

THE NEBRASKAN.

A Weekly Newspaper Issued Every Friday Noon at the University of Nebraska.

ESTERED AS SECOND-CLASS MAIL MATTER.

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There was the same old scrap about the distribution of seats at the Lansing for Charter-day night. No matter what system is adopted there are always those who wish it some other way. Every conceivable plan has been tried, always with the same result: fault-finding and general complaint. When the older citizens, who had stood by the University for years when it needed friends, were given reserved seats, then the students as a body declared that it was first and foremost a students' day, and that they should have the precedence. When they were given precedence, and an attempt was made to recognize them by classes, then the lower classes held indignation meetings because their tickets placed them in the gallery. When the plan of reserving seats was abandoned, and all were given an equal chance at all sittings, the cry went up that it was mighty poor management that compelled people to go a half hour in advance in order to get a decent seat. This year it was the seniors who declined to recognize that this is day of general rejoicing, and for all students alike; and held meetings to establish the fact that they were mistreated because they were expected to get in line with the other students when tickets were dealt out.

The simple fact is that the students of the University, each holding a single sitting, will just fill the Lansing—gallery and all. When the Legislature must be (properly) shown some little courtesy, and the State Officers are cared for, and the clergy who officiate in chapel during the year have been granted this slight recognition for their gratuitous and very acceptable services; there remain for the faculty and students just about one thousand seats for sixteen hundred persons. It is impossible to determine in advance who will be present and who will not, and so the only safe and equitable plan seems to be to issue tickets at a given hour as far as the tickets would go, and let the rest take chances when the doors are thrown open to the public.

There is a woeful lack of common honor and decency in the way in which students treat each other at such times. It would seem that natural courtesy should demand that the young women have the first chance, but at the distribution young men crowd young women aside without the slightest compunction. In addition, when it is well known that

there is but one ticket for each student, and really not that, men crowd into line a second time and even a third time, and boast that they have thus cheated a classmate or a college-mate out of his or her chance for a sitting. It is high time that there was a keener sense of honor than this; and that if there is not, those who believe in better things should simply send directly to Coventry the fellows who thus outrage all sense of common fairness and decency.

Certainly all must pity the management; which sustains the fire of citizens, faculty, and students—to say nothing about the general burdens of the day.

THE recent local oratorical contest proved conclusively the decline of enthusiasm for these contests on the part of students in general. Several years ago these contests were eagerly looked forward to and the chapel was always crowded. The interest was intense while awaiting the announcement of the decision of the judges, the students fairly "raised the roof" and yells and songs without number were let loose.

Within the past few years this enthusiasm has died out. The audiences have become smaller and the yells fewer until this year not even the lower portion of the chapel was filled. Scarcely enough money was taken in to pay for the prize of the second orator. While awaiting the decision but very few yells were to be heard and they were started by the few alumni who chanced to be present. But very few seemed

to care about the outcome. In fact it was a very "tame" affair. The orations were good but the audience lacked that interest necessary to make an oratorical contest a success.

Already the Kansas-Nebraska debate is rapidly taking the place of these contests. In view of these drawbacks why should we not withdraw from the State association? Either there should be more interest taken in oratorical contests or they should be abolished. This is certainly the opinion of the large majority of the students of the University of Nebraska and some action should be taken in the near future.

THERE will be another meeting of the Athletic association very soon to adopt a new constitution. This meeting will be most important to all lovers of athletics in the college and every one should make it his business to be present.

THE NEBRASKAN asks every student to look over those rules published as "A Suggestion" in the issue of December 7th. If you want these, all you have to do is to say so.

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