

# Old Graduate Recalls An Investment

How New Socks Were Purchased and Some Old Ones Disposed of.

As soon as the old grad's cigar was burning nicely and he had adjusted his eye-glasses properly and carefully crossed his legs, he began to talk.

"Yes," he said, meditatively, "we used to have great times in the old Uni. In my sophomore year I roomed with three other fellows in a downtown block on O street. It was a swell place then. I visited it yesterday and found it dreadfully run down, but at that time it was all a person could desire and taxed our pocketbooks sorely for rent. None of us had any too much money after attending the theater nightly with our girls or tripping the light fantastic on an average of two nights a week, and we resorted to curious expedients to make both ends meet and to keep the wolf from the door. We did not quite come to the straits of the two famous gentlemen in 'Charley's Aunt,' but there were various secrets about our attire which would have borne investigation.

"One place where we found great opportunities for economizing was on our hosiery. We used to buy 'two-fers,' which I really think, now, are just as good as something higher priced. But we wore our stockings till there was almost nothing but the uppers left, and, since none of us were skillful with the needle, we were forced to endure the discomforts of such a condition with no release save for an occasional new pair. After we got them back from the laundry every Saturday night we could experience none of that most delightful sensation produced by a pair of whole stockings, but were compelled to go limping about painfully week after week, cursing the fates that brought about such a condition, yet unwilling to deny ourselves enough of our foolish pleasures to relieve it.

"But, by a singular coincidence, it one day happened that we each received a substantial check from home. We first indulged in the customary blow-out. Then we drew lots to see who should go down to the Oliver and reserve seats for the next comedy. We paid our long-standing board-bills. After the wreck had been cleared away we each found that we had a very respectable sum left. What was to be done with it?

"It did not take us long to decide. Almost in unison we shouted, 'New socks.' New socks it was. Arm-in-arm we tramped down to one of the lending stores, singing 'Glory Halleluia' and 'Heaven Is My Home,' and almost startled the clerks out of their senses by investing five dollars apiece in new stockings.

"When we got back to our rooms you never heard of such a clearing-out. Each of us made a dive for his bureau drawer and dug out every old stocking he could find. We heaped them in the middle of the floor, and, altogether they made no small pile, I assure you. We joined hands and performed a war dance around them and made all sorts of sad farewells. But when our enthusiasm cooled down a little we discovered that we were faced by a very perplexing dilemma. What were we to do with the things?

"We finally determined on a very unique scheme. Each of us seated himself on a window sill with a wastebasket full of socks beside him. When some lady with a particularly large hat passed on the walk beneath us, each would carefully and solemnly drop a sock. Frequently they hit the mark and if we had taken the proper pains, and the headgear happened to be heavy enough, the lady would continue on her homeward way utterly unconscious of the decorations we had bestowed upon her. If the sock missed its target we would all dodge quickly inside the window, and strangely enough, got into no trouble over the thing. That was before the Shirt-tail Parade became an established custom. The cops were not on to us.

"Before we were done, our amusement assumed a very sporty tone. We would lay bets with each other as to whether or not we could succeed in depositing a sock with the next passerby. If I remember correctly, considerable cash passed hands that evening, but when we finally came to count up our gains and losses, neither amounted

to much. We each came out about even.

"I don't know what became of the socks. A high wind came up the next morning and scattered them down the street for a long way. I got into the habit of furtively examining the hosiery of the men at our restaurant, and sometimes thought I could distinguish resemblances to our former darlings, but, of course, could not be certain. Anyone could have worn the same style of hosiery that we did, but for ours I can say only one thing: May the Lord have mercy on their wretched soles."

## Engineering Noies.

Kendall is working for an electric railway company in Joliet and is doing well.

Mr. Green's class in railroad engineering has been studying yard and terminal systems for the past week.

O. H. Timmerman was elected surveyor of Richardson county. He will finish the school year before assuming his duties.

Professor Richards is considering the question of an exhibit at the St. Louis exposition to represent the mechanical engineering department.

Professor Richards frequently receives inquiries for teachers of manual training. Those who have taken the shop courses and would desire such a position would do well to confer with him.

The graphic attachment of the Riehle testing machine was used for the first time this semester last Tuesday. Prof. Chatburn assisted a division of students in civil engineering 27 in its adjustment.

The class in electrical measurements (physics 9) contains the following illustrious members: Edison, Faraday, Heavysides, Dr. Steinmetz, Coulomb, Herr Gauss, Poggenorff, Hysteresis, Lord Kelvin, or Watts Joule. With such men it is not remarkable that the standard of work is exceptionally high.

Orders have been placed for twenty new forges and the necessary tools, for the new forge show at the state farm. When they are in operation the agricultural students will not be obliged to come in each time for shop work and it will partly relieve the pressure on this department.

The most important improvement in the mechanical engineering department is a line shaft in the lecture room which will be belted from the main shaft in the machine shop below.

Through an ingenious speed changing countershaft, giving a variation of speed from 80 to 1,800 revolutions per minute, this shaft will drive a new Riehle oil testing machine, from which the coefficients of friction and the wearing qualities of different lubricants will be determined and also the wearing qualities of different bearing metals.

The shaft will also drive a steel-yard dynamometer, a belt dynamometer, and a Lewis dynamometer, connected to a belt testing apparatus, all of which have been built in the shops.

Among the other additions to the department are hydrometers, flash testers and viscosimeters, for testing lubricants, three new Tabor indicators with the patent outside spring device which insures greater accuracy at high temperatures, and five new Amsler's planimeters.

The Chemical Journal club will meet tomorrow at 10:30 in room 4, Chemical Hall.

Miss Fossler will report on the influence of autolytic ferments on pancreatic digestion; the influence of protoplasmic poisons on trypsin digestion, and the end products of pancreatic and yeast auto-digestion.

Mr. Croch will talk on the recent advances in the bacteriological examination of water, also the detection and

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estimation of miner acid in acetic acid and will report what H. D. Richmond thinks of physics in analytical methods.

Mr. Keyser will report on the determination of the boiling points of copper and zinc, also also will report on the apparatus for the liquefaction of air and hydrogen and will also give the method of transforming a diamond into black carbon.

### In the Astronomy Department.

The observatory will not be open to the general public until the new moon comes around again.

The first year class in astronomy that meets once a week are studying the history of ancient astronomy.

The first year class in astronomy that meets three times a week are studying the methods for finding longitude and time.

The geodetic astronomy class are finding the north and south line by means of the sun and stars.

The mathematical astronomy class are determining the sea-captain's method of finding his way at sea.

### Chemistry Notes

The chemistry 1 students are on the ammonium compounds.

The chemistry A students are at work with acids, bases and salts and are learning to name different salts.

The chemistry 1 students are on the ammonium compounds.

The metallurgy students in chemistry are determining the metallurgy of gold.

## Physical Culture

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### Library Notes

The finance office of the University has just reported to the librarian a credit of \$4,243.25 for the library fund. The sum represents the matriculation fees of nearly 700 new students and the proceeds of the library fee of \$1 per semester. These fees are by law, to be used for the purchase of books and periodicals.

### Palladian Club Debate

The Palladian Debating club will debate the following question tonight: "Resolved, That it is better for the commercial interests of the British Empire for England to give up her free trade." Messrs. Mitchell and Smith will support the affirmative, and De Young and Snavelly will speak on the negative.

### Union Debate

The Union Debating club will debate the following question this evening: "Resolved, That England should adopt Chamberlain's tariff policy." The debaters will be Messrs. Milek and Schneider on the affirmative and Brubaker and Melik on the negative. Every body welcome.

### Women's Athletics

The Hockey teams have been formed for the morning and afternoon practices, and as soon as they have learned enough about the game some contests will be arranged for.

Dr. Beesey has presented the library with a complete file of, "The Western Pomologist," a horticultural journal published in Iowa in 1870. This is the only complete file in existence.