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CALLED TO REST

Dr. Edgren Dies Suddenly at His Home in Sweden.

Our University public was painfully shocked yesterday morning, when the news was spread abroad that a cablegram had been received from Sweden announcing the death of Dr. August H. Edgren, for many years a member of our faculty. The sad message was received by Professor Hodgman from Mrs. Edgren, and the cause of his death is not stated, although it is known that he died suddenly. She stated that further information would be forwarded by mail.

Since leaving this University to accept the American chair under the Nobel endowment, he has resided in a suburb of Stockholm, where he owned a beautiful home. His work was to decide the most notable contribution made each year by Americans, which included many different branches—literary, scientific, physiological, engineering etc. This great competition was not limited by any conditions whatever. He spent the great part of his time studying the yearly products of American society, art and discovery. Surrounded by the comforts and advantages of a quiet home-life he was able to withdraw his mind from the affairs of the busy outside world and to enjoy at his leisure the pleasures of research and study along lines in which he was interested.

Together with Dr. Gerig—now in Europe—whom he was to meet in Paris, and with his son Arthur, now attending school here, he had intended making a tour of Spain and Italy next summer. Dr. Gerig was a close personal friend of his, and they had studied together in accomplishing many useful results. He had hoped to travel for the sake of research work afforded, and had looked forward to the tour with pleasure and anticipation. But death, heeding of man's desires, entered in between him and the accomplishment of his purpose. No intimation had existed that would lead anyone to believe that he was not in good health, and the shock occasioned by the suddenness of this sad event has touched a chord of sensitiveness in the hearts of all who knew him here.

August Hjalmar Edgren was born in Sweden October 18, 1842. He graduated from the Lyceum of Stockholm in 1858, and from the Royal Military School of Sweden in 1861. Coming to this country when a young man he enlisted in the 99th regiment of New York Volunteers in 1861 with the rank of second lieutenant. In 1863 he was promoted for bravery during the siege of Suffolk, Va., to first lieutenant and detailed in the general's staff. While in the engineering corps he was in charge of the reconstruction of the fortifications at Yorktown which Washington had ordered. At the end of 1863, being a first lieutenant, he resigned and returned to Sweden, he entered the regular army there. Serving there as lieutenant and adjutant until 1870, he resigned and returned to America.

In 1871 he graduated from Cornell as B. S. and from Yale in 1874 as Ph. D. He taught in Yale from 1873 to 1880, making one year in the class of Prof. W. D. Whitney in Sanskrit and philology. Again returning to Sweden, he was "Docent" in the University of Lund from 1880 to 1885. In 1885 he came to the University of Nebraska as professor of modern languages. In 1891 he was made professor of Germanic languages in the University of Gothenberg, Sweden, and also rector (chancellor) of the University. He returned to the University of Nebraska in 1893 as professor of Romance languages. In 1895 he was made dean of the Graduate School and in 1899,

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ALL STUDENTS WELCOME

professor of linguistic science and Sanskrit. At the end of 1900 he was called to be a member of the Nobel Institute, Stockholm, Sweden, established to study the productions in various scientific and literary fields and recommend the best for five prizes (each approximating \$50,000) distributed each year by certain Scandinavian institutions.

Dr. Edgren has published some thirty works, all of an exceedingly valuable and useful character. They include papers and translations in Indo-European Sanskrit, Germanic and Romance philology, Sanskrit and English literature, Ethnology, Pedagogy, general literature and travel. Several of his many literary contributions refer to American literatures, institutions, etc. Among these are works of Longfellow, including Evangeline, Miles Standish and many smaller poems, a volume in Swedish on American literature, a work on American schools and colleges, a book of travel in Mexico and various papers on American education and antiquities. At the time of his death he was engaged on a translation of Tennyson's works into his native language. His French grammar is one of the leading works of its kind and is used here, as is also the text in beginning German, which he published in co-operation with Professor Fossler.

In the death of Dr. Edgren a remarkably useful and brilliant career was closed. There are indeed few men who have fought their way to the front through their own efforts alone and achieved the success that crowned his undertakings. His faithfulness to his duty and trust was responsible for his success. As a soldier in the Union army he fought nobly in behalf of our country's cause, doing all the noblest and most patriotic citizen could be expected to do.

His life was spent in adding something new to the world of knowledge, and his works will remain as a lasting monument to lofty and noble ideas consecrated to the enlightenment and ennobling of his fellow man. He labored in a great cause and we see about us many substantial evidences of the greatness of his achievements. As an educator he accomplished an extraordinary sum of results, many of which exist in the form of the numerous valuable works he has published and many we are glad to say are evident in the moulding of the character and intellect of so great a number of Nebraska's youth. By his own energy, ambition and Christian character he mounted to a height where he could look back with calm peace and contentment upon a life well spent.

Professor Hodgman, of whom he was a close friend, speaking of him in a touching manner yesterday, stated: "He was a most lovable man, generous to a fault and charitable to an unusual extent. He was a man who could never see anything wrong in his friends. He was the foremost Sanskrit scholar in America and was rapidly bringing the department at our University into national importance. He always entertained a strong attachment for Nebraska and had even contemplated returning here."

Dr. Edgren leaves surviving him a wife and three children. Miss Anna Edgren, his eldest daughter, will be remembered here, as she was prominent in social circles, being a member of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority. She is now dangerously ill at her home in Sweden with pneumonia. He also left

a younger daughter, now 13 or 14 years of age.

His son, Arthur Edgren, attended the Academy last year, and is now a student at this University. He was recently initiated into Delta Upsilon. In his hour of intense sorrow and affliction the sympathy of the whole University is with him.

Dr. Edgren owned some property in Lincoln, including the house on Q street, now occupied by the Alpha Theta Chi fraternity.

WILL STAY OUT.

Nebraska Cannot Enter Proposed Oratorical League.

Nebraska has definitely decided not to go into the Oratorical League that has been projected, and designed to include besides this University, Kansas, Missouri and Colorado. Although considerably regret is experienced in not being able to accept the pressing invitation extended, our action is necessary simply because we are in no position now to take up such work. This league is a member of a larger system intended to promote a "State University National Oratorical Contest." This system includes three sections: (1) The Pacific coast, (2) the middle section, including Nebraska, Colorado, Missouri and Kansas, and (3) the south central section embracing Ohio, Kentucky and Arkansas.

Contests are to be held in each section, and the winners from the three sections are to meet in St. Louis June 22, 1904, and contend for supremacy. This meeting is intended to be held in the hall of international congress and promises to be a great attraction.

President G. P. Benton of Miami University, Ohio, is at the head of the larger system, and Prof. E. G. Frazier of Kansas, is at the head of the organization in this section. A meeting of the representatives was recently held in St. Louis and a resolution was adopted, looking to an effort to get oratory on a logical basis, so that there would be more substance and less of pyrotechnics. It was the opinion of those pushing the movement that Nebraska would help greatly on account of her reputation in debating, and it is with regret that we are obliged to refuse.

Sigma Xi Meeting.

The regular meeting of the Sigma Xi society, Nebraska chapter, was held in room 4 of the chemical laboratory, Thursday evening. The following papers were presented: "Pinch Gas and Its By-Products," Professor Avery; "Heredity in Plants," Professor Emerson.

On Friday afternoon Professor Bessey is to speak before the "Hall in the Grove Club" in this city on "The Caucasus Mountain Range and its People."

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DESIRE A DEBATE

Three Institutions Want to Meet Us.—No Go with Wisconsin.

Three new would-be opponents in debate are corresponding with the University of Nebraska debating board with a view to arranging debates this year. The University of South Dakota has written the fourth letter this time through Dean Young, to Chancellor Andrews. Yesterday Secretary Ira Ryner received overtures from the University of Colorado. The third institution is one larger and farther east than any with which Nebraska has yet debated. Its name is, for the present withheld, pending negotiations to arrange the schedule for the year. The overtures from these Universities will be considered at a meeting of the Debating Board to be held soon.

Nebraska will not get to meet Wisconsin in debate this year. The plan fell through, notwithstanding the favorable action of the executive committee of the debating league, because the opinion of the numerous literary societies was not heavily enough in favor of the contest. Another element which it is surmised entered into the decision, was the desire for a debate with Chicago. Professor Fogg says he has found that a Chicago-Wisconsin debate is a possibility this year. For Wisconsin to prefer Chicago to Nebraska is well enough. The president of the Wisconsin league writes that Nebraska's letter suggesting a debate was delayed in the Wisconsin library a week.

The Kansas University debating council has appointed a committee of which Prof. Frazier, who is instructor in debate, is chairman, to revise the organization's constitution. The Kansas Weekly states that the purpose is to change the plan of holding the preliminary contest, and to eliminate the chance or accident from entering into the choosing of the members of the team. The Weekly further says that there is a "belief that more systematic study on the question is necessary, which can easily be brought about by a form of debating school."

About 4,000 persons attended the recent Harvard-Yale debate at New Haven, among whom were some 100 New England labor leaders invited by the Yale debating union. When will 1,000 Nebraska students and Lincolnites be able to see enough in fine thinking and speaking to get them out to an interstate debate?

Roy Clark at Chapel.

Roy Clark explained the point system, whereby the blind are able to read, in chapel yesterday morning. Mr. Clark's talk was entertaining and full of interest to his hearers. His explanation of the novel system that has brought such a light into the existence of the blind, being given in a clear manner, was interesting to say the least. He gave a number of readings in which he employed the point system in tracing the words, thus giving an actual demonstration of the process he discussed.

Professor Clements has started the general botany students in the work of preparing specimens for sectioning with the large microtomes in the laboratory. In a few days they will be cutting and mounting sections.

Meerscham pipes, 25 per cent off this week.—F. A. Powell, Oliver Theatre building.

Special prices to students desiring typewriting work. 512 Richards block, phone F1155.