

The Daily Nebraskan.

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Editorial Remarks

Today occurs the election of the captain of next year's football team. Perhaps a word of caution from us may be out of place and entirely unnecessary, but yet a few suggestions might be made on general principles. It is necessary that next year's team should be led by a man whose knowledge of the game and strategic ability will recommend him to the confidence of his team-mates. His ability and his value to the team should be considered the strongest points in his favor, and upon these those whose privilege it is to vote should pass judgment and cast their ballots accordingly. No other considerations than these should be allowed to have a persuasive effect, for no matter how popular a man may be or to what degree his personal qualities may recommend him along other lines, it is necessary that the best interests of the team be subserved. Again let us call attention to the desirability of elimination of alien influences from the determination of the result of this election. We need a captain who is well fitted to guide his team to victory and to make a strong in the face of defeat, who knows the game and who can be relied upon to be steady and unwavering under the pressure of crucial test. And this is the kind of a man we hope to see elected today.

The debating clubs are for the most part in a demoralized condition, and so apparent is this fact that speculation has been aroused as whether or not something can be done to revive interest. During the past four years the clubs have all grown weaker, having passed through various stages of dissolution, until now only three remain, each held together by slender bonds. One of these had resigned itself to death, but has recently revived sufficiently to give evidence that life is still there. It is hardly to the credit of the students of this University that interest in the debating clubs should be allowed to ebb until their very organization has been endangered. The only way that any good may be done would be for students to consider the matter for themselves, although it ought to be brought home to them in a forcible manner. But this is something extremely difficult to accomplish in such a way as to insure effective results. Such being the case there is indeed cause for deploring this condition of affairs.

For the convenience of those having in charge the task of correcting the Junior and Senior themes, it is urged that all upperclassmen discharge their responsibilities in this regard well within the limits that have been set. The influx of the themes coming all in a bunch entails a rush and a tax

on the energies of the readers that might be avoided. If all are prompt in getting their themes ready in good time, they will also be obliging themselves as well as others.

ON PANAMA QUESTION.**Dr. Pound Discusses the Situation in Chapel.**

The convocation period yesterday was taken up by Dean Pound, who spoke on the Panama question. Dr. Pound said in part:

In an international question of this kind there are always two phases—the legal and the moral. International law is to a certain extent like the ancient law, and a powerful force is public opinion. The margin in international law is, however, much larger than in private law, and the danger, therefore, greater, in that four or five strong nations may get together and decide a question to the detriment of a weaker nation.

In the separation of a new state from an older one there may be said to be three stages: The first is belligerency or a condition of war; then there is the relation of the foreign states with the belligerents, and the third is the recognition of the independent state by foreign powers, which may be before the conflict is really at an end. This recognition is considered by foreign nations as practically a declaration of war, a recent case being the recognition of the independence of Cuba by the United States. In regard to the situation in Panama these three stages followed each other with great rapidity. As for the first two, the action of the United States was never questioned. By the presence of the Trans-Panama railway it became necessary for the United States to enter into a treaty at its building, and these commercial relations applied to the second stage. As to the third we were extremely hasty. There is a school by which it is held that the relation of the United States in this matter is practically the same as that of Europe. If this is true the action of the United States was very just. The condition of perpetual and chronic wars was an international nuisance, affecting trade and commerce, and the giving of independence to the belligerent state of Panama, was for the best of all concerned. But, of course, it's a great injustice to the mother state to be thus torn apart by force. The situation of the Colombian government was practically desperate. It was next to impossible to move an army by land from Colombia to the isthmus, and her only means to put down the insurrection would have been to bombard the two cities, Panama and Colon. This could never have been permitted, as the United States, as well as Europe has too many interests at these two points.

The Union-Doane Debate.

Final arrangements are being completed for a debate between the Union Boys and Doane College, immediately after the holidays. The question to be discussed is the following: "Resolved, That the South is justified in disfranchising the Negro." The Doane team will take the affirmative, while James Pfeiffer and McReynolds of the Unions, will support the negative. The speakers will be allowed ten minutes each, and the leaders three minutes for rebuttal. Besides being an excellent parliamentary drill for the participants, the debate will provide an exhaustive discussion of an important subject for the audience and everyone interested is invited to attend.

Debating In Other Colleges.

Yale won the annual debate with Harvard in Woolsey Hall at New Haven, last Friday night. President Arthur T. Hadley presided. The judges were: Gen. F. V. Greene, chairman, of New York City; John G. Milburn, president of the Pan-American exposition at Buffalo, and President W. H. P. Faunce of Brown University. Their decision was unanimous in favor of Yale upon all points to be considered, as to argument, manner of presentation and logic of construction. The question under discussion was trade unionism. The victory makes the fourth

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for Yale in fourteen years, and so great was the enthusiasm of the Yale boys that they could scarcely wait for the judges to finish the announcement of their decision before giving vent to their cheers. Then they had a bonfire until midnight. The Harvard men were banqueted by Yale.

Colorado College, with whom Nebraska voted last spring to sever relations, has arranged a series with the University of Utah. Missouri has decided to meet Colorado.

The Wisconsin Daily Cardinal, in an editorial article, calls upon the students to remember Wisconsin's record in debate and thrash all opponents this year.

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