rule whatsoever, as a means for the prevention of "semi-professionals" contesting in intercollegiate meets. As has been before said, this means of preventing such abuse must not be confounded with prescriptions for amateur standing.

No other party to the Iowa compact will question the right of Iowa College to provide any further rules that she may in her wisdom see fit for the purpose of assuring herself that the teams which she may send forth shall contain no element of professionalism. The right of Grinnell to do this, we say, is unquestioned by any member of the compact. But this is far from acquiescing in the wisdom of the action. We may be pardoned for saying that we do not believe the purity of Grinnell's team's will be affected by so much as a jot or tittle by the adoption of this new rule. You may adopt all the residence rules imaginable, but the fact that a man shall reside one year or ten years at a college will make him, if a professional, not one bit less a professional, than would a week's residence.

It is safe to say that no such rule as this will ever be promulgated in the State University of Iowa. In the first place it would be of little or no effect. We have no need for such a rule in keeping our ranks pure. For all the rules under the sun will not purify unless the student sentiment is back of them. And with the student sentiment and the Faculty sentiment opposed to "semi-professionalism," in our own teams no such rule is necessary. And the student sentiment and the Faculty sentiment in this University is overwhelmingly on the side of purity.

In the second place, the rule would work injustice oftener than justice. Many students enter the University late in the fall term, and many more early in the winter term. Is there any just reason why these men should be excluded from participation in athletic events? It may be doubted whether a Faculty would have the legal right to enforce such a rule. A case in a court-of-law on this point would be of some interest. We believe that one student who is an amateur has the same right to participate in athletic events that any of his fellows enjoys. And any residence rule, such as the one adopted by the Grinnell Faculty, condemns the party in question without giving him a hearing,

(Continued on Fourth Page.)

FRESHMAN HEP BLOWOUT.

AMATEUR DRAMATISTS PRESENT TWO EXCELLENT FARCES.

The Hesperians have an unsurpassed record for fine literary programs, a talent which serves to be inherent in each the youngest of their flock. The Freshmen Heps presented in South Hall, Saturday evening, two excellent farces, exhibiting in their rendition some histrionic talent.

"Choosing a Bride" was the title of the first selection. It was the old, old story of the rich young man's mother, and her son, and the poor, noble work-girl beloved of the aforesaid rich young man. A haughty heiress, intended for her son's wife by the rich Mrs. Meriton, takes occasion to show a pretty burst of temper in a millinery shop. Unknown to the heiress, her mother-in-law—that desired-to-be, overheard it, and changes her mind, and gives the fainting work-girl into the arms of the R. Y. M. It was altogether a story that the audience could well understand and appreciate, and its presentation brought forth rounds of tumultuous applause and ripples of merry laughter.

The second farce was entitled "The Snow-Cap Sisters." A considerable portion of the matter in this farce was recognized by the audience as original. Local hits abounded. One gotten off by Mother Snow, anent the manner in which the Hesperians are wont to find their way to Zet sociables, was particularly opportune.

"The Snow-Cap Sisters" was little in the way of a plot, the narrative being to the effect that the Snow-Cap Sisters were once upon a mountain, and now they were here; that in their interval one of them had met a peddler, another a lover, while the rest conceived that they had beauty, talent, or ideas, with which they proceeded to enthrall and captivate the audience. The parts played by Ella Cute, Susan Deplora, Sappho, Yaller Buff, and Gravy Snow, were many times applauded by the audience.

The skirt dancing, by Gravy, which closed the program, affected the audience immensely. It was given a tremendous recall.

Baconian.

The evening was devoted to voluntary reports by the associate members.

Dr. Shambaugh reported on the history of the establishment of the boundaries of Iowa. There were three propositions as to the boundaries of our state. In 1839 Robert Lucas proposed, in the House, boundaries which included a part of Minnesota. Later, Nicollet gave plans for boundaries, which cut out all the Missouri slope. In 1846, the committee on territories established boundaries, which are practically the same as to-day.

Rev. Bullock reviewed the work of Dr. Hodgeson, with a spiritual medium of Boston. Spiritualism was attempted to be used as a scientific explanation of immortality. Results go to show that immortality is a subject which is beyond such means of proof.

Mr. McClintock gave an instance of the law of self-preservation. There are two forms of micro-organisms, negative and sporeing. This latter state was

first discovered in 1856. These spores are sources of the multiplication of bacteria, and are formed only when the surrounding conditions are unfavorable, that is, for self-preservation. These spores being difficult to stain by ordinary chemical means, the speaker gave a method to successfully stain them.

Mr. Easton quoted a verse from the book of Kings, in which was narrated the turning back of the sun-dial. Considerable discussion has been carried on lately, concerning whether this could be at all possible. One astronomer has shown that in a certain form of sun-dial this could happen. However, the probability of such a thing having happened is very small.

Professor Van Steenderen discussed "The Place of French Literature in Literature." He first defined literature as the expression in book form of style, and that style is the man. A national literature is the expression of the soul of a nation. The speaker gave the characteristics of the different literatures; that of the French being psychologically social. The advantage of study of literature is the attainment of culture, and culture is the ability to have more than one standpoint. The study of French literature helps to give this culture.

Zets Entertain.

In spite of the gentle April shower the loyalty of the Zets and Heps was not dampened, and by half past eight o'clock the society hall was crowded with the members of South Hall. The Zets have the reputation of being royal entertainers, but last night they surpassed all former efforts.

After a general social conversation, the red cent was brought into use, and about a hundred interesting facts suggested concerning it. These were soon found, and the prize awarded. The Teek Bros. Quartet, consisting of Rev. Williams, Messrs. Ham, B. J. Lambert and Hollingsworth, made a home run on local hits. The laughter their comic parodies produced was at times Homeric. Refreshments were then served, while the High School Banjo Club rendered several selections. Many games were played, and withal the occasion will be one long to be remembered by those who were there.

Engineering Society.

The meeting Saturday evening, April 15th, was especially interesting. Professor Sims made some remarks that were very instructive and entertaining. The Engineering Society is not an exclusive organization, but would be pleased to have anyone interested in technical subjects come to their meetings, held on the first floor of South Hall.

Princeton has raised \$100,000 to endow a chair of English Literature, provided Dr. Henry Van Dyke, of New York, will accept it.

At Cornell twenty-five students receive free education, and there are given in addition twenty-seven scholarships of \$200 each. The University of Chicago gives eighty scholarships and fellowships, aggregating \$20,000. Harvard gives one hundred and fifteen scholarships of \$225 each. Columbia gives twenty-nine scholarships of an average value of \$200. Yale gives annually \$30,000 to needy students.

The Vidette - Reporter

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Non-Educating Education.

What sums of money are wasted in educations that do not educate! And the fault is not with the individual who is enduring the process of having smatterings of this and that crammed into him,—it is rather with the system or want of system in educational facilities in this country of ours. A youth comes to Iowa City from one of the smaller towns of the state, we will say, to enter the State University. Owing to the idiosyncracies of various members of the school board in his native village, certain studies, such as Latin and Greek, an acquaintance with which have in the past been, and are yet by many, deemed indispensable to scholarship, have been entirely omitted from the curriculum. Our friend is at once confronted with a dilemma—one of three horns. He may schedule "scientific," in which event he will be compelled to stumble blindly through five or six sciences, for which he has neither talent nor necessity; he may schedule "Philosophical B," and spend three years of valuable time grubbing away at Latin roots he should have mastered in his childhood, and for whose excavation, however valuable they might have been, mastered at the proper period, he feels that he can now most ill afford the time; or he may schedule "special," and take up a line of work that will be of value to him, and master it—in nine cases out of ten entering this University the really best course to adopt, that is, provided the candidate has not a large coterie of fond and admiring relatives to please and render proud by winning for himself, at whatever cost, a diploma to frame in gilt and hang over the piano at home. And this, by the way, is a peculiarity of most people who send their sons and daughters to college—they desire, shall we say demand? that a diploma be se-

cured. We suppose they look upon it as, in a sense, a receipt for money advanced. What a glorious satisfaction, to be sure,—\$2,000 for the back of a sheep.

Now why, in all reason, we ask, should such senseless conditions exist? The State University is supported by the same people of the same state, who support the grade, grammar, and high schools. In all commonsense, should not some regulation of law exist whereby a youth or maiden who has been compelled to pass his or her childhood in a public school—no matter where it may have been, nor who might have been its director—may be enabled to find some course in the University to which he may enter without being handicapped by back work in some branch or another to make up, and insufficient preparation for his new work, in courses where Latin or Greek are required, for instance. We hold that, if these branches are a requisite to scholarship this acquaintance should be made in the grades. Your teachers can't teach them? Throw your teachers out. Get new ones. There are plenty to be had who have the ability. Or, if you don't like this, if you don't want these languages which you in your wisdom call dead languages, included in your curriculum, see to it that some course is provided in the University wherein your sons and your daughters may enter and pursue studies that may be of real value to them. Either do one or the other of these, or be wise and tell your sons and your daughters to be wise, and to waste no time nor money working for sheeps' backs.

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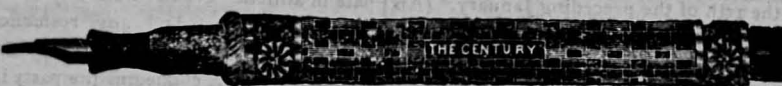
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The popular Chase-Lister Company opened a week's engagement at the opera house last night. The company is stronger than ever, and during the engagement will present some new plays. Kathleen Mauourneen to-night. Admission 10, 20 and 30 cents.

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FACT AND RUMOR.

R. S. McCord, L. '99, is confined to his room with the measles.

Rev. Beach, of Clarion, visited between trains with his son, Carl, C. '00.

Eldon-Orton, L. '96, of Princeton, Mo., visited friends in the city over Sunday.

Miss Helen Larrabee has gone to Des Moines to attend the wedding of a lady friend.

J. W. Weed, of Corning, Ia., editor of the Adams County Free Press, visited with his son, F. C. Weed, L. '99, the latter part of last week.

The Philomathian society will hold a declamatory contest next Thursday evening, at 8 o'clock, at St. Brenden's Hall. Admittance free. All are invited.

R. G. Anderson, of West Union, now deputy clerk of Fayette county, will return and enter the Law department the first of May. Mrs. Fannie Parker Anderson has been chosen deputy clerk to succeed her husband.

Sunday evening, at the Presbyterian church, Dr. D. W. Fars, of Independence, preached a very interesting sermon on "The Problems and Phases of Student Life." Dr. Fars is an eloquent speaker, and his address was much appreciated by those students who were so fortunate as to be present.

At Heidelberg University, Germany, students taking laboratory courses in Chemistry or Physics are required by the University officers to take out an accident insurance policy, covering possible accidents that may occur during the exercise.

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ATHLETIC RULES.

(Continued from First Page.)

before even knowing who he may be, and consequently what has been his record as to amateur purity. We need no such rule as this in the State University. There can be but one reason assigned,—and that is rather an excuse than a reason—why there should be any residence rule whatever in effect in this University. It is that the W. I. A. A. A., of which we, as well as Drake University and Iowa College, are members, has such a rule—the one quoted above. And the only grounds upon which this excuse could be consistently employed would be that the rule governing the athletic relations among the Iowa colleges and universities should be of identical tenor with the W. I. A. A. A. rule,—and this only as a matter of good policy, as one of the objects with which these intercollegiate meets are held, is that we may be able to develop men to represent us in the annual W. I. A. A. A. meet. It is evident that if Grinnell shall enforce the rule recently adopted, she may deprive some man of the benefit of contesting in the intercollegiate meets, who would be eligible to contest in the W. I. A. A. A. meet, and who might, with the advantage of the experience gained in the earlier meets, win one or more of the events in the greater contest. Yet we are urged to adopt such a rule here in the University of Iowa. For the above reason we believe that the residence rule of the I. I. A. C. should be so altered as to coincide with that of the W. I. A. A. A.

But even if the rule adopted by the Grinnell Faculty were a good one, and its adoption in this University should be desirable, we dislike the method of its adoption. We believe that the time has come in the good government of athletics here as well as elsewhere, when the matter of such extra regulations as the above may safely and wisely be placed in the hands of the joint committee composed of students and Faculty members, who here, as elsewhere, has the details of athletic control in its charge. In nine cases out of ten the majority of the members of the Faculty are unwilling to devote sufficient time to investigating into the details of athletic administration to make them competent judges of the wisdom of one course or another. The Faculty therefore appointed a committee, which committee, in conjunction with certain students delegated, constitutes the Advisory Board. This Board is in a position to obtain all the evidence in cases in question, and therefore should be better able than any other body of laying out lines of athletic policy. That the W. I. A. A. A. holds to this view is evidenced by the fact that the following amendment to its constitution, regulating judgment in cases of protest, is now about to be adopted: "The eligibility of the protested man shall be decided by the Board of Athletic Control of his institution, on the basis of such evidence, or additional evidence, and this decision shall be final."

Notice.

"The attention of all students is called to the proclamation of the board of health of the city in regard to precautions against smallpox. The authorities of the University will heartily cooperate with the city officials in this matter, and expect and enjoin strict obedience on the part of students to the suggestion as to refraining from visiting the exposed district.

"There is no reason to be disturbed over the state of affairs. Stringent regulations are likely to confine the disease to its present locality, and compliance with the regulations made by the board of health will keep Iowa City as safe as any city of the state.

AMOS N. CURNIER,
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