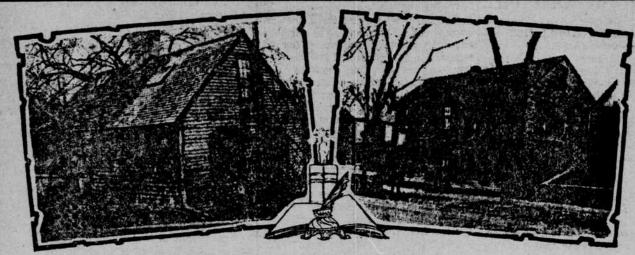
## AMERICA'S FIRST FREE SCHOOL



The Mandel Private School House.

when they cooked up this excuse,

manifestly overlooked the fact that

there is no back door to the Cannon

The fairy paused with wand uplifted:—
"Sweet Mother, say, what gift shall't
pe?

Wilt have thy child forever praised Through flaming Fame's eternity?

sway?
Or shall her song's ecstatic parts
Move raptured multitudes to pray?

"Wilt have her jewels to outshine.
Those of the gem famed Orient?
Or deck her from a richer mine
With fairer pearls of Love's Content?"

"Nay," spoke the Mother, "I'm of mind Still to require the gift shall be Greater than all of these combined; Grant her one grace—Serenity," —Anna Marble in New York Herald.

Wulf Fries "Without Notes."

This is a story of the late Wulf

While on a concert tour through

Fries, the well known violoncellist,

told:

lowing notice:

#### First Free Public School Building.

How many people could answer the question. "Where was the first public school located?" The honor, for such it is, belongs to the early pioneers of Dorchester, Mass., who, on May 20, 1639, authorized the construction of a schoolhouse which was to be free to the general public. In this day and age, when a school is talked of there arises to the mind's eye a magnificent structure of brick and stone, three or four stories high.

Imagine, if you can, the youth of the present times going to school in one little room, the walls of which were constructed of boards roughly hewn from the tree. Such, however, was the first free public school in America, if not in the world, and for over seventy-five years this little building did good service in the cause of education.

Although called free, it is a fact not generally known that no one was allowed to attend who did not possess street, there to be used as a general an elementary knowledge of the three | merchandise store until it was torn R.'s. Thus came into existence the down some few weeks ago. private schools of which Samuel Mandel was the master from 1797 to 1825. where scholars who were desirous of the necessary rudiments. This private increasing demand for education soon is now known as Hendry street, but was afterward removed to Bowdoin but of the same rough material, its of its foundation and fireplace.

EXCUSE THOUGHT OUT QUICKLY.

#### Butler of Speaker Cannon a Man of Resources.

Speaker Cannon is the most resourceful of men. Recently a visitor called at his residence while the Speaker was dining. He was informed that Mr. Cannon was not at home, but that he was expected to return immediately.

The mission was an important one and the butler who answered the bell was so informed. He was requested to state whether Speaker Cannon was really absent or whether he was in and not "at home." The butler said with some hesitation, his employer was really out. The caller promised to return in a short time, but as he was leaving the door he said to the butler: "The business is really that of the Speaker, and is important to

The caller started to walk down the front stairway, when the door was opened suddenly and the Speaker and the butler appeared.

"Come right in, my boy," said the "What can I do for you?" Speaker. While Mr. Cannon was speaking, the butler, who held the hat of Mr. Cannon in his hands and brushed some invisible dust from it, declared out his notes; what would it have real culprits, the manufacturer and been had he played with his notes!" the linen draper and hosier. "the Speaker came in back way."

John Hancock's Summer Mansion. rafters being hewn out of solid oak, and it stands to this day a reminder that our forefathers built better than they knew when they established the first free public school.

Names familiar to all the people of New England appeared on its roll, among them being the Humphreys, the Pierces, the Clapps, the Capens, and last, but not least, Edward Everett, who in later years made a pilgrimage to Dorchester to look once again on the school he attended as a boy.

After outliving its usefulness as a school the building was sold and removed by its purchaser to the corner of Pleasant and Commercial (now known as Hancock) streets. Very few know that John Hancock once had his summer residence on Commercial street and that after the war of the revolution the citizens in a burst of patriotism decided to honor the signer of the Declaration of Independence, and so changed it to Hancock street.

Stripped of all its former glory, the third building to be used for a public school is now used as a private resi-In 1714 it was decided that a new public school was needed, so a build- dence by descendants of those who ing slightly larger than the original authorized its erection, although not entering the public school could gain was erected at a cost of \$115, but the now located on its original site, which was on the western slope of Meeting school was originally located on what compelled its removal, and a more House Hill, where to this day can be commodious structure was erected, seen the bowlder which formed a part

Speaker Cannon and his butler, | THE SPREAD OF ADULTERATION.

Few Materials Made Now as in the

"Good Old Days." The London Lancet calls attention to the wholesale manner in which the materials which keep us warm during the day and the blankets which cover us at night are adulterated. The silk dress of the lady of a hundred years ago rustled as she moved on account of the goodness of the silk; now it rustles with the 36 per cent of salts of tin used to sophisticate it. The lady of the period in her silk dress is, indeed, a sort of "woman in armor." Epsom salts, instead of being used for medicinal purposes, as formerly, are now employed, it would appear, for loading flannel. The snowy table linen which used to delight the hearts of Mrs. Tulliver and Aunt Gleig is no linen as of yore, but largely made of cotton filled with china clay, starch and size. So, too, collars are often of cotton faced with linen. In a word, every kind of fabric which is sold is adulterated in some form or some of the smaller New England other, and the public, in blissful ignortowns, a local paper gave him the fol- ance of the truth, when it finds out how badly the "things" wear, lays the "Mr. Wulf Fries of Boston played blame upon the laundryman and the two beautiful solos on the 'cello with- dyer and cleaner instead of upon the

# ORIGINAL VERMONT STATE . HOUSE



Old State House, Rutland, Vt.

The first state house in Vermont is | the general assembly, which met al- | ican Revolution stand sponsor for the still standing in Rutland, dilapidated, ternately in Rutland and at Windsor, plan to raise a sufficient sum of money the district court under the federal to purchase the land and building but an interesting relic of the early government, the supreme court of the from the citizens who now own it, redays when Ethan Allen and his followers were fegarded as the personification of all that embodied strength of manhood and integrity of purpose. of Rutland.

This old structure was erected before the revolutionary war and stands serve this structure as a museum of ancient origin from the battlefields of near Federal square on the east side. natural history, and it has been pro-

John Burns' New Clothes.

Burns once had on a new suit watch

attracted the attention of one of the

that agitation seemed to pay. So Mr.

the new garments. It appeared that a

show waited on him for permission to

exhibit him in wax and also for the

old suit he was wearing in order to

make the presentment more natural.

This the member of the Battersea was

willing enough to part with, except

for the fact that it was the only suit

he possessed. An exchange satisfac-

tory to both parties was speedily ar-

Who Had Better Right?

on a New Year's card to his constitu-

ents, used the emblem of a crown,

deprecates the introduction of his next morning."

Coningsby Disraeli, M. P., having,

effected.

Within were held the sessions of posed that the Daughters of the Amer- prominent part. | name, or of emblems appertaining to | him, in political posters or placards." When speaking in London John Instead of kissing the rod, Mr. Dis-

raeli claims that he has a perfect audience, who sneeringly remarked right to use the emblem. "I have," he says, "a perfect right Burns told nim how he came to get to put that crown on my card, seeing war expedition to Cuba was in prepathat it was my great ancestor who representative of a famous waxworks put an imperial crown on the throne." It is possible that the next communication he receives from the blistered side of the hotel, where the king's private secretary may be less moderate in tone.-London Star.

Humor in the Wrong Place. "Everytime I see this picture of the to the last table, where people of litlate Speaker Michael C. Kerr of Indiana," said Congressman Campbell of ranged and Burns had a new suit. Ohio, "I am reminded of an old friend Later an agent of a rival waxworks es- of an old friend of mine who work- all this a bit. He smiled at the flower tablishment came on a similar errand ed on a Boston newspaper. This laden tables reserved for staff and and another exchange was speedily man was the telegraph editor and was possessed of one of those queer ple streaks of humor, which he always tite. used at the wrong time. When the story of Speaker Kerr's death came into the office my friend wrote this

headline over the story:

Lerd Knollys wrote that "the king gavel to gravel." He lost his job the

state, the courts of common pleas and pair the interior and start a collection the courts of probate for the district of relics dating back to the time when Rutland was first settled, including A movement is under way to pre- minerals of the state, curiosities of

The "Cld Jay."

Wiry, quick and energetic, enveloped in an old linen duster, a little man, wearing a slouch hat, crowded his way through the throng in the rotunda of the Tampa Bay hotel when the ration. Nobody seemed to know this quaint looking little old man, and he was given scant attention. On the sun thermometer stood at 110, he was given a room.

When he entered the dining room the head waiter passed the "old jay"

But Major General Wheeler, for this is who the "old jay" was, didn't mind field officers and "shoved" in his simple order of dinner with a lusty appe-

Afterward when the "old jay" appeared in a major general's uniform, ne immensely appreciated the astonishment depicted on the face of one who had jocosely accosted him as "Rube" on the day before.

### WHY HE HAD REMEMBERED

which is the easiest to rememberbut it seldom happens that exactly the same elements in any situation are most unusual or most striking to any two onlockers. A man who has traveled many times up and down the Mississippi stood on the levee at Cape Girardeau, Mo., one noontime, waiting for the arrival of a downbound packet. Another prospective passenger stepped up and accosted him. "Pardon me, suh," he said. "You

and I have met befo', but you do not remember me"

"Doubtless if you will recall the circumstances I shall do so," said the

"Well, suh, it was at Bahfield, Ahkansas, one evening five years ago." "I remember Barfield and the evening perfectly," said the man accosted. "It was a frightfully stormy night. The mud at Barfield was deeper than I had ever seen before. I had moored by boat at the bank in front of town, but the bank was so soft I could not climb it. I shinned up a rope to the a store, bought some groceries and of tomatoes. returned to my cabin by sliding down aloud from Mark Twain's 'Life on the panion.

It is generally the unusual thing | Mississippi.' A raft of logs broke loose and went down stream, and as I had no skiff to follow them with, shouted an alarm and others went The rain turned to snow before morn ing, and the next morning, which was Sunday, the steamer Ferd Herold came in from Memphis at daybreak.'

"Yes, suh," said the man who remembered him. "Yes, suh, I reckon all those things ah so. I do not recall them, howeveh. Bahfield is always muddy when it rains, the Ferd Herold comes in every week, logs often break away, and none of those things is fastened into my memory.

"But, suh, I was settin' in the sto that evenin' when you entered. Wheh you come f'om no one of us knew. You bought, suh, two pounds of rice and a can of tomatoes. Now, suh, I neveh knew a gentleman to buy just that combination of groceries at the same time befo', and not one of us could imagine, suh, jes' what a man who, so fah as we could see, didn't live theh and didn't have any home foh usin' them, was goin' to do with top, waded over my shoes in mud to two pounds of rice and only one can

"I have remembehed you ever since. a lumber chute. My wife cooked sup- suh, and have always wondehed what per, and we spent an evening reading you did with them."-Youth's Com-

### IRISHMAN OF THE PAST

At an election before the union, | totally unable to write his own name. Dick Martin was opposed by Giles Eyre of Eyecourt, a territorial magnate and thorough sportsman, renowned alike for his reckless extravagances and dare-devil bravery, says Blackwood's Magazine. He was however, totally illiterate, a circumstance less regarded then than at the present time. The hustings in those days used to be erected in Evre square, in Galway, sufficiently close to each other to enable the rival candidates for ropular favor to exchange banter and other sallies of wit. Advancing to the front of his booth with a folded paper in his hand, Dick Martin exclaimed:

"I declare solemnly, before all here assembled, that I am willing this moment to retire from this contest and to allow Col. Eyre to be returned unopposed if he will only sign this declaration which I hold in my hand."

This, however, it was not possible for Giles Eyre to do-not from any dissent to the views set forth in the Dick Martin was well aware, he was cradles.

Lord Clanricarde was at that time colonel of the Galway militia, and Giles Eyre filled the post of lieutenant colonel. He had, however, not much more acquaintance with drill than he had with reading and writing. A general officer having on one occasion come down from Dublin on a tour of inspection, Giles Eyre had to put the regiment through its facings before him. In five minutes he had reduced the regiment to absolute chaos, no man knowing which was his front nor in which direction he was expected

"Devil take you, sir!" roared the inspecting officer, black with fury. "Who made you a lieutenant colonel?" "No one made me a lieutenant colo-

nel," Giles Eyre returned, haughtily. "I should not allow myself to be made a lieutenant colonel by anyone. I was born so."

Nor was this an idle boast, for children were frequently appointed to document in question, but because, as | high military posts while still in their

### LYDDY DECIDED TO LIVE

lay very still and apparently breathing

Lyddy was a thin, wiry little woman, with a slow-going husband, who had just then tiptoed into the room with his hat on the back of his head. The neighbor shook her head dubiously. and waved Jim back. Then she fanned the sick woman more slowly until the last motion was hardly perceptible, and laid down the fan. Lyddy was breathing, but that seemed all.

Stepping into the adjoining kitchen, the neighbor said: "Jim, you might as well go down and order your clothes. other toot. If he gits to makin' 'em he my rag carpet long enough." won't drink till he's done. But all doomsday can't stop him when once he this upsetting of her well-meant argits started."

dressmakin'. She's mighty thrifty. I'd News.

A neighbor was fanning Lyddy, who , 'a' supported Lyddy all right if she'd let me, but seems like she liked to He moved toward the outside door,

> but a voice made him turn. "Jim Lawson," said Lyddy, sitting up in bed, "if you think you're goin' to git new clothes to wear to my funeril vou're mistaken. I ain't goin' to die. You don't need no new clothes. That

> money in the blue teacup ain't goin'

for no new clothes for you.

"I didn't mean no harm, Lyddy," said Jim, lamely.

You've got to show Lyddy proper re- Johnson knows I've been savin' that The battle was the fiercest ever seen spect. Ole Jones is sober this mornin', money for a new store carpet fur the in Los Angeles, and each man varied team, signed as a pitcher with the and it's most time for him to have an- best room. She's stuck up her nose at The neighbor, perhaps annoyed by

rangements, went out, shutting the "Well. I will." said Jim. "Lyddy's door with unnecessary force. got some money laid by from her Lyddy was getting up.-Chicago

### SAVED BY THE CONDITIONS

cago a breach of promise suit that awakened much interest in legal circles by reason of the ingenious means taken by counsel for the defendant to secure a verdict for his client. Counsel for the plaintiff had begun to read what was alleged to be the proposal of marriage on the part of the defendant. This so-called proposal appeared on a telegraph blank. Turning to the jury counsel began with "My darling Marie." At this juncture counsel for the defendant interrupted his colleague at the bar.

"May it please the court, this document, being partly printed and partly written, cannot, by the rules of evidence, be offered in part by plaintiff. Everything on the blank must be

Notwithstanding the protests of harper's Weekly.

Last summer there was tried at Chi- | counsel for the plaintiff that the printed matter had no relevancy with the case-the fact being that the proposal was written on a telegraph blank by accident-the ruling of the court was that everything on the blank should be read. Accordingly the reluctant counsel for the plaintiff was forced to read the following:

"There shall be no liability on account of this message unless the same shall be repeated, and then only on condition that the claim shall be made within thirty days in writing." Then after the signature followed: "Yours devotedly. Harry," together with this N. B.: "Read carefully the conditions at the top."

To the great delight of counsel for the defendant the jury returned a verdict in his favor in twenty minutes .-

### THE HOLINESS OF TRUTH

For the law of righteous living, for the love that shall not die.

While the soul has aspirations to be glorified on high?

It is plain as honest faces that betoken hearts so kind

They are hands unto the weary, seeing eyes unto the blind;

Making man a nobler creature, giving states a wiser aim, Giving virtue, knowledge, valor, each a bright, immortal name?

It is lasting as the cliff rock that forever fronts the sea, Lasting as the ocean waters that shall wash the cliff rock free;

What is truth that through the ages man should rifle earth and star

Seeking ever in the unknown where its mystic fountains are,

Truth is simple as the sermons nature tells us on our way.

Gentle as the thought of brothers who were parted yesterday;

What is truth that in the distance it should blaze with holy light.

Beating back the hosts of darkness in the world's enfolding night,

It is beautiful as morning when the world awakes to joy And life's golden expectations thrill the eager heart of boy;

Lo, the world is ever changing, and the new is ever old.

And who fights with human progress is a warrior overbold;

And although it wrings emotion from the life that suffers long.

Though it girds the loins of labor for the battle fierce and strong;

And the truth is what we make it by the light of that great love
Which forever lifts the planet toward the singing stars above.

Truth is ever what we make it in the light of love and peace.

Help and hope unto the toiling who would give the soul increase!

—Charles W. Stevenson, in New York Press.

# PAID DEARLY FOR MEANNESS

of a boy," said a Kansas City man the | the next two weeks my tormentor lost other day, relating the misdeeds of his eighty fine hogs from cholera. I had early youth. "I remember how I took got satisfaction. From the pen of a revenge on a farmer whom I thought neighbor whose pigs had the plague I mistreated me. He had a large dog had picked up two half-eaten ears of which I greatly admired, but which he | corn which I threw into the feed lot of sadly mistreated by starving and beat- my enemy and infected his whole herd. ing it. I used to coax the dog to go It was a devilish deed, and even behunting with me, and as I had no gun, fore the pigs began to die I had rehis aid in running down rabbits was pented. A boy's wrath is as terrible very material. One day the farmer as a man's, and he has not the wiscaught me hunting with his dog. He seized me by the neck and shook me it. Eighty fine hogs was the price roughly, telling me that if he caught | that farmer paid for promising to mas me hunting with his dog again he sacre a boy for making friends with would break every bone in my body his mistreated dog. And the farmer and stamp me into the earth. I felt never knew. Even a boy and a dog deeply indignant. I planned to be are better to have as friends than avenged by some method which would enemies."—Kansas City Times.

"It doesn't pay to incur the enmity | not get me into more trouble. Within dom of his years to help him control



Late News by Wire.

The date of the Oxford-Cambridge boat race has been fixed for April 1. In the International Hockey league the Michigan Soo won from Canadian Soo, 15 to 4.

Chicago's freshman track team defeated Wendell Phillips High School in a dual track meet by a score of 60 to 17. Walter Steffens broke his own world's record of 0:06 2-5 for the fifty yards low hurdles by going the distance in 0:06 1-5.

J. Pierpont Morgan forwarded check for \$500 toward the fund started to send the American athletes to the Olympic games at Athens next April. Among other prominent subscribers recently were: S. R. Guggenheim, \$500; August Belmont, \$100; Mortimer L. Schiff, \$50.

Although the plans for the tennis invasion of England next summer still are in an unsettled state, it is possible that the American team will consist of but two men. The men most likely to represent this country are Ward and Wright, who would prove a formidable combination.

By a magnificent finish and after apparently being badly beaten, Thomas Hueston of Scranton, Pa., overcame a lead of 107 balls in the final block of his match with Charles Weston of Chicago, challenger for the world's championship pool emblem, and retained the trophy. The final score was 600 to 589.

The rules for the James Gordon Bennett aeronautic cup fix the last day for the reception of entries as March 1. Trial races will be held April 2. The first entry, which was received to-day, was from the Italian Aeronautic society, which has chosen Alfred von Willer, a well-known aeronaut,

as the pilot of its airship. Another large contribution was made Feb. 9 to the fun being raised in order that a team of American athletes may be sent to Athens to compete in the Olympic games there this spring. This contribution, amounting to \$500, was made by George J. Gould. Mr. Gould is the first honorary vice president of the American committee of the Olympic games.

Boxing.

The proposed match between Jack Dougherty and Jimmy Gardner has fallen through, as they failed to agree on the weight stipulation.

Jack Curley, who is traveling with Marvin Hart, has written a friend in Louisville that if the Kentucky boxer the player at any time upon repaydefeats Burns, Jeffries has promised Marvin a match.

Jack Haylin, the old-time prize

At Los Angeles, Cal., Feb. 9, "Kid" strong as ever when the time comes "I won't trust you, Jim," Lyddy con- Herman of Chicago and Aurelio Her- to go South. tinued. "I'm goin' to git up. Maria rera fought twenty rounds to a draw. in point of advantage throughout the Cleveland American league team. contest.

offer ever made by a pugilist. The Baltimore scrapper declares his willingness to meet both Britt and Nel- teen men already signed. son on the same night and in the same ring. Not only that, but he will weigh 133 pounds at 6 o'clock. Joe says that he will fight each of them twenty rounds, and all he asks is one hour's rest between fights. He also asks permission to name the man who will have to meet him first.

Before he left Chicago to continue his theatrical tour, Jack O'Brien an-

TOPS A VAULTING RECORD.

LEROY SAMSE

At the games of the Cincinnati Y. M. C. A. this University of Indiana athlete created a new record for polevaulting indoors at 11 feet 51/2 inches, raising the best previous mark by one inch, a record that also was held by Samse. The young athlete was a member of the Chicago Athletic association's team last summer.

nounced that he and Tommy Ryan were matched, the battle to take place on May 8. The club before which the men will meet has not been selected, to football. but the bout will be given to the one making the best offer. A California fair, although Tom O'Rourke's Tuxedo club is an active bidder and stands a good chance of getting it if long battles can be held in Pennsylvania without interference.

Baseball.

Catcher Tom Needham of Boston denies that he intends to quit the big league. He may buy stock in the proposed Steubenville club, but will tyre of Brooklyn than off any other National league pitcher last season. rules.

One hundred and eighty-eight runners made the circuit while Mac was in the

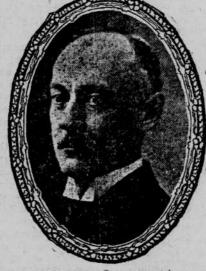
President Pulliam has promulgated the contracts of Huggins, Dorner Schlei, Livingstone, Hafford and Sey mour with Cincinnati. Third base man Lobert has also signed with the Reds.

George Yeager, the former New York catcher, expects to graduate as a veterinary surgeon before the blue birds chirp loudly. He has been study ing horse doctoring for the past 18 months at Cincinnati

Conflicts in the playing schedules of the National and American leagues have been reduced to the same number as last year, twenty-four, despite the fact the two seasons will open on different dates this spring.

Frank Huelsman, outfielder of the Washington American league team. has been sold to Montreal of the Eastern league. The terms of the sale give Washington the right to recall

GREAT BILLIARD EXPERT.



GEORGE SLOSSON

George Slosson has been matched to play Willie Hoppe, the youthful cue expert, for the billiard championship of the world. According to the conditions of the match the youth and the veteran are to meet in a 500point encounter, at 18-inch balk line, one shot in balk on March 27. The stakes will be \$500 a side and the winner is to take the net receipts. Hoppe recently defeated Vignaux, the Frenchman.

ment of the purchase price.

Outfielder Jimmy Barrett of the Detroits has his injured joint in a plaster fighter, died in Boston city hospital of cast at his home, and writes that he Bright's disease, aged 48. He was a will keep it on a few weeks more. contemporary of Ike Weir, and in his He is suffering no inconvenience day was well known as a lightweight. | therefrom and thinks his knee will be

Ralph Cadwallader, a pitcher in last year's Sioux City (Iowa) baseball Howard Wakefield, a catcher in the Joe Gans makes the most unique Des Moines (Iowa) club last season. also signed with Cleveland to play the same position. The club has seven-

President Holland announced that the Three Eye league magnates had voted in favor of readopting the original schedule approved at the meeting in Chicago on Jan. 11. It contains 126 games with ten Sundays at home for each team. The mileage is 19,000.

the smallest in the history of the league, due to placing Rock Island in the western circuit.

Trotting.

John E. Madden, one of America's most famous turfmen, paid \$47,000 for Prince Wilbourne at the Splan sale. The price is among the highest ever paid for a horse in the West. The Montpelier (Ind.) Fair and Driving Park association has named dates for its fair and race meeting, Sept. 24-29. The association pays good purses and has a splendid track.

The 5-year-old matinee trotter, Harry McKerron, by John A. McKerron. was sold by Charles A. Otis Jr., of Cleveland to other Cleveland owners for \$7,000. The horse is to be trained for the intercity \$5,000 cup race.

Racing men are astonished at the serious accusation made against E. E. Smathers, the millionaire turfman, in connection with the trotting race between Lou Dillon and Major Delmar in October, 1904, at the Memphis track. Mr. Smathers is charged with guilty knowledge that drugs were administered to Lou Dillon on the occasion when he drove his own horse to victory over C. K. G. Billing's mare, which was also driven by her owner. As a result of these charges, which were sworn to by George Spear, trainer of Major Delmar, and Edward Saunders, a brother of Lou Dillon's trainer, the \$5,000 gold cup, which Mr. Smathers won in that race, has been seized by the Memphis Racing association.

Football.

After a stormy session of four hours the University of Wisconsin faculty decided to remain firmly in opposition

Yale, Princeton and Harvard have agreed to limit membership on ath promoter probably will stage the af- letic teams to three years. This sweeps away members of professional schools and athletes imported from other colleges and makes it impossible for any student to get upon a team till after he has been a year in the university.

The University of Iowa faculty sen ate voted to abolish football for the period of two years unless certain drastic reforms are inaugurated by the "big nine" conference. These re osed Steubenville club, but will loring the second continue to work for the Beaneaters. by the recent conference at Chicago but the Iowa professors voted for forms chiefly are those recommended some modifications in the suggested