

**PLANS THE FUTURE.**

**A Big Bible Work Promised For the Coming Year.**

The college Y. M. C. A. had its true beginning in 1877, and today their vast brotherhood of college men encircles the globe. That this association has grown so rapidly is due to two facts: It meets a permanent want and has been brought into unity with unusual skill.

The work of the college association is principally of a religious and social character. The bond of union is common work and common sympathy. This fraternity of young men leagued together in the name of Christ and for the promotion of the Christian religion exert by their personal and combined sympathy an influence vastly more powerful than any which they conscientiously exert by their religious labors.

"Wherever there are young men, there is our field," appears to be the formula under which the Y. M. C. A. works. Of all young men those in colleges are the most important, to the future of the world. They are the pre-destined leaders in the church and state. In reaching the colleges, the association has reached the fountain of thought. As they think, the world of their day will think, and as they work will the institutions of today flourish or decline. This is becoming increasingly true, for the influence of the college men is becoming more felt in every direction. As a field for projecting Christianity into the future as a dominant influence there is none greater.

Christian belief among the young men of our colleges and the universities has not weakened. It is true that there is less reverence today for the scholastic and dogmatic forms which were of old identified with Christianity. The colleges and universities are today giving protection, moral and religious, influence to young men in a degree second only to the home. The young man on leaving home has many temptations to meet, yet he can find no place outside of the college where good is seeking him so earnestly. About 55 per cent of college boys are members of churches, while only 10 per cent of the young men as a whole are church members.

The future outlook of the Y. M. C. A. in the University of Nebraska is most hopeful, and plans for next year's work are in a large measure perfected now. Judging from the past progress of the association, a conservative estimate gives a membership of 400 for next year. Teachers for Bible classes have been selected who will spend much of the summer in preparing and fitting themselves for their work. At least 150 students will be enrolled in these Bible classes. City missions, which have been carried on with great success, will be extended to several more fields. Arrangements are under way in conjunction with the university authorities to provide suitable rooms and nurses for the care of sick students. But space will not permit further details in this connection.

The Y. M. C. A. of the University of Nebraska has one governing impetus only: the desire to do good to young men, and the best service to be rendered them is to lead them to reverence and love Jesus Christ. To use all innocent and rational means as ministrants to their highest ministry—this is the simple creed of the Y. M. C. A. Its work is not antagonistic, but positive and in a spirit of helpfulness. No agency is employed with a malevolent purpose. If selfishness creeps in, it is an alien; for it is rebuked by the lofty ideal which the young men have set before them. To every young man in point of fact, is presented the appeal:

"And thy striving be it with loving,  
And thy living deed on deed."

**COMMITTEE ON BIBLE STUDY.**

The Bible study committee is endeavoring to greatly increase the number of students in the Bible classes next year. Over fifty men are now enrolled, and the committee expects to treble this number. Hopes are entertained that every communitarian will become a leader or student in a class. The men in the classes now will doubtless re-enter them when they return, and these, with a number of others who have already signified their intention of entering, will form a good nucleus to begin with when the university opens next fall. At that time strenuous efforts will be put forth to induce as many students, old and new, to enter as possible.

Classes for next year's work will be assigned to leaders in the near future. Text books will be ordered early so that the work may begin when school opens without delay.

This year a normal class for the leaders was organized, under the direction of Mr. Sheldon. There will probably be two of them next year. A word of explanation here will perhaps not be out of place.

The text books are "A Life of Christ," "A Life of Paul," and "Studies in the Old Testament." The life of Christ was arranged by H. B. Sherman for the international committee of the Y. M. C. A. The others by prominent scholars. A lesson is pro-

vided for every day in the school year. Half an hour a day is required for this course, and the classes meet at a convenient time for an hour during the week for conference and discussion. A student will ask perhaps, Can I spare the time? Certainly; every one should give at least half an hour to the study of God's word daily. Why not enter a class and study it systematically and consecutively as you would any college study?

Who would think of studying Greek or chemistry by perhaps reading over a few lines of the subject before retiring in the evening and thinking no more of it until the next evening? It is certain a great many treat the subject of eternal life in this way.

Surely the scriptures are worthy of the best and deepest study.

If such men as Gladstone, Neander, Edersheim and Professor Drummond found it profitable study every college man can, whatever his views may be.

But above all, this study will bring a great blessing to the individual, as the men in the bible classes will gladly testify. It is a source of strength to draw from day by day to meet the battles of life.

Fellow students think on these things. Any member of the Bible study committee would gladly receive your name.

**WHY SHOULD THE UNIVERSITY NOT HAVE THE Y. M. C. A. BUILDING?**

At the opening of the new room given this year for the use of the Y. M. C. A., Chancellor MacLean deplored the ill-equipment of the most widespread of university organizations, the Christian associations. It has only been since 1895 that these associations have had any place that could be called home, and even then but a single room for each. This year the Y. M. C. A. was given a larger room in addition to the old one. The Y. M. C. A. has still only the one room which is altogether inadequate for the needs of the young women of the university. So great was the need for

resting room for them, that the university authorities had a part of the basement hall in the library contained off for this purpose. And still throughout the building empty class rooms, where, as a matter of course, there can be none of the feeling of retirement or privacy, many students go of necessity to eat their lunches and rest for a few moments in the middle of the day.

All who frequent the association rooms and make use of them in this way find them a great convenience. They supply the need that the university cannot supply, namely, the much needed retreat for students, and especially those who are too far from home or rooms to go to them in the middle of the day.

The associations in scope and influence, have developed very rapidly since they have had their humble homes. The membership of the Y. M. C. A. has this year, largely owing to the general secretary's supervision, more than doubled.—increasing from one hundred and twenty-three to two hundred and eighty-seven. Some of the social functions of the association take rank with the greatest in the university, and the Y. M. and Y. W. C. A. have gained a place and dignity second to no other organizations in our institution and the prospects are about the development has just fairly begun.

To keep up with our growth, what should we do next? The university is growing and wants new and extended equipment to meet the increasing demands. The associations need also to increase their equipment. They have come to be an indispensable factor in the institution. They alone have it for their exclusive business to look after the spiritual and social well being of the students and furnish almost the only common ground on which all members of the university can meet. The scope of the work has so far necessarily been small—limited by the equipment of the associations. What is needed and what many colleges have secured is an association building adapted to the needs of the institutions. This building should be the center of general student life. It should be not only a members of the associations and convenient for

student affairs connected with the associations, but for students and all organizations.

In such a building would a public hall and smaller clubs, parlors, reading, committee and other rooms, all quiet, cozy and homelike—rooms where members of the university could go and feel the restraint of the

stream practicality of this work when first brought to our notice. The association is here to be of use to the students, regardless of their connections with the university institutions. It is the great neutral ground where no differences are serious. Our platform of service is one upon which we all may stand.

There have been two great needs existing for the establisment of this department: one in the university itself and the other in the city. It is estimated that there are at least two hundred men in the university who are making part, or all, of their expenses while here attending school, even there as in Lincoln a large demand for men to do small jobs, and it is often difficult to procure a man when most needed. It is the business of this department to bring these two extreme demands together so that they may satisfy each other.

This work has been done at the executive office heretofore, but, owing to the increased amount of work devolving upon those in that office, this work was turned over to the association last November, so that more time could be devoted to making it beneficial to a large number of the students.

Up to the time of making this report this department has furnished seventy jobs to students. These jobs range from steady employment, that brought to the student his board or room to an hour or two of work. While this may not seem to be a very large showing, yet with the poor facilities for handling the work—showed that good work had been done and proved the department to be an extremely practical part of our work. Some days we have furnished four or five different men with work.

By the opening of the next school year the department expects to have its work systematized so that we can fill all demands for men on short notice.

One of the most serious hindrances to our work this past year was that the people of Lincoln did not know that there was such a thing as an employment bureau at the university, where they could obtain a man to do the odd jobs that are constantly on hand at the homes. We have felt this lack of advertisement sadly, and we ask the students to assist us in overcoming this difficulty. The college papers have told of our presence here, but these papers do not reach the citizens whom we most desire to reach. We would ask the students that they spread the fact of the existence of this department among the citizens of Lincoln. We will be glad to receive calls for any odd jobs, as tending furnace, caring for horses and cows, mowing lawns, doing janitor work, making gardens, waiting tables, or anything else that an honorable man can do.

In order that the request may be filled to the satisfaction of all concerned it would be well when applying for a man that the kind and amount of work be stated.

**L. J. MARSH.**

Lucien J. Marsh, re-elected vice-president, is an "old war horse" in the work. Mr. Marsh is a junior and anticipates entering some line of Christian work. His summer in the Y. M. C. A. army tent at Chickamauga has made him exceedingly valuable to the association. In addition to his duties as vice-president he has been placed at the head of the employment bureau and under his directions it is fast becoming one of the prominent lines of work in the association. Mr. Marsh has not settled definitely the line of work that he will take up after leaving school, but will probably enter some line of Christian work.

**JOHN H. BOOSE.**

John H. Boose, the retiring president, is a senior. He is studying for the ministry and will enter McCormick Theological seminary at Chicago in the fall. Mr. Boose was early interested in association work. After entering the university and during his entire course has been active in the work for young men. He was a delegate to the great missionary convention held in Cleveland one year ago, and also to Lake Geneva conference during the summer. Mr. Boose has made for himself an enviable record during the first year. During his administration the work has reached out into new lines of activity and has been brought to a position where it touches the real life of young men as it has never done before. The work has received his careful supervision at all times and he has shown himself a man of rare judgment.

During his stay in the university he has been prominent in all student undertakings. He has well merited the confidence that has been placed in him

by all students. When Mr. Boose graduate the association will lose a good friend and competent adviser.

W. W. White, one of the foremost Bible students of this country, has just completed a tour of this world, making a stop in Calcutta, India, of two years. Mr. White has done much for Bible study in the associations. He is one of the speakers selected for the Geneva conference.

C. J. Allen, as treasurer, is well known as an association worker. Mr. Allen is a student volunteer and for several years has been intensely interested in this line of work. He was a delegate to the Cleveland convention in '98. Mr. Allen has made a careful study of missions and no doubt is the best informed man in the institution on this line of work. At the beginning of the year owing to the fact that Mr. Hunting had gone to war he was called from the chairmanship of this committee to the missionary committee to act as treasurer. The fact that the association has paid all bills promptly has been commented upon many times during the year and this excellent condition of affairs is largely due to the untiring efforts of Mr. Allen. To such an extent was his labors appreciated that he was re-elected treasurer at the recent election and in this capacity he will doubtless render the work valuable service in the coming year. During the past two years he has published "College Men," a publication issued in the interest of the college associations of the state.

**SAM ANDERSON.**

Sam Anderson, recently elected recording secretary, comes from Omaha. He is well qualified for his position on account of his excellent business training. He was for a long time the bookkeeper in the Union National bank at Omaha and in that capacity he received a training which makes him invaluable to the association.

**C. C. MINCHENER.**

C. C. Minchener, of Chicago, has endeared himself to every college man in the middle west who loves and admires many college men. Mr. Minchener is a graduate of Penn college, at Oskaloosa, Iowa. Shortly after graduation he was chosen college secretary of Iowa and under his direction the college work of the state was brought to a point of rare excellence. It was while in this capacity that he was sent out to do deputation work in some of the adjoining states by the International committee. His rare ability in college work was soon recognized. In due time he was chosen as a member of the International Committee, having charge of the college work in the middle west. He has thrown into the work a trained mind and a consecrated life and as a result the religious work of the western institutions has been developed and broadened beyond all expectations. His work is largely done through other men. Those who know him best say that of all men in college work he has not a peer in his ability to determine the possibilities and resources of men. He seems to have that rare ability of fitting men for their respective positions. His central office is in Chicago and from that point he largely directs the work in the western states.

Have the "Evans" do your washing.



Y. M. C. A. Building, University of Minnesota.



Iowa Building.

rushing school life removed.

Besides these named conveniences, there should also be all the other necessities that go to make up this social center and retreat for students away from home.

Now, what is to be done? We are an institution of which we are proud. The University of Nebraska has not only quantity but quality. It has two thousand students who, when they leave their walls, do it ever to her credit. It ranks well among all the higher schools of our country and among the very first of the west. It holds a creditable rank in athletics, forensics and whatever other lines it has competed with other institutions. When its Christian associations resolve that they need and are going to have a building for themselves they can have it just as the associations in other institutions have secured theirs.

We, in our associations, are many examples to follow in securing a



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S. M. SAYFORD.

Mr. Sayford is perhaps the most popular college man in this country and knows more college men intimately than any other member of the international committee. It is hoped that Mr. Sayford will visit Nebraska next year.

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Sam Anderson, recently elected recording secretary, comes from Omaha. He is well qualified for his position on account of his excellent business training. He was for a long time the bookkeeper in the Union National bank at Omaha and in that capacity he received a training which makes him invaluable to the association.

The office of recording secretary is now one of importance. The compiling of records and religious statistics is very essential in a college association. The whole membership is confident that under the direction of Mr. Anderson this line of work will be carefully done.

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