

# THE HESPERIAN

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MANY of our graduates were conspicuous among the teachers at the annual state teachers meeting here December 27th, 28th and 29th. They came from all parts of the State, some as superintendents, some as principals, and others as teachers: Our University certainly furnishes its quota of the teachers of the State. Many of them spoke enthusiastically of the number of girls and boys they expect to send from their respective schools to their Alma Mater another year.

SEVERAL new improvements in the library were in course of progress during the vacation. Departmental libraries are being scattered all over the campus. A library of some two thousand volumes was located in the Mechanic Arts Building the last week. Also one in the Chancellor's office, consisting of the past publications of the University, those of other like institutions and also publications by professors, instructors and alumni of our University. The change will make the use of a large part of the library much more handy and useful, especially to those departments situated in other buildings than the library.

THE legislators are here. The vigorous grind will soon be on. Of course, first in importance and interest now is the selection of a senator to represent Nebraska as William V. Allen's successor. The fight is becoming exceedingly spirited and even a trifle bitter. Three candidates appear to be in the lead thus far: M. L. Hayward, late republican candidate for governor, Judge A. W. Field, and D. E. Thompson. Much opposition is made to the latter candidate on the ground of his connection with various corporations and his past record here in Lincoln. It is seriously argued that Nebraska should not be represented by two corporation representatives in the senate. Senator Thurston was a corporation attorney before his elec-

tion. In both legislative halls at the capitol are to be seen several former University students and alumni. They are all energetic in the push and turmoil of legislative business, and seem bent on letting people know they are there. To them the special interest of the students and faculty is given, and we shall expect from them energetic support and zeal in measures which will be introduced later on for the welfare of the University and the advancement of its progress.

**College Spirit and an Illustration.**

In connection with the discussion which has been aroused among our students by the recent editorials in the Hesperian as to what college spirit is and how it should be manifested, it may not be over-bold to attempt a definition of it and a practical illustration of our meaning. True college spirit must begin with the individual, with you and me. It may be strongly marked in a few individuals without creating that intangible force which moves the entire student body in unison and produces the visible college spirit of the institution. But it is inconceivable that *true* college spirit can be possessed by *all* or the greater part of the individual students without its presence being strongly noticeable in the student body as a whole.

Being then in its last analysis, a personal, individual quality, it may be defined as that broad, unselfish spirit in each and every student which is prompt to encourage and aid everything which will make for the common college good and which is equally alert to condemn and avoid whatever will have in any department or sphere of the college life and work an unwholesome or injurious effect.

It is thus both positive and negative. True college spirit is no less the zeal which frowns upon dishonorable football than the zeal which brings out a shouting and exultant crowd to see a game. Its central thought is individual student co operation; with each other, with the faculty, with the regents with whoever or whatever tends to make the U. of N. bigger and better in any way whatever.

To illustrate specifically; several hundred students use the library every day. An overwhelming majority go there for hard work and earnest study. They are quiet, orderly and well behaved. The library building has been fitted out at great expense to minister to the convenience of the students. The library attendants are ready and anxious to make the library as useful as possible to every student. So far very good and no lack of the helpful and appreciative college spirit for which we plead; but this is not all. There is a small but persistent minority who do not go there to work. They have no regard for the workers. They do not co-operate in any way to further the quiet and order so necessary to all.

These same students may be among the most enthusiastic "rooters" at the football game but then College spirit is sadly deficient if it be not carried inside the college walls and manifested in a spirit of cheerful and hearty co-operation in every worthy effort made in every department of our university to promote the general welfare. This is our conception of a true college spirit.