

Promenades," they should be strictly confined to university students or should be dispensed with.

## WANTED--AN INVENTOR.

### THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE APPEALS TO OUR STUDENTS.

On Train, January 26, 1893.

Chancellor James H. Canfield, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska.

MY DEAR CHANCELEOR:—Last night, on board this Pennsylvania train, I lay awake endeavoring to invent some new implement for land tillage. The plow is an enemy to fertility. The plow, as used in Nebraska and other stoneless soils, impacts every furrow it passes over and renders it as impervious to rainfall as possible. The draft of a plow is downward to such an extent, that the full force of the team's strength is exhausted in pressing the bottom of the furrow into a polished trough for the conduction of rain down the sidehills. We must have some method of tillage which shall stir up the soil and subsoil to the depth of eighteen inches and more. If it were possible to loosen the soil and subsoil down for three feet all over the state of Nebraska, we could then, with an annual rainfall of twenty inches, make abundant and profitable crops. Until deep plowing—thorough subsoil tillage—becomes universal in that commonwealth, there will be, year in and year out, no certainty of remunerative crops.

My reason for writing you, is to suggest that you bring this question before the entire body of 1600 students of the University of Nebraska, and ask them, each and all, to try and think out a new implement of agriculture which shall supersede the plow. In my judgment the coming implement should spade the land and turn it over, as a man who pushes the spade with his foot into the ground, and drawing the spade out turns the soil upside down by the twist of his wrists. Possibly a rotary spader could be invented. Possibly an implement consisting of a large number of revolving knives could be made, so that in passing over the surface of the field it shall chop up the soil and subsoil down for two feet in such a manner as to render percolation of the rainfall down to the depth at which the ground has been stirred, very easy and perfect.

Professor Shaler, of Harvard, estimates that the present inefficient and ill-resulting methods of plowing, especially upon undulating lands, is costing the agriculture of the United States 250 square miles of soil less each year by erosion. Everywhere in Nebraska where torrential rainfalls are so frequent, sidehills mutely verify Professor Shaler's theory as to the annual waste of washed lands.

This is a matter of such vast importance to Nebraska, and, in fact, to all humanity, that I hope you will pardon me for suggesting it as a subject upon which the inventive mind of educated youth may properly be concentrated. A proper solution of the question will facilitate subsoil tillage and at the same time save both crops and soil.

Very respectfully yours,

J. STEELING MORTON, Secretary.

## COMPANY B'S "BLOWOUT."

What the 'Varsity Rifles failed to do, Company B of the cadet battalion carried through with great success. It looked like a great undertaking, but an energetic committee took charge of the affair and the first military ball yet given by the cadets went through with a rush.

On Friday evening, February 1st, after the exams had all been finished, about one hundred university students enjoyed themselves dancing to the strains of the excellent music furnished by Irvine's orchestra, in the Lansing theatre dancing hall.

In the absence of Lieut. Pershing Capt. Elliot, of Company "B," led the grand march, followed by Capt. Weeks, of Company "A." The next in rank was Lieut. Haughton, then the sergeants, corporals, and high privates, accompanied by the fairest co-eds that the old "Uni" could furnish. During the march the programs were distributed, which caused a ripple of surprise to creep over the guests. What was that design on the cover? A jagged looking piece of blue ribbon, pinned on the card, with a yellow stripe at the end. Yes, it was the unique badge which the company adopted last spring. As the committee were afraid to ask the lieutenant for any more trousers, they overcame the difficulty by reproducing the piece thereof in the colored inks.

It was nearly 1 o'clock when the meeting was declared officially adjourned and all returned to their various homes (?) to live happily ever after, until the next military hop takes place.

Much credit is due the committee, composed of Adams, Jones, Saxton, Riley, and Robbins, for their efforts in making the affair the success it was. The difficulties they experienced may be realized when it is known that two of the committee would get hold of a cadet to persuade him to go, while the other three would stand around and ward off the members of the Junior Prom committee, who were hovering near ever ready to pounce upon a luckless individual.

## LAW NOTES.

The following officers were reinstated in office in the junior class: President, Wm. Mentzer; vice president, Wm. Hendricks; secretary, R. F. Neal; treasurer, Miss E. M. Davisson; sergeant-at-arms, Irvine P. Gardner.

There has been a good deal of wrangling in the junior class during the last month, there being several factions each desirous of running the class. The constitution which was made several weeks ago with the intention of throwing out the present officers, was not successful, as the constitution was thrown out at the meeting on the 29th and a committee appointed which reported at the next meeting that there was no need of a constitution and that Roberts' Rules of Order would be used, which was carried.

Examinations were held last week but the work of the class did not stop at all, classes being held every day.